

# Big Local

## National Survey of Big Local partnership members 2020

**Local Trust wants to hear the views of Big Local partnership members to help us better understand Big Local.**

We want to find out what's working and what isn't so we can improve our support to Big Local areas. We also want to know how Big Local is changing over time. To help us do this, we are asking partnership members in all Big Local areas to take part in our third national survey.

Please complete this survey if you are a member (voting or non-voting) of a Big Local partnership or if you were a member in the last 12 months. If you don't know if you are a partnership member, you can speak to your Big Local rep or find out more information about Big Local partnerships on our website (<https://localtrust.org.uk/big-local/programme-guidance/big-local-partnerships/>).

The Local Trust research team won't share your individual responses or anything that will identify you, and we will not keep your personal information for any longer than is necessary for this research. Responses will not be shared with anyone except for research partners that directly work with Local Trust on the Big Local programme. You can read the Local Trust privacy policy at [www.localtrust.org.uk/privacy-policy/](http://www.localtrust.org.uk/privacy-policy/).

If you have any questions about the survey, need help filling it in or prefer to complete the survey online, please contact the research team at [research@localtrust.org.uk](mailto:research@localtrust.org.uk) or on 020 3588 0563.

**The survey should take about 20 to 25 minutes to complete. When you have completed the survey, please send it back to us in the freepost envelope provided by September 2020.**

We appreciate your time to complete the survey.

The next two pages contain questions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. We understand this is a changing situation that is still ongoing but would appreciate you taking the time to answer these questions to help us understand more about your experiences so far as a Big Local partnership member during COVID-19.

1. My family and/or I have been personally affected by COVID-19 (e.g. illness, furlough, loss of income)?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say
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2. During the COVID-19 pandemic, which of the below have you **personally** been involved in? (Please tick all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Staying at home	<input type="checkbox"/>	Networking/co-ordinating with authorities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Co-ordinating volunteers	<input type="checkbox"/>	Identifying needs in the community
<input type="checkbox"/>	Providing or delivering food for vulnerable people/people in isolation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Running errands for vulnerable people/people in isolation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sharing advice and guidance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Helping people get online
<input type="checkbox"/>	Arranging activities or resources for children, including for home-schooling	<input type="checkbox"/>	Befriending activities or virtual social events
<input type="checkbox"/>	Decision-making with the partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	None of the above
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify):		

3. During the COVID-19 pandemic, would you say the amount of time you spend on Big Local has:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Increased	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stayed the same
<input type="checkbox"/>	Decreased	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stopped altogether
<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't know		

**If you selected 'Stopped altogether' in the above question, please skip ahead to question 8 below**

4. Thinking about your partnership's **networks** during the COVID-19 pandemic:

Please tell us if you agree or disagree with the below statements.

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
My Big Local has seen an increase in volunteers					
My Big Local has supported more people in the community than it usually does					

**5. Thinking about decision-making in your partnership during the COVID-19 pandemic:**

Please tell us if you agree or disagree with the below statements.

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
We were able to identify who needed support during the pandemic					
We found it easy to make decisions about how to respond to the pandemic					
We were able to respond quickly to local needs during the pandemic					
All partnership members had the opportunity to take part in decision-making processes during the pandemic					

**6. Did your partnership change the way it made decisions during the pandemic?**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Don't Know
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If YES, what were the changes and how did you feel about those changes?

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**7. What is the main thing your partnership has learned during the COVID-19 pandemic?**

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**8. How do you think the COVID-19 pandemic will impact the future of your community?**

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The rest of the questions in this survey relate your time on the partnership from the start of 2019 to date. Please answer them as best as you can considering the time before the COVID-19 pandemic.

**9. Thinking about your involvement with Big Local over the last year:**

Please tell us if you agree or disagree with each of these statements.

