

Open 4 Community

Helping you provide an online funding portal for community groups in your local area

As part of Idox's **Open 4 Funding** complete suite of online funding portals, **Open 4 Community** is designed to meet the specific needs of local authority community development departments, CVSSs, housing associations and large charities by enabling them to provide an enhanced information service for local groups.

Charities, community groups, social enterprises and voluntary organisations can search for themselves through the thousands of Government, Lottery, charitable trust and other funds available on a European, national, regional and local basis.

Key features

The portals have a number of user benefits, including the following:

- > Complete and concise fund details, including criteria, who to contact and links to application forms.
- > Time saving – provide an enhanced support service for local community groups without having to commit additional staff resources.
- > Automatic email alerts.
- > Weekly e-newsletters.
- > Bespoke reports for funding search results.
- > Funding searches and individual schemes can be saved to user profiles for future reference.

- > Portals are easily integrated into existing websites and tailored to match current branding.
- > Monthly statistical reporting to help you gain vital contact details that can be used for future marketing campaigns and research, and for proving the tool's impact.
- > Dedicated local support section – allows you to advertise your own local initiatives and events.

Brand-new Features

NEW

Now available on **Open 4 Community**:

- > Ability for you and your partners to add your own events, news and local initiatives
- > More flexible searching through removal of mandatory search fields
- > Option to search for more than one term for project activities, reducing the need to run multiple searches
- > Keyword search – relevant terms now highlighted within text for rapid identification
- > More tailored news coverage

The screenshot displays the 'dg4community' website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Home, Saved searches, Search for funding, Browse funding, Local support, News, Events, Your details, and Administration. The main header features the 'dg4community' logo and the tagline 'Looking for funding? You've come to the right place.' Below this, a prompt asks users to click on buttons for more information about each category. There are four main content boxes: 'Search for funding' (with a piggy bank icon), 'Browse funding' (with a gear icon), 'View local support' (with an image of hands), and 'See funding success stories' (with a woman holding a piggy bank). On the right side, there is a sidebar with sections: 'Welcome back' (personalized for John Phipps), 'Local events calendar' (with a calendar icon), and 'Local Dumfries news' (listing recent news items like 'New Deadline Announced' and 'New Fund Launched').

Maximising external funding success

Open 4 Community allows registered users to search for funding with ease by inputting key criteria into a simple online form. The search criteria are used to generate an applicable list of funding results from a database of thousands, enabling end users to see quickly and first hand the funding programmes available to them at a local, regional and national level.

Your portal, your rules

Open 4 Community not only matches your organisation's branding, it also allows you to upload and publish your own content to the platform in real time. Publicise your upcoming events, news and initiatives to your end users via the Local, Events and News sections.

To find out more please contact our Commercial team on 0844 874 0739, email solutions.sales@idoxgroup.com, or visit our website at: <http://www.open4funding.info>.

This service has been approved for inclusion on the G-Cloud III Programme, a cross-government initiative led by the Ministry of Justice. Its aim is to introduce cloud ICT services into government departments, local authorities and the wider public sector.

Client testimonials

"Stirling Council has subscribed to **Open 4 Funding** since 2004. It is an efficient way of accessing relevant information on funding opportunities and is simple to use, accurate and always up to date. Most importantly, it allows the user to make direct contact with the funding providers."

Deborah Murray, Service Manager - Economic Support and Tourism, Stirling Council

"**Open 4 Community** is a popular service amongst the local voluntary sector as responses to our 2012 VCS Survey demonstrate – over 30% of groups say they make use of the website. We have found this and the **GRANTfinder** service to be effective and easy to use and would recommend them to other local authorities."

Stephen Frost, Principal Community Investment Officer, LB of Hounslow

"At a time of economic uncertainty, **Open 4 Community** has been an incredibly valuable tool. The monthly data reports have proved incredibly useful and have been utilised to support our reporting against various contracts."

Ian Angus, Business and Enterprise Programmes Manager, BVSC

"The **Open 4 Community** web portal is an invaluable resource for us here at Southwark Council. We use it to advertise all our funding opportunities, both grants and contracts. Details of funding opportunities both nationally and locally are held all in one place and can be easily searched."

Katherine Pitt, Commissioning Officer, Southwark Council