



Impact Report 2025



Tech4Good South West is a regional community bringing together charities, technologists, founders, investors and civic leaders who believe technology should serve people and the planet. By connecting organisations across the South West, we strengthen digital capability, support responsible innovation and create opportunities for collaboration between the technology sector and the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector.

Our work focuses on building digital confidence, supporting impact-driven businesses and creating spaces where people can learn from one another and work together to solve real social challenges.

“What I’ve seen this year is a community beginning to understand its collective power. When you bring together people building with impact - whether in startups or charities - something shifts. The conversations deepen. The ambition grows.

The South West has the talent, creativity and ambition to lead in tech for good. Our role is to connect the dots between innovation and need, between founders and funders, between ideas and action”

- Annie Legge, Co-Founder

Theory of Change

Our work is guided by our [Theory of Change](#), developed in collaboration with members, partners and stakeholders. This framework guides how our activities - from events and peer networks to digital skills programs - lead to meaningful impact.

By strengthening digital capability within community organisations, supporting responsible innovation within the tech sector and creating trusted spaces for collaboration, we aim to contribute to greater digital inclusion, stronger communities and sustainable growth for tech-for-good businesses.

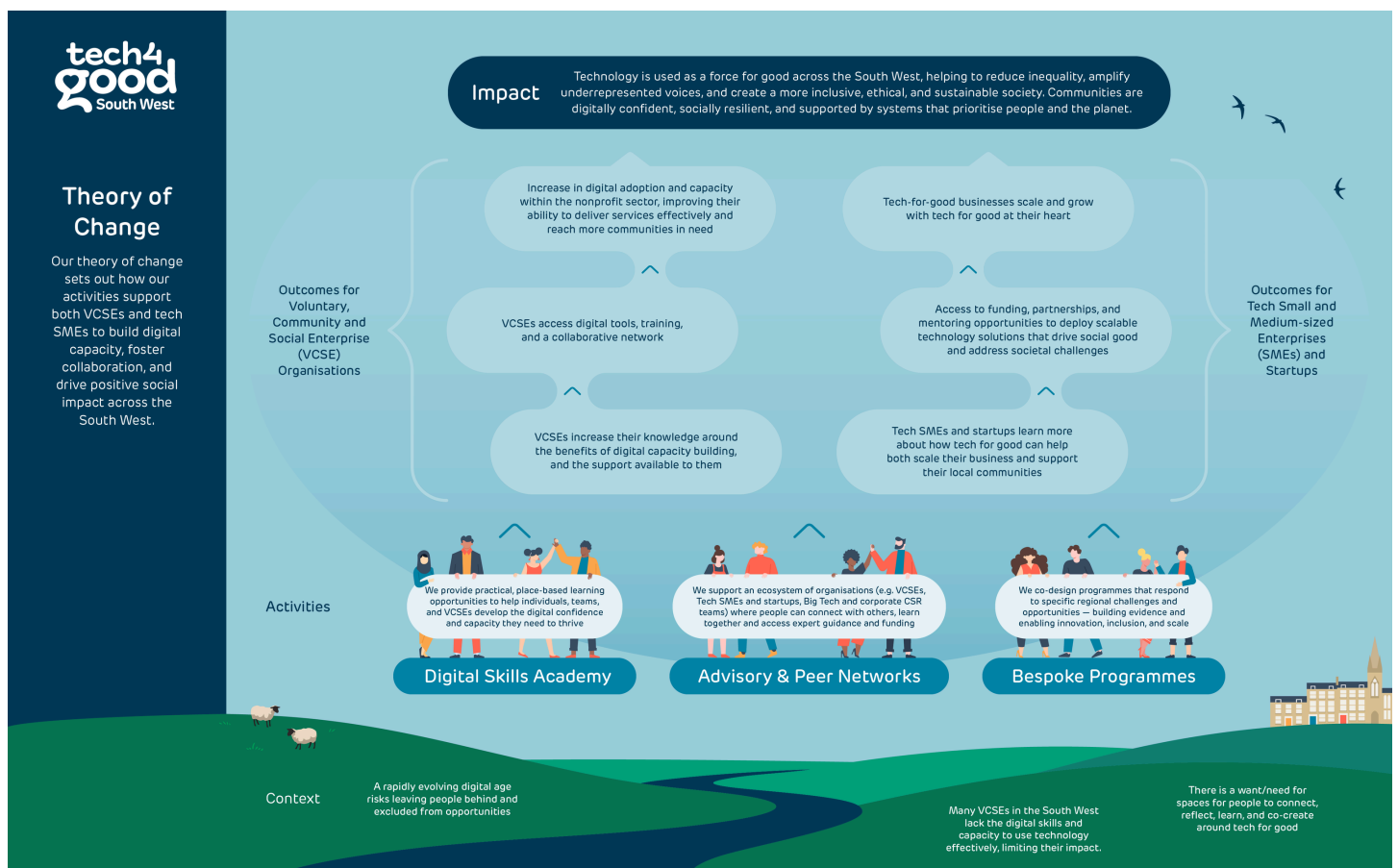
Year Summary

2025 has been a year of connection, collaboration and ecosystem growth. Throughout the year we brought together organisations across sectors to share knowledge, explore emerging technologies and build partnerships that strengthen the region's tech-for-good ecosystem.

This report highlights how we supported charities to build digital confidence, enabled impact-driven tech businesses to grow sustainably and created shared spaces where members can connect, collaborate and develop solutions to real social challenges.

The outcomes we achieved this year include:

- Strengthened digital capability and confidence across VCSE organisations, advancing digital inclusion and responsible AI adoption.
- Enabled tech-for-good founders and SMEs to scale sustainably through funding insight, peer networks and responsible innovation practices.
- Built and deepened shared community workspaces that connect VCSEs, businesses, funders and volunteers across the South West.