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
I've got to know more people in my Big Local area					
I feel more connected to my Big Local area					
I feel more positive about my Big Local area					
I feel we're building a stronger sense of community in my Big Local area					
I feel more confident about my ability to help make Big Local happen					
I felt welcome when I first got involved in my Big Local					
I enjoy taking part in Big Local					
I will continue to take part in Big Local					

**10. What has being involved in Big Local been like for you over the last year?**

(Please tick all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Satisfying	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not welcoming
<input type="checkbox"/>	Frustrating	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enjoyable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Challenging	<input type="checkbox"/>	Boring
<input type="checkbox"/>	A learning experience	<input type="checkbox"/>	Friendly
<input type="checkbox"/>	Too much work	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lonely
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exciting	<input type="checkbox"/>	Worth it
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rewarding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Confusing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stressful	<input type="checkbox"/>	Inspiring
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify)		

**11. Thinking about your knowledge and skills in relation to Big Local:**

Please tell us if you agree or disagree with each of these statements.

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
Big Local has helped me put my existing knowledge/skills to good use					
I've learnt new things and/or developed new skills					
I've been able to share my knowledge/skills with other people					
I have provided support or given advice to other Big Local areas					
I've learnt new things from people involved in my Big Local area					
I've learnt new things from people in other Big Local areas					
Through Big Local I've done things I've never done before					
I have participated in learning and training opportunities outside of those offered by Local Trust					

**12. Thinking about your Big Local area:**

Please tell us if you agree or disagree with each of these statements.

<b>Generally speaking...</b>	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
People in this area are willing to help each other					
I feel like I belong in this area					
In this area, people from different backgrounds get on well together					
People in this area are willing to work together to achieve change					
There is a strong sense of community in this area					
People who live here think highly of this area					
People who don't live here think this area has a bad reputation					
People in this area can be trusted					
In the last year my area has changed for the better					

**13. Thinking about the progress your Big Local area has made in the past year:**

Please tell us if you agree or disagree with each of these statements.

<b>Generally speaking...</b>	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
We have made the right decisions about what is needed in our area					
We have made progress in achieving what we set out to do					
We are satisfied with the pace we are progressing with Big Local					
People outside our partnership are not aware of the progress we're making					
There is pressure from residents in our area to get results more quickly					
We are doing well at getting more residents involved as we go along					
We feel confident that we will achieve our goals in the long term					
Big Local has improved the reputation of the area					
Big Local is contributing to lasting and sustainable change in our area					
We are making plans for when the Big Local funding ends					

**14. Thinking prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, please give an example from the last year of how Big Local has contributed to change in your area:**

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**15. By the time your Big Local has spent your £1.15 million, what is the main change you hope to see in your area?**

**16. Thinking about your Big Local partnership's priorities:**

Please tell us if you agree or disagree with each of these statements.

<b>Generally speaking...</b>	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
We have a shared understanding of how we are going to achieve our priorities					
We are confident that we can identify what is needed to make our area feel like an even better place to live					
We are confident that we can prioritise between different local needs					

**17. Thinking about your Big Local partnership:**

Please tell us if you agree or disagree with each of these statements.

<b>Generally speaking...</b>	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
We encourage partnership members to take up learning and training opportunities outside of those offered by Local Trust					
We want more people to get involved in our partnership					
Our partnership has worked with other Big Local partnerships on shared goals					
We are able to deal constructively with disagreements or conflicts					
Our partnership involves a range of different people					
Our partnership relies too much on a small group of individuals					

**18. Thinking about how your Big Local partnership makes decisions:**

Please tell us if you agree or disagree with each of these statements.

<b>Generally speaking...</b>	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
We find it easy to make decisions					
We feel confident in making decisions about how we use the money					
I feel my opinion is valued by others on the partnership					
All partnership members take part in decision making processes					
It feels like a few individuals dominate our partnership					
Our LTO provides an appropriate level of influence in decisions made by the partnership					
Our Big Local worker(s) provides an appropriate level of influence in decisions made by the partnership					
Our Big Local/Local Trust rep provides an appropriate level of influence in decisions made by the partnership					

**19. Thinking about your partnership's networks and influence within your area:**

Please tell us if you agree or disagree with each of these statements.

<b>Generally speaking...</b>	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
Our partnership is able to influence decision making in our area					
Our partnership has a good understanding of who to work with to help us get things done					
Our partnership works with external partners (e.g. local organisations) to deliver our Big Local activities					
Our partnership has had a good experience of working with external partners					
External partners have tried to have too much influence over decision making					



**20. Thinking about your partnership's relationships with others:**

All things considered, please rate your partnership's typical relationship with the following (if any).

