



Foundations for the future - Investing in communities -

UKCF Conference 2024

Harrogate: 8th - 10th October

Day ONE - Tuesday 8th October

10.30-11.30 Informal networking

11.30-12.00 Registration

12.00-13.00 Lunch

13.00-13.45 Welcome plenary

Interim Co-CEOs Kaveed Ali and Ben Robinson and UKCF's Chair, Andrew Tuggey, will open Foundations for the Future. They will be joined by Celia McKeon, CEO at Two Ridings Community Foundation, to welcome us to Harrogate. Enjoy our first 'UKCF Talk', inspired by TED Talks, with Tom Neill-Eagle from Plinth, who will demonstrate the art of the possible when integrating AI with community foundation work.

14.00-15.15 *Choose from the following
breakout sessions:*

**A: Future lobbying -
philanthropy**

Enjoy this fireside chat with Ben Robinson from UKCF and Tom Flude from Charities Aid Foundation that will focus on advancing the national philanthropy strategy.

**B: How can community
foundations explore their
own climate action?**

Speakers include: Caroline Gee and Katrina Brown from Evelyn Partners, and Mercedes Jones from Foundation Scotland. Climate action is a complex subject. This discussion, featuring Foundation Scotland and Evelyn Partners, will look at including climate change risks and opportunities into investment policies, including how to set objectives and what metrics to consider.

**C: Working with the NHS
and integrated care boards**

Closed group for community of interest. Speakers include: Emily Sun from Place Matters, Michelle Cooper from Point North. This session, open only to known members in this community of interest, will continue conversations about collaborating with the NHS.

15.15-15.45 Refreshments



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breakout sessions:*

**A: Funding social justice -
what is the role of
community foundations?**

Speakers include: Eliza Baring from Civic Power Fund, Dawn Shackels from Community Foundation for Northern Ireland (CFNI), Sarah Campbell from Joseph Rowntree Foundation and Andrew Grinnell from Poverty Truth Network. This session will look at the role of funders in supporting and advancing social justice in communities. Civic Power Fund will present their [Funding Justice 2 report](#) on the state of UK social justice funding, where the regional and thematic gaps are and how to address them. We will hear why CFNI calls itself a social justice organisation and how this is reflected practically in their work. Finally, Joseph Rowntree Foundation and Poverty Truth Network will speak about the relationship between their two organisations, which goes beyond grantee/grantee towards a true, long-term partnership to advance social justice.

B: The art of storytelling

Speakers include: Bec Horner from Two Ridings Community Foundation, Adam Lopardo from Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland (CFTWN), Tracey Gyateng from 360Giving, Melissa Murdock from Heard, Colin Grist and Thomas Nadin from Few and Far. 360Giving and CFTWN will explore how data can be used to evidence powerful narratives that inspire action. Heard will explore how communication can change minds using empowerment-led story models. Few & Far will join the panel discussion providing practical steps on effective storytelling.

**C: Philanthropy workshop -
engaging professional
advisors**

Speakers include: Karen Morris from Community Foundations for Lancashire and Merseyside, Zoë Coltart from Community Foundation for Surrey, Rachel Vinton from Kent Community Foundation and Rebecca Biggs from Berkshire Community Foundation. In this interactive workshop, our speakers from across the network will share their insights and top tips for engaging professional advisors in a development capacity. In table discussions, participants will be able to discuss key areas and share experiences with each other.



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- 15.45-17.00** **D: Progressive grant making - inspiring examples from those walking the walk** Speakers include: Orla Black from CFNI, Emily Dyson from Institute for Voluntary Action Research (IVAR), Marcia Asare from Walcot Foundation and Jennie Richmond from Impact Works. Speakers will highlight inspiring examples of progressive grant making. Walcot Foundation and IVAR will share insights on how to initiate conversations around transforming grant making and the benefits of adopting a learning-focused, long-term approach.
- 17.00-18.00** Free time
- 18.00-18.30** Drinks reception for CEOs and trustees Kindly sponsored by CCLA.
- 18.30-19.30** Welcome drinks for all
- 19.30-23.00** Dinner and dancing Live music and fun at DoubleTree by Hilton Majestic Hotel, Harrogate.



