

Social Enterprise Support Programme

Growing Derby's Social Economy

locality
the power of community

Locality

Locality is the national membership network supporting local community organisations to be strong and successful.

We believe in the power of community to transform lives and create a fairer society.

We deliver work that aligns with our mission that includes providing specialist advice, peer-learning, resources and campaigns to help every community thrive.

Our network of over 1,800 members create the services their community needs most in spaces where everyone belongs.



Introduction

In partnership with Derby City Council, Locality is delivering a Social Economy Business Support programme aimed at developing the business skills of:

- Social Enterprises,
- Community Owned Businesses,
- Cooperatives and
- Charities

to help them grow, become more sustainable and increase the impact they have in addressing inequalities.



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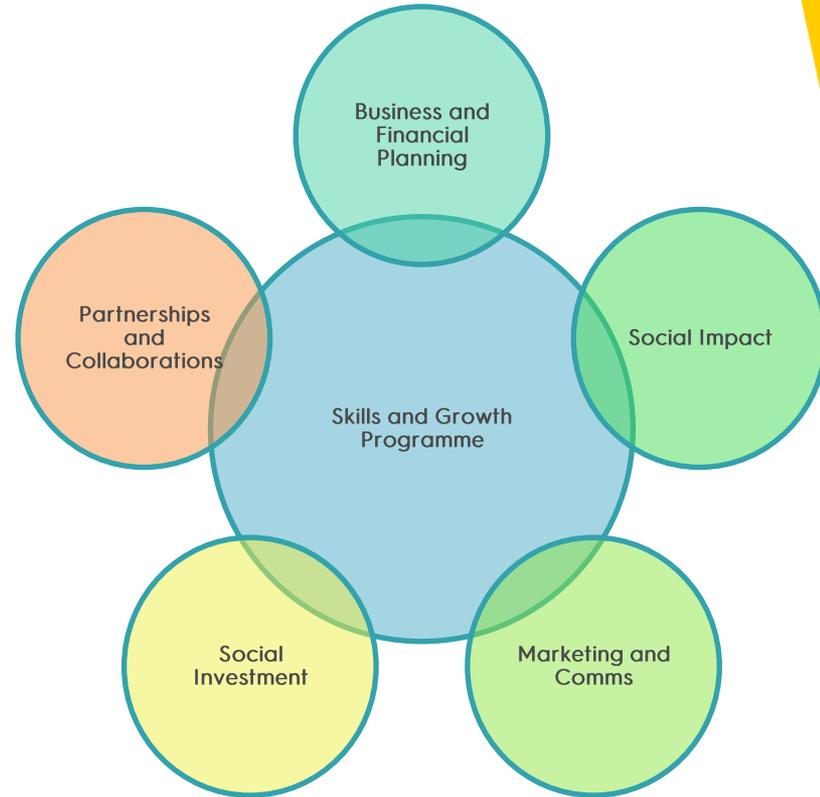


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Overview

Running from January 2026 to March 2026 the programme will include:

- Diagnostic to assess your organisation's strengths and development areas.
- A blend of six in-person and virtual expert-led themed workshops.
- Tailored advice and 1:1 support on governance, finance, trading, and investment planning.
- Practical business planning tools and resources to support on-going development.



Objectives

Build stronger business and financial plans
Understand and articulate social impact
Improve marketing and storytelling

Increased business confidence & capability
Stronger, more sustainable social enterprises
Join a supportive community of like-minded enterprises

New collaborations and partnerships
Access to new markets and funding
Positive impact in Derby's communities



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Key Dates

Workshop	Details	Method	Date	Time
Introduction to Programme	An introductory session where participants connect, share their ideas and aspirations, and lay the foundations for a meaningful shared learning journey.	In-person	20 th January	10:00 – 12:30
Business and Financial Planning	A practical session covering costs, revenue models, cashflow and sustainability, giving participants the tools to plan, forecast and manage their finances with confidence.	Online	2 nd February	10:00 – 12:30
Social Impact & Theory of Change	This workshop guides participants to build a Theory of Change, identify meaningful impact measures, and clearly articulate and evidence the difference their organisation makes.	In-person	10 th February	10:00 – 12:30
Marketing & Storytelling	A practical introduction to clear, confident mission communication, crafting compelling narratives, reaching audiences, using digital channels, and building a consistent, engaging brand.	Online	3 rd March	10:00 – 12:30
Social Investment	An introduction to social investment, with real case studies and guidance on what investors seek, how to become investment-ready, and practical steps in the journey.	Online	11 th March	10:00 – 12:30
Partnerships and Collaborations	This session explores how social enterprises can collaborate, form strategic partnerships, and access new opportunities, ending with a celebration event to recognise progress and strengthen networks.	In-person	24 th March	10:00 – 12:30



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Who Should Apply

Established Social Enterprises

- looking to strengthen trading operations
- seeking to grow, diversify income, or increase impact
- preparing for investment, tendering, or asset ownership

Community Organisations

- exploring a shift toward trading or social enterprise models
- wanting to build sustainable income streams
- seeking to embed impact measurement and planning

Applicants Should Be:

- Incorporated Social Enterprises
- Based in, or delivering significant benefit to, Derby
- Motivated to strengthen business and financial planning
- Ready to engage in workshops, 1:1 support and peer learning
- Committed to wholly participating in the programme



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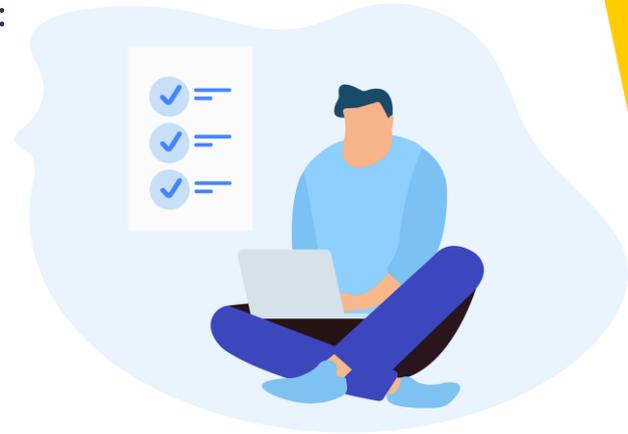
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How to Apply

To apply please submit an Expression of Interest via :
[Derby SE Programme EOI.](#)

If you have a question or need help with your application process, please email [consultancy@locality.org.uk.](mailto:consultancy@locality.org.uk)

Visit www.locality.org.uk to find out more about Locality and ways in which we could help your organisation.



Locality supports local community organisations to be strong and successful. Our national network of over 1,600 members helps hundreds of thousands of people every week. We offer specialist advice, peer learning and campaign with members for a fairer society. Together we unlock the power of community.

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