





**LISTENING, POWER, ACTION** 

Community Organisers

**GUIDE FOR ORGANISATIONS** 



# LISTEN POWER ACTION



We believe in the power of listening.

We believe in the collective power of people.

We believe that the actions of people are powerful and can change things for good.







In many parts of the country, people have lost confidence in the possibility of a better future. Local control, self-determination, and the relationships that once defined local communities have been weakened by systems, structures, and decision-making that have taken power away from individuals.

We need to reclaim power at the local level by restoring the relationships that bind people together and nurture the bonds of solidarity that enable local action.

Grassroots organisations are the closest to the people and key to restoring community power. We are working with existing organisations to build a network of Social Action Hubs that will inspire and facilitate action at the grassroots. Working collectively we can amplify the stories of ordinary people making it possible for policy makers and those in power to hear those stories and understand the public demand for change.

# WHAT IS A SOCIAL ACTION HUB?

Social Action Hubs are locally rooted organisations which are committed to training and supporting people to develop their understanding and practice of community organising.

They can be a single organisation or a cluster of organisations working

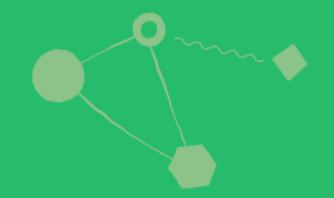
together. They are dedicated to a local area, community or neighbourhood, accountable to local people and committed to igniting social chance through community organising

They are guided by our Social Action Framework.



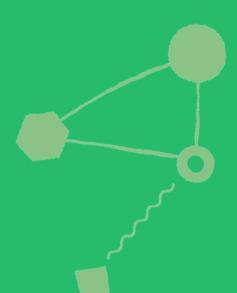
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The concept of a Social Action Hub for us is about building power within local communities in three ways: through personal development – empowering individuals; through campaigning – working on issues; and through organising to gain recognition and become more effective at a strategic level.

Sacha Bedding, Chief Executive
The Wharton Trust, Hartlepool



# WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

Quality training for staff and volunteers

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 Personal and professional development through the Community Practitioners' Network

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Connect and share best practice with other Social Action Hubs

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Collaborate with others to act together together on issues
 of national significance

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Access to our eLearning Platform

# CASE STUDIES AND IMPACT

## Octopus Network, Islington

Octopus is a mutual collaboration between 15 of Islington's largest multi-purpose community centres. They have developed their community organising approach by working with and alongside the 15 members of their network.

Click to hear Julie Parish talk about how Octopus Network have developed their distributed approach to community organising

# **Starting Point, Stockport**

Starting Point is a grassroots community organisation based in Woodley, Stockport. They have been using community organising for over 10 years as part of their work to build community power in neighbourhoods

Click to view a short video of Nicola Wallace Dean talking about their work developing a neighbourhood approach to community organising

### The Wharton Trust, Hartlepool

The Wharton Trust are an estate based charity in the Dyke House Ward of Hartlepool. They have developed their approach to community organising through a range of Programmes and initiatives including being a catalyst for community business and their involvement with the Big Loal Programme.

Click to her Sacha Bedding talk about his experience of being a Social Action Hub



Join the Social Action Hub network and start to develop your approach to community organising through the different options below

Benefit	Option A	Option B	Option C
Developing a Theory of Change for your organisation using the Community Organising Framework.	<b>✓</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>
Quarterly Meet Ups with the entire network	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
User licenses for Framework Focus	4	6	8
Annual Membership to the Community Practitioners' Network	4	6	8
Annual places on each of our Quality Assured training courses	4	8	12
Dedicated in person support	×	1	3
Place on the Award in Community Organising - L3	×	×	1
ANNUAL COST (ex VAT)	£695	£1195	£2995

For a conversation about joining our Social Action Hub Network, please get in touch using hello@corganisers.org.uk