- Strengthened the regional tech-for-good ecosystem through research, leadership convening and coordinated action.



Strategic Pillars

Throughout 2025, our work has been organised around four strategic pillars. Together, these four pillars provide the framework through which Tech4Good South West delivers its mission.

Tech skill volunteering and applied innovation



Technology expertise can unlock significant change for community organisations when it is shared in practical, accessible ways. Through initiatives such as the Digital Trustees project, skills volunteering partnerships and the Aviva–Tech4Good Tech Skills for Good pilot, we are creating new pathways for technology professionals to contribute their expertise to the VCSE sector. Spaces like the AI Peer Network and AI in Action sessions allow charities, technology experts and founders to explore responsible uses of emerging technologies together. This approach ensures that innovation is grounded in real community needs, while building confidence in digital tools, data and ethical AI adoption across the sector.

Place-based community building across the South West



Strong local ecosystems create stronger, more resilient communities. Throughout the year we convened events, unconferences and collaborative spaces across Bath, Bristol, Exeter and the wider region - creating shared environments where VCSE organisations, tech businesses, funders and civic leaders can connect and collaborate. From the Bath Digital Festival to regional roundtables and community gatherings, these spaces strengthen relationships and enable collective action around digital inclusion and responsible innovation.

Trusted peer networks



Trusted peer networks enable people to learn from one another, share challenges and develop solutions collaboratively. Throughout 2025 the Digital Divide Collective, Meet the Members sessions and founder roundtables created spaces for honest dialogue and shared problem solving. These networks are particularly valuable for leaders navigating complex challenges.

Storytelling, impact narratives and measurement



Capturing and sharing impact is essential to strengthening the tech-for-good ecosystem. Through research, reporting and community storytelling we highlight the innovation, collaboration and leadership emerging across the South West. Publications such as the Tech4Good South West South West Impact Investment Report, ecosystem mapping research and this annual impact report help surface insights, identify funding gaps and shape regional strategy. Alongside these formal outputs, community events and storytelling platforms amplify the voices of founders, charities and practitioners who are building solutions to real-world challenges.