	<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Poor</i>	<i>No relationship</i>
Local residents					
Local councillors					
Local councils					
Local businesses					
Local voluntary and community groups					
Local health providers (e.g. GP surgeries)					
Local schools					
Local faith groups					
Local police force					
Local MP					
National charities (not including Local Trust)					
National government departments					

**21. Thinking about residents outside of the partnership in your Big Local area:**

Please tell us if you agree or disagree with each of these statements.

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
Our Big Local plan is based on residents' ideas of how to improve our area					
We keep residents well informed about what's happening with our Big Local					
The majority of residents outside the partnership know about Big Local					
Residents are leading Big Local in our area					
Big Local is giving residents more control over what happens in their area					
Residents have the final say on what Big Local will do					

**22. Thinking about the support you have received from your Locally Trusted Organisation (LTO) in the last year:**

Does your partnership act as its own LTO?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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**If you selected NO – please answer the below questions on your LTO**

**If you selected YES – please move on to question 23**

Please rate the support you have received from your LTO. If you have more than one LTO, rate the one you feel you know most about. If you think your Big Local did not receive this support, tick the last column marked 'Not used'.

	<i>Very helpful</i>	<i>Helpful</i>	<i>Not very helpful</i>	<i>Not at all helpful</i>	<i>Not used</i>
Overall support from your LTO					
Your LTO's management of Big Local finances					
Your LTO's management and supervision of a worker					
Your LTO's support with planning and delivering your plan					
Your LTO's reporting to the partnership on Big Local expenditure against your plan					

**23. Thinking about the support you have received through Big Local and Local Trust in the last year:**

Please rate the support you have received. If not received, tick the last column marked 'Not used'.

	<i>Very helpful</i>	<i>Helpful</i>	<i>Not very helpful</i>	<i>Not at all helpful</i>	<i>Not used</i>
Support from your Big Local/Local Trust rep					
Support from a Big Local paid worker (employed using Big Local funding)					
National and/or regional events run by Local Trust					
Support directly from the Local Trust team when you contacted them					
Support from an organisation or individual that Local Trust have introduced to your area					

24. What support do you think your Big Local partnership needs to achieve its goals?

25. Thinking prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, what was the main achievement of your Big Local partnership since 2019?

26. Thinking prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, what was the main challenge your Big Local partnership faced since 2019?

**27. Thinking about how you have found information about Big Local in the last year:**

Please rate how useful you found the following sources of information. If not used, tick the last column marked 'not used'.

	<i>Very useful</i>	<i>Useful</i>	<i>Not very useful</i>	<i>Not at all useful</i>	<i>Not used</i>
Local Trust website					
Local Trust newsletter					
Local Trust Facebook					
Local Trust Workplace					
Local Trust Twitter feed					

**28. Thinking about the national Big Local programme:**

Please tell us if you agree or disagree with each of these statements.

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
The Big Local programme has given us the freedom to do things our way					
The Big Local programme has given us the freedom to do things to a timescale that works for us					
The partnership has to complete too much paperwork and reporting for Local Trust					
We feel connected to other Big Local areas					
We feel connected to the national Big Local programme					
The guidance and advice offered by Local Trust has been simple and clear					
We need more guidance from Local Trust					
Overall, we have received the kind of help and support we wanted from Local Trust					

**The questions on this page are part of the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) funded Communities in Control study.** The questions ask about your health and will help NIHR understand whether or not involvement in Big Local can improve local people's health and wellbeing.

**29. How is your health in general? Would you say it is:**

<i>Very good</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Bad</i>	<i>Very Bad</i>	<i>Prefer not to say</i>

**30. Thinking about your local area, how much do you agree with these statements?**

	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neither agree or disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Prefer not to say</i>
When people in this area get involved in their local community, they really can change the way that their area is run						
You personally can influence decisions affecting your local area						

**31. Below are some statements about feelings and thoughts.**

Please tick the box that best describes your experience of each over the last two weeks.

	<i>All of the time</i>	<i>Often</i>	<i>Some of the time</i>	<i>Rarely</i>	<i>None of the time</i>	<i>Prefer not to say</i>
I've been feeling optimistic about the future						
I've been feeling useful						
I've been feeling relaxed						
I've been dealing with problems well						
I've been thinking clearly						
I've been feeling close to other people						
I've been able to make up my own mind about things						

We ask for your name and other information about you for research purposes and so that we know which Big Local partnership you are on. This information will not be passed on to anyone outside of the Local Trust research team or used to identify your individual answers.

