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 2016-17 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 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

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

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.

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

Email us: communities@theiet.org or send us a tweet @IETCommunities and we’ll do our best to answer!

theiet.org/communities

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