2025 Year in Review

January - March: Laying the Foundations and Sharing Knowledge



The year began with a strong focus on thought leadership, ecosystem insight and inclusive innovation. In January, we hosted Tech4Good South West Online with Accenture to explore skills volunteering and contributed to the BANES Women Leaders Network Annual Conference, setting the tone for cross-sector collaboration and shared leadership across the region.

February and March focused on advancing digital inclusion and inclusive technology. Alongside the Inclusive Tech series with Diversily - which provided practical guidance to nonprofits and impact-driven organisations on building accessible, equitable digital services - we delivered a funded innovation support mapping project across Bath & North East Somerset which captured 76 initiatives. This research examined the existing innovation support landscape, assessing how equitably it reaches community members and identifying gaps where underserved groups may be excluded. By understanding what support exists, who it serves, and where barriers remain, we created a foundation for more targeted, inclusive strategies to strengthen regional innovation.

During this period, we also launched the AI Peer Network, creating a cross-sector space for VCSE organisations, tech professionals and impact-driven founders to explore responsible and practical applications of AI together. The network is designed as a peer-learning environment - with members bringing expertise, sharing real-world experimentation, and collectively building confidence in ethical AI adoption. We also initiated the Digital Trustees project to pilot new models of volunteer brokerage between the tech sector and community organisations.

April – June: Deepening Engagement & Skills Development



Spring saw a growing focus on connecting the tech industry with VCSE organisations, strengthening capacity while deepening shared understanding across sectors. Our Office Hours series focused on strengthening mutual understanding between the tech and VCSE sectors, while supporting tech-for-good and impact-led founders to develop sustainable, scalable business models that create lasting social impact.

During this period, we also published the Tech4Good South West Impact Investment Report — the only regionally focused report of its kind in the UK. The research mapped the regional impact investment landscape, highlighting capital flows, funding gaps and opportunities for mission-driven ventures. By providing insight into how impact-led innovation is financed in the South West, the report positioned the region as a growing hub for responsible, impact-driven enterprise and informed conversations between founders, funders and ecosystem partners.

Through the [Digital Divide Collective \(DDC\)](#) and the [AI Peer Network](#), we continued convening organisations across sectors to address digital inclusion and responsible AI adoption, strengthening digital capability and shared learning across the regional ecosystem. May marked the Bath Digital Festival, where we launched the [Aviva-Tech4Good South West Tech Skills for Good](#) pilot with local charities and hosted discussions on AI in Action.

Meet the Members sessions and community events served as core convening spaces for our membership, strengthening trusted relationships, enabling knowledge exchange and creating the conditions for future collaboration across the South West.

July – September: Collaboration, Reflection and Ecosystem Momentum



Summer provided space not only for collaboration and continued learning, but for reflection on how we convene as a community. During this period, we consciously adopted a more human-centred, “de-tech” approach creating greater space for in-person connection, smaller group dialogue and 1:1 engagement. This shift reinforced our supportive, collaborative values and strengthened the trust underpinning the community.

Highlights included the DDC Digital Skills Roundtable with stakeholders from across the South West and the South West Charity Conference & Expo, where we shared regional insight and strengthened cross-sector relationships. Tech for Good unconferences in Bristol and Exeter convened diverse participants from across tech and VCSE sectors to exchange ideas, learn from one another and explore emerging opportunities for impact.

The Digital Trustees project continued to grow, creating new pathways for skills-based volunteering and tech-enabled community support. Networking remained central through Meet the Members sessions and Office Hours, reinforcing peer learning and shared momentum.

September marked a significant moment for regional innovation with Early Stage Funding 101, convening leading investors and ecosystem partners including Bethnal Green Ventures, British Business Bank, SETsquared and angel investors - equipping early-stage founders with practical insight into funding strategies, capital routes and impact-led growth within one of the UK’s strongest regional startup clusters.

