Local Trust
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lasting
change

Press Release 24 January 2012

For immediate release

Local Trust appoints chief executive to manage £200m Big Local programme

Debbie Ladds is today named as the first chief executive of Local Trust, a new organisation set up to deliver the £200m Big Local programme launched by the Big Lottery Fund in 2010.

Debbie was previously deputy chief executive of the Community Development Foundation, the lead partner in the consortium that won the tender to set up Local Trust on behalf of the Big Lottery Fund. A fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development and a member of the Chartered Management Institute, she has a background in the voluntary and community sector, particularly with community development, youth and disability charities and in recent years has developed and delivered a range of government programmes whilst at the Community Development Foundation.

Local Trust will deliver Big Local – a groundbreaking long-term programme that puts people locally in the driving seat to achieve lasting change in 150 small areas across England. At least £1m of the Big Lottery Fund money will be available to each area over ten years. Areas can use the funds to provide a mixture of grants, social investments and support. Using social investment means that some of the money distributed in each area can be reused in the area again and again.

Debbie Ladds, chief executive of Local Trust says: “I am delighted to be the chief executive of Local Trust and look forward to the opportunities ahead. Big Local is an exciting community based opportunity for us to work with residents, community groups and others in the Big Local areas across England to help them make their area an even better place to live”.

Michael Hamilton, MBE, chair of trustees, says: “We are at the start of our journey as a new organisation and we are pleased to have appointed Debbie Ladds as our first chief executive. Debbie has a very strong background in a community development approach to working with local communities and we look forward to working with her as she establishes Local Trust and Big Local.”

Local Trust will work with a range of local and national organisations, including the seven organisations that formed the consortium that the Big Lottery Fund selected to develop Big Local and establish Local Trust.

The Community Development Foundation is currently supporting Big Local in the first 50 areas selected by the Big Lottery Fund and over coming months Local Trust will take over this work.

Nat Sloane, Big Lottery Fund England chair, said: "This is an important stage in the Big Local programme – paving the way for people to get really stuck in to making their local areas better places to live. We announced the first 50 Big Local areas last spring and will announce the next 50 at the end of next month – this is a really exciting moment for people in these communities who will get to decide how they want to spend at least £1m to improve their local areas."

-Ends-

Notes to editors:

Local Trust is a new company recently established to manage Big Local. Our vision of the future is that each area we work with is resilient, confident and a good place to live. We plan to enable people to make their communities better places to live in by helping them develop and use their skills and confidence to identify what matters most to them, and to take action to change things for the better now and in the future. We will develop and deliver a mix of funding and finance to enable long term sustainable change, maximise impact and make the best use of scarce resources by building on existing initiatives aimed at improving the area, and enabling people to develop and deliver achievable goals that recognise the wider economic, social and environmental forces impacting upon their communities.

For general enquiries about Local Trust or Big Local please call Amanda Moss, 020 7812 5448, email amanda.moss@cdf.org.uk or Sharon Watson 020 7812 5456, email sharon.watson@cdf.org.uk

Community Development Foundation (CDF) is a charity and social enterprise that is passionate about helping communities. Leaders in community-led solutions, they have managed multi-faceted community programmes to the value of £250m over the last three years. CDF delivered the £130m Grassroots Grants programme. They are also working with six partners (Capacity Global, CCLA, Institute for Voluntary Action Research, the National Association for Neighbourhood Management, Renaisi, UnLtd) to set up a new organisation (Local Trust) that will manage the Big Local Trust and deliver the Big Local programme on behalf of the Big Lottery Fund. Other national programmes CDF have led include Take Part, National Empowerment Programme (NEP), Tackling Race Inequality Fund, and Faiths in Action. www.cdf.org.uk

The **Big Lottery Fund's** £200m Big Local programme was launched in July 2010 to establish an independent trust to support local funding schemes in up to 150 urban and rural neighbourhoods in England. The targeted neighbourhoods are places where many people face multiple barriers to meeting their needs, and which have not had great success in gaining resources to help. Each neighbourhood will receive at least £1m and will have up to 10 years to allocate this money. The Community Development Foundation was selected as the preferred applicant to set up a Company Limited by Guarantee that will act as Corporate Trustee of the Trust. The CLG has been named as the Local Trust.

The Big Lottery Fund, the largest of the National Lottery good cause distributors, has been rolling out grants to health, education, environment and charitable causes across the UK since its inception in June 2004. It was established by Parliament on 1 December 2006.

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Full details of the work of the Big Lottery Fund, its programmes and awards are available on the website: www.biglotteryfund.org.uk