<b>Your full name</b>			
<b>Name of your Big Local area</b>			
<b>Are you a resident in the Big Local area?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<b>If yes, your postcode</b>
<b>If yes, how long have you been a resident in the Big Local area?</b>	_____ years _____ months		
<b>How long have you been involved with Big Local?</b>	_____ years _____ months		
<b>Roughly, how many <u>unpaid</u> hours a week do you spend on Big Local?</b>		_____ hours	
<b>Did you do any voluntary or community work in your area before being involved in Big Local?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes		<input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Since joining your Big Local Partnership have you taken on any of the following roles:</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Local councillor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trustee of a voluntary or community group
<input type="checkbox"/>	Volunteer for a non-Big Local voluntary or community group		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify) _____		
<b>Please select your role on your Big Local Partnership:</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chair of Big Local partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	Locally Trusted Organisation representative
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resident on partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	Big Local worker
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify) _____		
<b>How old are you?</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	29 and under	<input type="checkbox"/>	45 to 64
<input type="checkbox"/>	30 to 44	<input type="checkbox"/>	65 and over
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say		
<b>How do you describe your ethnicity?</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	White	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed / multiple ethnic groups
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian / Asian British	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say
<input type="checkbox"/>	Black / African/ Caribbean / Black British		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other ethnic group (please specify) _____		
<b>How do you describe your gender?</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Male	<input type="checkbox"/>	Female
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say		
<input type="checkbox"/>	In another way (please specify) _____		

**Please tick the highest educational qualification that you have.** (Please tick only one)

If you were not educated in England/Wales, pick the type of qualification nearest to yours.

<input type="checkbox"/>	School level - for example CSE, O Level, GCSE or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>	Higher school / Sixth form level – including AS or A Level, or equivalent
<input type="checkbox"/>	College/university credit or qualification - not a degree	<input type="checkbox"/>	One or more degrees
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trade / technical / vocational training	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say
<input type="checkbox"/>	None		

**Thinking back to February 2020 and before the COVID-19 pandemic, which of these descriptions applies to what you were doing?** (Please tick only one.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	In full-time paid employment or self-employed (more than 30 hours)	<input type="checkbox"/>	In part-time paid employment or self-employed (less than 30 hours)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Doing unpaid work for a business that you own, or a relative owns	<input type="checkbox"/>	On a Government scheme for employment training
<input type="checkbox"/>	Looking for paid work or a Government training scheme	<input type="checkbox"/>	Going to school, college or university full-time (including school holidays)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Permanently unable to work because of long-term sickness or disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Retired from paid work
<input type="checkbox"/>	Looking after home or family	<input type="checkbox"/>	Doing something else

**And which of these descriptions applies to what you were doing last week?** (Please tick only one)

<input type="checkbox"/>	In full-time paid employment or self-employed (more than 30 hours)	<input type="checkbox"/>	In part-time paid employment or self-employed (less than 30 hours)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Doing unpaid work for a business that you own, or a relative owns	<input type="checkbox"/>	On a Government scheme for employment training
<input type="checkbox"/>	Looking for paid work or a Government training scheme	<input type="checkbox"/>	Going to school, college or university full-time (including school holidays or home-schooling)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Permanently unable to work because of long-term sickness or disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Retired from paid work
<input type="checkbox"/>	Looking after home or family	<input type="checkbox"/>	Furloughed from paid work
<input type="checkbox"/>	Doing something else		

**32. Do you have any other comments or suggestions about Big Local?**

**Thank you for completing the survey!**

**Please put your survey in the freepost envelope and return it to us by September 2020.**

The Local Trust research team will analyse the survey responses. Information from the survey will also be shared with researchers from the Communities in Control study for use in their ongoing Big Local research.

The overall findings and learning will be shared with you and others, and used to help improve Big Local. We won't share anything that identifies any individuals.

We will not respond to any individual questions or issues mentioned in the survey but will incorporate these into our overall findings.

**Local Trust**

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