October – December: Exploring AI, Sustainability, and Community Impact



The final quarter marked a period of deepening connection and clarity, as our network began to more clearly define both its identity and its potential. Alongside continued exploration of AI, sustainability and innovation, we strengthened the foundations of our community by refining our processes and digital infrastructure - intentionally creating more space for meaningful dialogue, trusted relationships and shared momentum.

Innovation and responsible AI remained central. Through AI in Action sessions, the AI Living Lab with Friends of the Earth, and workshops with SW*AID and AI Wales, members explored practical, ethical and sustainability-focused applications of emerging technologies. Events such as Ctrl+Alt+Contribute with Aviva and Women in Tech + Philanthropy further highlighted the intersection of technology, leadership and social purpose.

In partnership with the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority (WECA), we convened a Founder Roundtable bringing together high-growth, impact-driven businesses from across the region. Leaders shared candid reflections on scaling responsibly, accessing capital, adopting AI and the realities - and loneliness - of leadership. The discussion revealed a strong appetite for trusted, purpose-led founder networks aligned with the region’s growth

ambitions, reinforcing Tech4Good South West's role in convening impact-driven scale-ups alongside VCSE organisations and ecosystem partners.

During this period, the [Digital Divide Collective](#) evolved from an open convening space into a more structured platform for coordinated action. In total 72 people were engaged. While bi-monthly meetings continue to build energy and participation, a newly formed leadership group now strengthens alignment and regional collaboration around digital inclusion.

We closed the year by deepening member relationships through Christmas Socials and Meet the Members sessions, while laying strategic groundwork to extend the tech for good ecosystem into Gloucester & Cheltenham - signalling the next phase of regional growth.

Overall Impact

Throughout 2025, Tech4Good South West convened over 50 sessions with 680 attendees, bringing together nonprofits, tech businesses, funders and skilled volunteers across the region.

Our membership community grew to 102 members, increasing from 80 in 2024, reflecting increasing demand for a trusted, cross-sector space focused on responsible innovation and social impact. In our membership the proportion of non-profits in our network rose from 6% in 2024 to 23% in 2025.

The year strengthened digital adoption and confidence within VCSE organisations, while also supporting tech founders and SMEs to embed responsible AI practices, access funding pathways and scale impact-led business models.

Through research, leadership roundtables and coordinated action, we advanced digital inclusion, responsible innovation and cross-sector collaboration - strengthening the South West’s tech-for-good ecosystem as a whole.

Key numbers

- 56 events convened
- 706 attendees to our events
- 102 members
- 2024 newsletter subscribers
- 93% of people attending our sessions told us these met or exceeded their expectations



The following section of the report highlights our progress towards the outcomes in our [Theory of Change](#). We work towards outcomes which are focused on both the VCSE sector and tech small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and startups in the region. These outcomes are organised as follows:

Outcomes for VCSEs	Outcomes for SMES and start-ups
• Increasing digital adoption and capacity within the nonprofit sector • Supporting VCSEs access digital tools, training, and a collaborative network • Supporting VCSEs to increase knowledge around the benefits of digital capacity building	• Supporting businesses scale and grow with tech for good at their heart • Access to funding, partnerships, and mentoring opportunities • Support tech SMEs and startups to learn how tech-for-good can scale business and support local communities

State of the region - VCSE Digital Skills in the South West

In June and July 2025 we worked with the [Quartet Community Foundation](#) to understand the digital strengths, gaps and opportunities within our community sector.