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07.00-07.45	5km running activity	An optional 5km guided run with the Nidderdale Fell and Trail running group. Beginners, intermediate and advanced levels are all welcome!
09.00-09.30	Morning boost activity	Our fun 30-minute energiser, led by Jessica Shaw from PACT, will refresh and recharge delegates, getting everyone in high spirits for the day ahead. Expect activities that spark connection, boost energy and set a positive, upbeat vibe.
09.30-10.15	Opening session	We're delighted to welcome Indy Johar from Dark Matter Labs.
10.15-10.30	'UKCF Talk' The story of Southport	In this 'UKCF Talk', inspired by TED Talks, Rae Brooke, CEO at Community Foundations for Lancashire and Merseyside will share a snapshot of the effectiveness of being there for communities in demanding and stressful situations, highlighting the foundations' Strong for Southport Appeal.
10.30-10.45	'UKCF Talk' with Evouchers	Peter Gaskell from Evouchers will give an inspiring TED-style talk.
10.45-11.15	Refreshments	
11.15-12.30	<i>Choose from one of the following breakout sessions:</i>	
	A: Designing inclusive national programmes	Speakers include: Jenny North from the Clothworkers' Foundation, Kita Ikoku from Clear Thinking Consultancy, Ugo Ikoku from Trust for London, Alex Hayes from New Philanthropy Capital and Damilola Bamidele from UKCF. Join Trust for London and the Clothworkers' Foundation as they share insights on designing inclusive grant making through a reparative lens. Learn how to evolve funding practices to deeply integrate equity, with Clear Thinking Consultancy guiding the discussion. Participants will leave with actionable steps to make their programmes more equitable.
	B: Integrating climate into our everyday work	Speakers include: Jane Cabutti from Environmental Funders Network (CFN), Pete Barrett and Ross Wilson from CFTWN, and Stacey Tillott from Kent Community Foundation. CFN will discuss how to tackle climate change at a local level, debunking myths and showcasing the impact of community action. The session highlights the importance of funders' commitment to climate change and features inspiring examples.



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C: Playful pause - unlock your creativity

Led by Jessica Shaw, PACT. During this interactive workshop, you'll be invited to step out of life's daily stresses and into the moment, through a series of light-hearted and playful exercises. These are all designed to spark your inner creativity and humour and can be a boost for your mood as well as being channelled into your future projects.

12.30-13.30 Lunch

13.30-14.45 *Choose from one of the
following breakout sessions:*

A: Partnering with local authorities

Speakers include: Andrew Robinson from CCLA, Bridie Sullivan from Herefordshire Community Foundation, Nick Dunster from The CLD Trust (a local care leavers lead, working with Herefordshire Community Foundation) and Sophie Griffiths from Cornwall Community Foundation. This session will look at how community foundations and other civil society organisations can complement local authorities, highlighting the benefits of community-based programmes complementing local authorities and how best to work together. Our headline sponsor CCLA will join network members in showcasing our Care Leavers Programme as an example of this partnerships-focused approach.

B: Strengthening democracy through local journalism

Speakers include: Jonathan Heawood from Public Interest News Foundation (PINF), James Magowan from European Community Foundation Initiative (ECFI), Michelle Cooper from Point North and Teresa O'Connell from Are We Europe. This interactive session will focus on the critical role of local journalism in strengthening democracy and countering biased national news, and how targeted funding can evolve journalism and drive change. ECFI will share insights on the rise of the far right in Europe and how local news can help combat it, Are We Europe will showcase their innovative approach to using micro grants and design sprints, and PINF will talk about their work in supporting local media and journalism as a tool to support democracy. This session will include an interactive, table discussion element.



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13.30-14.45

**C: Re-imagining work -
innovations and insights for
the future**

Speakers include: Beccy Bowden from Community Foundation for Surrey, Vicky Hickey and Fiona Oliver from Wiltshire Community Foundation, Matt Till from Prospectus and Grace Perry from London Funders. In this session we will explore how the traditional concept of work is evolving. Discover how joint CEOs can effectively share leadership roles, the potential benefits of adopting a flexible work week and the importance of fostering more human and relational approaches in the workplace. This session will challenge conventional ideas and offer fresh perspectives on creating a more flexible and collaborative work environment.

**D: Leading AI-confident
organisations**

Speakers include: Tim Cook from AI Confident and Jon Yates from Berkshire Community Foundation. This hands-on workshop will explore the strategic and operational impacts of artificial intelligence. The workshop will be packed with a mix of examples, deep discussion and everything you need to lead confidently through AI-related change, embrace innovation and put the right cultures in place. Tim Cook, founder of AI Confident and a former leader at the Government's Office for Artificial Intelligence, will explore the evolving AI landscape and its role in work and society.

