

# Community Catalyst

## Importance:

Helps local communities solve their own social care problems by unlocking the entrepreneurial capacity of locals. Increasing the carer workforce by giving local communities support in creating community enterprises focused on providing care services as well as providing opportunities to connect people to the wider community. Additionally, they seek to empower users of services to be advocates, activists, entrepreneurs, and volunteers.

## Innovation:

Community Catalyst's ability to harness and unlock local resources dedicated to care as well as enticing new entrants to the space in order to improve social care and connect people to the wider community.

## What is it:

Community Catalyst Social is an enterprise company that primarily works in England and Wales. Their mission is to create opportunities for local based projects to catalyse change. They work closely with local authorities advising them and suggesting strategies that take into account best practices. They host local area coordination networks and coalitions for personalised care.

It is made up of three major areas: Communities Care, People Can, and Innovators Learn. Communities Care empowers communities across the country to use their talents to start and run small enterprises and community businesses that support and care for other local people. People Can supports individuals or small groups of disabled people to lead their own projects, activities or ventures, with aims and outcomes personal to them. Innovators Learn offer accessible, engaging learning opportunities for health and care practitioners and people who use health or care services.



**Harness and  
unlock local  
resources**

**Local  
community  
support**

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## How it creates impact:

By tapping into the local community to create opportunities for unconventional candidates to become carers, it allows those in need to have more person-centred care and provides the opportunity for innovation. It also helps with creating small enterprises in the community focused on care.

## Admin Management:

It has been implemented in many different communities in the UK successfully. They work closely with local authorities.

## Costs:

Limited costing studies conducted and dependent on community context. However, it does increase the pool of available carers eliminating the need for recruitment which is a major driver of costs.

## Patient Benefit:

Greater number of carers to choose from for patients. Bespoke approaches that work for communities. Emphasis on independence for patient.

## Provider/Carer Benefit:

Ability for new participants to enter the social care space and receive income. Allowed to exhibit creativity and pursue their passions in creation of microenterprises. Useful training model to teach new skills.

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