Headline findings:

- Across the South West, charities and social enterprises are digitally aware but under-resourced to act. Without intervention, the digital divide risks compounding inequality - particularly for the smaller organisations supporting our most vulnerable communities.
- Only 1 in 5 have a digital strategy, and three-quarters say time and funding are their biggest barriers to progress. Digital responsibility is often informal or spread thinly across teams, with half providing no staff training in digital tools.
- Smaller organisations are particularly vulnerable: 64% of small charities and social enterprises are still at the “curious” or “starting out” stages of digital maturity, compared with 57% of larger ones reaching the advancing or advanced stages. This imbalance mirrors national trends but is more pronounced in our region.
- Despite these challenges, there is strong intent and appetite for change. Most organisations recognise that digital is vital for efficiency, service delivery and funding resilience - but lack access to affordable training, infrastructure, and trusted support.
- Together, these findings reveal a region ready for coordinated action: a sector aware of the value of digital but held back by capacity, confidence, and access. With the right investment and collaborative support, the South West is well-placed to lead an inclusive model for digital growth.

Critical skills gaps:



Artificial Intelligence Tools: Only 3.4% of respondents stated they were confident in using AI tools - ChatGPT, Copilot, and automation tools remain largely untapped opportunities for efficiency gains.



Digital Fundraising: Only 5.8% respondents stated they were confident in using digital fundraising tools - Online donation platforms, crowdfunding, and digital stewardship strategies



Emerging Technology: Only 5.7% of respondents stated they were confident in keeping pace with technological advancement and identifying relevant innovations.



Using digital tools in service delivery: Only 15.6% of respondent stated they were confident and feel they are using them effectively



Budgeting for and procuring technology: Only 4.5% respondent stated they were confident in budgeting, procuring, and building strategic allocation of digital resources into organisational strategy.

The findings from this survey have guided the design of our work. The figures show a sector ready to grow but missing the scaffolding to sustain progress.

Many nonprofits are enthusiastic but need practical support to translate digital curiosity into embedded capability – especially tailored, place-based programmes that meet small organisations where they are. We believe that investing in mentoring, peer learning and leadership confidence is key to turning potential into practice.

Increasing digital adoption and capacity within the nonprofit sector

Summary of Impact

This year, VCSEs across the South West have made significant strides in adopting digital tools, enhancing internal systems and building staff capability. By engaging with our workshops, peer networks, and digital skills programs, nonprofits are improving their ability to deliver services effectively and reach more communities in need.

Based on feedback from our sessions, organisations reported tangible improvements: streamlining admin processes with AI tools, adopting cloud platforms for collaboration, and enhancing online service delivery for local communities.

In addition to formal workshops, we facilitated 1:1 coaching and peer-to-peer mentoring. This support helped smaller organisations navigate the sometimes-daunting digital landscape. For many, this meant introducing new tools such as collaborative databases, workflow automation, and AI-powered planning aids.

The result: more efficient operations, improved service reach, and a stronger foundation for long-term sustainability.

Case Study: AI Peer Network



The AI Peer Network from Tech4Good South West brings together VCSE organisations across the South West to explore practical, ethical uses of AI. It creates a space for peer learning, shared experimentation and building confidence with emerging technologies.

How many people reached in 2025: 132 people across 75 organisations (VCSE and Tech Sector)

Main findings: In 2025, the AI Peer Network guided VCSE organisations on a journey from strong foundations to practical adoption. Early sessions focused on responsible AI, covering UK-GDPR alignment, privacy, bias, ethics and accountability, environmental impact and the importance of human oversight. Building on this, members moved into hands-on exploration through “AI in Action” sessions and real-world case studies — from fundraising and administrative automation to chatbots and custom AI assistants, culminating in the AI Living Lab showcase, where charities demonstrated practical AI prototypes to support staff and improve service delivery.

Impact for charities:

- 80-90% Gained confidence using AI tools like Copilot

- 80%+ Can now scope or refine AI use cases more clearly
- 100% Plan to continue/build on work post-pilot

Volunteers

- 90 - 100% Felt their contribution made a tangible impact
- 80%+ Gained insights into ethical, applied AI in the nonprofit sector
- 100% Would volunteer with the programme again

Participants from our AI Peer Network told us:

“There are some exciting case studies by a local organisations underway, and a willingness to share and learn. I can now go to people to ask questions, or listen along to build new knowledge.”

