

# Local Network Myths busted

## Local Networks don't get enough budget



We have an annual budget of **£1.2m** to support LN activity, and we never run out. **Don't be afraid to ask if you have a good idea!**

### Non-UK Local Networks are not supported as much as UK Local Networks

In the 2017-18 session, **50.4% of the total funding** was given to non-UK LNs.

## IET staff make decisions on funding for Local Networks

All **funding decisions** for allocation of resources to Local Networks are **made by volunteers of the Communities Committees**.

## Why can't I pay my membership in a different currency?



It's not actually true that you can only pay in Pounds Sterling (£). Members can also pay in **US Dollars (\$)**, **Indian Rupees (Rp)** and **Nigerian Naira (₦)**.

## The IET DOESN'T Explain why LNs can't set up offices in other countries

LNs can't set up their own offices for many reasons. The main reason is that we're committed to prioritising our charitable funds towards activity rather than infrastructure and administration. We also need to treat all LNs fairly and equally, and it's not something we could ever offer to everybody.

## Local Networks are not allowed to hold data



Certain volunteers in the Local Network can be sent data as long as they undertake **data protection training** and **DON'T** store or use it any longer than 10 days from receiving it.

## Local Networks are not encouraged to engage with the Technical Networks

Our Technical Networks produce excellent content on IET.tv and through webinars. Your staff contact can help you identify the technical opportunities in your area.



## LNs are not able to communicate to members in their area

The Adestra email system is a tool we have for volunteers to allow you to communicate with engineers in your area. If you'd like access, please talk to your staff contact.

There is nowhere to find general contacts around the IET on the website

[theiet.org/contacts](http://theiet.org/contacts)

## The IET is London-centric

In the 2016-17 session, **2.5% of all IET Communities activity took place in London**. 43% of Local Network activity was in the UK whilst 57% across the rest of the world.



## Local Networks don't have access to information that supports them in their roles

There is lots of information in the IET Volunteer Gateway and sent by email to all our volunteers. [theiet.org/volunteer-communities](http://theiet.org/volunteer-communities)

Do you have any burning questions that need to be demystified?

Email us: [communities@theiet.org](mailto:communities@theiet.org) or send us a tweet [@IETCommunities](https://twitter.com/IETCommunities) and we'll do our best to answer!

[theiet.org/communities](http://theiet.org/communities)