14.45-15.15

Refreshments

15.15-16.30

***Choose from one of the
following breakout sessions:***

**A: Elevating young voices and
empowering youth
involvement**

Speakers include: Francesca Mereta from ECFI and Assifero, Henry Allmand from Heart of Bucks Community Foundation, Ellie Taylor from Youth Endowment Fund with Pavan Sembi and Anna Wendel from their Peer Action Collective, and Emily Jones from Leeds Community Foundation. This session will highlight the vital role of youth in governance, decision making and community action to empower young leaders and drive change. ECFI will showcase innovative strategies that ensure young voices shape a more inclusive future, while Heart of Bucks will share their Young Futures Fund partnership. The Youth Endowment Fund will discuss ways in which youth leadership can tackle challenges, particularly in addressing violence.



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| 15.15-16.30 | B: Transforming local needs analysis | Speakers include: Katie Leach and Aaron Henderson from Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion (OCSI), Hannah Clay from Sussex Community Foundation and Margaret Firth from Wiltshire Community Foundation. This session will explore how community foundations can more effectively conduct local needs analyses. OCSI will share their approach to conducting local needs analysis, exploring the strengths and challenges. We'll also hear from Sussex and Wiltshire members on their strategies for understanding communities and using local data effectively to address local issues. |
| | C: Sustainable private assets - accessing strong returns with a positive impact | Speakers include: Tom Montagu-Pollock and Emily Petersen from Cazenove. Many of the most exciting companies with the ability to transform our economies are only accessible through private (unlisted) markets. Did you know that an increasing number of investment clients are looking to incorporate impact investments to align with positive societal and environmental outcomes? In fact, the private impact market has grown by 63% since 2019 (Global Impact Investment Network). This session, led by Tom and Emily at Cazenove, will cover the why, what, who and how of investing in sustainable private assets. |
| | D: Building regenerative futures - community-led solutions for lasting change | Speakers include: Giles Ruck from Foundation Scotland, Leah Black from Regenerative Futures Fund, and Annalee Holliday and David Beeby from Cumbria Community Foundation. Learn how Foundation Scotland's Edinburgh Regenerative Futures Fund is pioneering upstream, preventative funding and how Cumbria Community Foundation's Better Tomorrows programme has created over 40 new youth work positions, empowering young people and strengthening communities. This session will delve into field building, non-extractive learning, and innovative approaches to fostering long-term, community-driven change. |
| 16.30-17.00 | UKCF Board Introduction | An opportunity to meet UKCF's Board, hear about their work and learn about any joining opportunities. |
| 17.00-18.30 | Free time | |
| 18.30-23.00 | Food, drinks and dancing | An evening of fun at Revolución de Cuba, Harrogate. |



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09.00-09.30	Reflections on the conference so far	Kaveed Ali from UKCF, Sarah Changizi-Cooper from Oxfordshire Community Foundation, Kathrin Dombrowski from ECFI and Ebru Gökçe Habitat Association will be providing their conference reflections.
09.30-10.45	The power of hope, trust and community	Speakers include: Jon Alexander from Citizen's Project, Deana Bamford from Coalville C.A.N. and the We're Right Here Campaign, Glyn Butcher from People Focused Group and Claire Cullens from Norfolk Community Foundation. Join Claire Cullens as she leads a thought-provoking panel discussion inspired by themes from Jon Alexander's book <i>CITIZENS: Why the Key to Fixing Everything is All of Us</i> . Together, the panel will explore the role of power, active citizenship and how community foundations can drive meaningful change by fostering greater involvement and collaboration.
10.45-11.15	Refreshments	
11.15-12.15	A collection of 'UKCF Talks'	Our four TED Talks styled speeches will feature: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 'QA6: what, why and how' with Megs Pitman from Wiltshire Community Foundation• 'Building tomorrow, today: Getting young people on board' with Francesca Mereta from ECFI and Assifero• 'One for the city – an example of long-term income generation' with Steph Taylor from Leeds Community Foundation• 'A story of mushrooms' with Adam Cooper from Threads in the Ground
12.15-13.00	Igniting our imagination	Reflecting on the conference and imagining our future, Jo Williams from UKCF will lead this participatory workshop using one of Joseph Rowntree Foundations collective imaginations toolkits. She will be encouraging delegates to focus on intergenerational responsibility.
13.00-13.15	Final words from UKCF	A closing note from our interim Co-CEOs Kaveed Ali and Ben Robinson.
13.30-14.30	Lunch and networking	
14.30	Conference ends	

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