“Lots of potential opportunities to help out. There's power in "just doing it" for organisations.”

“Lots of interesting people working in the sector who want to find out more - massive opportunities for how we can use AI”

Supporting VCSEs access digital tools, training, and a collaborative network

Summary of Impact

Tech4Good South West has successfully provided a platform for VCSEs to access a wide range of digital tools, structured training and an expansive collaborative network. This has enabled nonprofits to adopt digital solutions that were previously out of reach.

Through our events, digital trustee initiatives, and Digital Skills Academy VCSEs have discovered innovative ways to solve challenges. From connecting with technology businesses for pro bono support to participating in workshops exploring AI for efficiency, participants are left equipped with new knowledge and actionable resources.

A key project delivered has been Tech4Good South West's [AI Living Lab](#). This is a place-based innovation programme where charities and industry volunteers co-design and test AI tools to solve real social challenges. Rooted in the values of ethical, inclusive digital transformation, the Living Lab enables the South West's charity sector to build confidence, capability, and community, not just prototypes.

This pilot brought together 3 organisations and 15 volunteers who worked together between August to November 2025 over approximately 732 hours facilitated via T4GSW. 100% said they'd recommend participation.

The 2025 pilot proved demand: charities reported increased confidence, sector credibility, and practical next steps with AI.

"The intention... let's help these organisations learn by doing rather than attending conferences, webinars, training courses... until you get hands on it's difficult to understand what it means."

- Microsoft Volunteer

"I've changed my views now that I've learnt a lot in the last few months... I've learned how it can enable us really rather than taking over..."

- Velda Savage, Age UK Gloucestershire

"Taking a first step on the journey is more important than actually where that step is going to take you to...because that first step is not the end destination really."

- James Byron, Dorothy House Hospice Care

Tech4Good South West fosters ongoing connections across the region, enabling VCSEs to leverage local expertise, share resources and form partnerships. This network is more than just a platform, it's a community that amplifies the collective needs and impact of South West organisations.

Supporting VCSEs to increase knowledge around the benefits of digital capacity building

Summary of Impact

VCSEs are now more informed what tools, training and support are available and how to integrate these meaningfully.

During our sessions, attendees expressed how their perspective had shifted. One remarked, “I arrived today not completely sure it would be relevant, but was surprised at how many good conversations I’ve had.”

Workshops introduced frameworks such as Theory of Change to measure and communicate impact. These frameworks allowed VCSEs to map their digital activities to organisational outcomes, setting a foundation for measurable growth.

Many organisations reported that exploring AI, digital volunteer opportunities and accessible technology options have expanded their view of what is possible. This awareness translates into confidence: staff are more willing to experiment with new tools, apply best practices in digital adoption and seek ongoing support from peers and Tech4Good initiatives.

We ask participants to our events to share their main takeaways from our sessions. Here is a summary of their feedback:

Strong need for better digital coordination and support across the VCSE sector

The sector is in transition but faces weak cyber governance, uneven digital skills and limited strategic support. Organisations need practical, low-cost, low-time solutions, better basic tech use and more investment in kit, training, and cyber resilience (especially for smaller groups.)

Collaboration, networking, and relationships are the biggest enablers of change

There is a powerful appetite for collaboration across the South West. Connecting VCSEs, businesses, funders, and individuals - through both face-to-face and digital spaces is seen as essential for sustainable impact.

High enthusiasm, talent, and optimism around tech for good and digital inclusion

The South West has a rich pool of committed, skilled people and organisations working on complex digital inclusion challenges. Events surfaced strong motivation, shared values and a sense that “we’re all working this out together.”

