Development Trusts are community based organisations that operate as community or social enterprises.

They are engaged in trading, growing local enterprise and services, securing and managing community assets.

Development trusts are:-

* community based
* cultivating enterprise
* building local assets
* securing community prosperity
* building sustainable communities

What is a Community Enterprise?

Development trusts aim to bring about social, economic and environmental renewal. We do this through community enterprise. For us, community enterprise means:

* Community-led organisations - both community of place and of interest.
* A self-help ethos - while we achieve much in partnership with local authorities, businesses etc, we avoid dependency.
* Communities themselves are the best agents of their own renewal.
* Philanthropic and welfare approaches by themselves are not enough - enterprise is necessary for sustained change.
* This means trading for social purpose - where surpluses are reinvested in further enterprise development and for community benefit.
* Community ownership of assets (buildings, land and other assets) can build business capacity and achieve community goals.

The community enterprise movement is itself part of a wider social enterprise movement (including social firms, co-operatives, mutuals, and social businesses such as, for example, the Big Issue or Divine Chocolate.)

Community anchors are a driving force for community renewal at neighbourhood level, but what exactly is a community anchor?

A community anchor is:

* independent and community-led
* a multi-purpose facility
* there for the long term, not a quick fix
* a driving force in community renewal

Development trusts are community anchor organisations.

Characteristics of a community anchor organisation:

1. A building: a physical space which is community controlled, owned or led
2. A focus for services and activities meeting local need
3. A vehicle for local voices to be heard, needs to be identified and for local leaders and community groups to be supported
4. A platform for community development, promoting cohesion while respecting diversity
5. A home for the community sector which is supportive of the growth and development of community groups
6. A means of promoting community led enterprise, generating independent income while having a social, economic and environmental impact.
7. A forum for dialogue within communities, creating community led solutions.
8. A bridge between communities and the state which promotes and brings about social change.

Stephen Thake, author of Firm Foundations and lecturer at London Metropolitan University coined the term 'community anchor organisation'. He presented a session at the Development Trusts Association conference in September 2007 on their context, role and importance in the community.

Mae angorau Cymunedol yn rym arweiniol dros adnewyddu cymunedau ar lefel y gymdogaeth, ond beth ydy angor cymunedol yn union?

Mae angor cymunedol

* yn annibynnol ac yn cael ei arwain gan y gymuned
* yn adnodd amlbwrpas
* yno am y tymor hir, ddim yn ‘ateb cyflym’
* yn gweithredu fel prif ysgogydd adnewyddu cymunedol

Beth ydy Menter Gymunedol?  
Nod Ymddiriedolaethau Datblygu cyflawni adnewyddu cymunedol, economaidd ac amgylcheddol. Rydym yn cyflawni hyn trwy fentrau cymunedol. Mae menter gymunedol yn ein tyb ni, yn golygu:

* Mudiadau sy’n cael eu harwain gan gymunedau - cymunedau o ran lleoliad a diddordeb.
* Ethos Hunan Gymorth -er ein bod yn cyflawni llawer mewn partneriaeth ag awdurdodau lleol, busnesau ayyb, rydym yn osgoi dibyniaeth.
* Y cymunedau eu hunain ydy’r rhai gorau i gynorthwyo eu hadfywiad.
* Dydy dulliau dyngarol a lles ar eu pennau’i hunain ddim yn ddigon - mae angen mentergarwch ar gyfer newid cynaliadwy.
* Mae hyn yn golygu masnachu er budd cymdeithasol – lle bydd arian dros ben yn cael ei fuddsoddi mewn datblygiadau pellach ac er budd cymunedol.
* Gall asedau dan berchnogaeth gymunedol (adeiladau, tir ac asedau eraill) adeiladu cynhwysedd busnes a chyflawni amcanion cymunedol.

Nodweddion mudiad angor cymunedol:

1. Adeilad: gofod ffisegol dan reolaeth, dan berchnogaeth neu’n cael ei arwain gan y gymuned
2. Ffocws ar gyfer gwasanaethau a gweithgareddau sy’n ateb anghenion lleol.
3. Yn fodd i glywed llais pobl leol, i adnabod anghenion ac i gefnogi arweinwyr lleol a grwpiau cymunedol.
4. Platfform ar gyfer datblygu cymunedol, yn hyrwyddo cydlyniad ac yn parchu amrywiaeth ar yr un pryd.
5. Cartref y sector gymunedol sy’n gefnogol i gynnydd a datblygiad grwpiau cymunedol.
6. Modd o hyrwyddo mentrau wedi’i harwain gan y gymuned, o greu incwm annibynnol ac yn cael effaith gymdeithasol, economaidd ac amgylcheddol ar yr un pryd.
7. Fforwm ar gyfer trafodaethau o fewn cymunedau, yn arwain at atebion wedi'i arwain gan y gymuned.
8. Pont rhwng cymunedau a’r wladwriaeth sy’n hyrwyddo a chyflawni newid cymdeithasol.

Sefydliadau cymunedol yw ymddiriedolaethau datblygu sy’n gweithredu fel mentrau cymunedol neu gymdeithasol.

Maent ynghlwm â masnach, gwasanaethau a mentrau lleol sydd ar gynnydd, diogelu a rheoli asedau cymunedol.Mae ymddiriedolaethau datblygu yn :-

* gymunedol
* meithrin mentrau
* adeiladu asedau lleol
* diogelu llewyrch cymunedol
* adeiladu cymunedau cynaliadwy