Growing interest in AI and digital tools, alongside uncertainty and skills gaps

AI is fast-moving and hard to keep up with, but there's increasing curiosity and recognition of its usefulness especially for reducing admin and freeing up time. Many want to learn the basics, understand tools like ChatGPT and Copilot, and apply tech to real problems without over complication.

Clear value in impact frameworks, learning, and small practical steps

Participants valued frameworks for impact measurement, theory of change and strategy, alongside real-world case studies. There's recognition that change comes from small, achievable steps, grounded conversations, and ongoing learning supported by strong community and shared momentum.

Supporting businesses to scale and grow with tech for good at their heart

Summary of Impact

Tech4Good South West has fostered a community where tech businesses can scale while embedding social impact into their business models. Companies engaging with our network gain confidence in deploying technology solutions that address societal challenges.

The main insights through our engagement with businesses are that businesses have gained:

1. Learning and skill development: Businesses valued gaining knowledge and skills through structured sessions, particularly on topics they were less familiar with, such as funding, AI adoption or sector-specific challenges. Members told us:

"I learnt a lot at the Funding 101 event - a topic I knew very little about and came away feeling very informed."

"[We] built our skills in AI adoption, built our sensitivities to Responsible AI, built change management skills."

2. Networking and connection opportunities: Engagement with Tech4Good South West helped businesses meet new organisations, founders and individuals, creating potential collaborations and shared learning.

"Discovered organisations through events that may lead to partnerships at future point. Also met individuals that have relevant connections for shared learning and experience."

3. Greater understanding of the VCSE sector and regional opportunities: Participation helped businesses better understand the challenges and needs of the third sector in the South West, highlighting opportunities for future impact or collaboration.

"Definitely have learnt more about the challenges faced by other organisations. We see there is an opportunity to help more organisations use their old IT to support digital inclusion initiatives in the region."

"Yes, learning about the 3rd sector and communities in the South West, connecting the dots."

Through workshops, networking, and mentoring, tech SMEs and startups have learned how to integrate social good into their products and services. Companies are not only scaling their operations but also deepening engagement with the community.

Case studies show that businesses have leveraged peer insights to launch pilot programs, access funding, and create partnerships with local VCSEs. The Tech4Good South West network ensures that businesses can scale responsibly, with social impact built into their growth strategies.

Access to funding, partnerships, and mentoring opportunities



Summary of Impact

Access to funding, strategic partnerships and mentoring has enabled tech-for-good businesses to implement scalable solutions while learning best practices in social innovation.

Tech4Good South West's events have been catalysts for connection and opportunity. Businesses reported successful follow-ups from initial networking meetings, including partnership agreements, mentorship programs and funding discussions.

Participants cited specific examples: connecting with investors interested in digital inclusion, forming alliances to pilot new AI solutions in the nonprofit sector, and receiving mentoring to enhance operational efficiency. These collaborations have accelerated the adoption of socially impactful technology solutions, demonstrating that a supportive ecosystem is key to scaling responsibly.

Our office hours mentoring has helped startups navigate challenges unique to tech-for-good ventures, such as aligning social missions with sustainable revenue models, designing user-centric solutions and understanding regulatory and ethical frameworks.



Case Study: Aviva Partnerships Skills for Good

Tech Skills for Good connects skilled tech professionals with local charities to tackle practical digital challenges and build long-term digital confidence.

In 2025, the programme was piloted with [Aviva](#)'s data team in Bristol, supporting 5 charities across the South West through 23 skilled volunteers, facilitating ~150 hours of tech support.

The pilot helped charities improve data, systems and digital communications while building confidence and capability that will last beyond the programme. Volunteers reported high satisfaction, with 100% saying they would recommend taking part.

The success of the pilot demonstrated a scalable model for skills-based volunteering, laying the groundwork to expand Tech Skills for Good into a regional programme in 2026.

Support tech SMEs and startups to learn how tech-for-good can scale business and support local communities

Summary of Impact

Our network has helped SMEs and startups understand the mutual benefits of socially responsible technology: scaling their business while creating tangible social impact.

By engaging with Tech4Good South West, businesses have gained insights into how technology can serve both commercial and social goals. Learning sessions and peer-led discussions have demonstrated that embedding social impact increases brand value, strengthens stakeholder trust and opens new markets.

Participants shared examples of projects where AI, cloud tools, and digital platforms were used to streamline nonprofit operations, increase accessibility or reduce barriers for underserved communities. This practical exposure has inspired businesses to integrate these approaches into their strategic planning.

A key focus area has been to help these businesses understand the funding landscape and learn more about the different forms of capital they could access, delivered in partnership with amazing investor groups like Bethnal Green Ventures, Angel Investors Bristol and our collaboration with British Business Bank. This was also supplemented by the launch of the [South West Impact Investment Report](#), the only report that focuses on impact investing in all of the UK.

Furthermore, the network has cultivated an ethos of collaboration rather than competition. Startups are learning from each other's successes and challenges, creating a community where social good is integral to business growth.

Launching our physical hubs

Creating deep organic connections is at the heart of our mission, and our new community hubs are a big step to bringing the ecosystem closer. These Workspace & Co-Creation Hubs are designed to intentionally bring impact oriented people and organisations together from across the VCSE sector, tech businesses, and digital community, allowing them to co-locate, meet, collaborate, and co-create solutions in high quality spaces with the most accessible pricing in the region.

This could not be possible without the amazing partnership we have with [Runway East in Bath, and more recently, Patch in Gloucester](#). Both organisations have shown incredible commitment to support their local communities, and share our vision in uplifting the ecosystem together.

Stories of Change



Behind every statistic are real people and organisations whose work has been transformed by Tech4Good South West.

- Oasis Hub Bath charity connected with the Digital Detox initiative to upskill young people in tech, enabling them to deliver community-focused programs.
- WAVESIX social enterprise developed its own Theory of Change framework, improving its ability to measure and communicate impact.
- Small tech startups accessed mentoring and partnerships, leading to scalable AI solutions for local VCSEs.
- Age UK Gloucestershire, through our AI Living Labs, developed the capacity for AI-generated summaries from client conversations to reduce admin time and free up staff time online.
- Members, Enjoy Development connected with Radio Bath, during a Theory of Change workshop hosted by Tech4Good South West. This led to a partnership supporting workshops with young people to co-design Impactful, a youth volunteering platform connecting young people with local organisations.

These stories highlight how collaboration, knowledge sharing, and practical support can catalyse meaningful change. Participants consistently mention the value of networking and community in navigating the rapidly evolving digital landscape.

Challenges and Lessons Learned

While much progress has been made, challenges remain in digital adoption, resource allocation, and access to scalable technology.

Common challenges include:

- Resource limitations within smaller VCSEs
- Navigating complex AI and digital tools
- Ensuring equitable access to technology for all communities

Lessons learned include the importance of starting small, testing tools and focusing on sustainable growth.

Collaboration remains central: connecting organisations and individuals accelerates learning and builds resilience.

Participants emphasised the importance of ongoing support and follow-up after events, highlighting the need for structured programs and actionable takeaways. Tech4Good South West will continue to refine its approach, ensuring programs remain responsive to the sector's needs.



Looking Ahead

Looking ahead, our strategy is guided by a powerful principle: do less to do more.

Having built strong foundations and a broad community, our focus for the future is to strengthen, deepen, and grow with intent. This means concentrating our efforts on the four core Strategic Pillars to ensure that our programs are deeply embedded and scaled for maximum lasting impact.

We will continue to invest in the quality of our community, including our physical co-location spaces, ensuring that all our growth is selective and focused on delivering the defined outcomes of our Theory of Change. This shift ensures our work creates systemic and sustainable change across the South West's tech-for-good ecosystem.

2026 will focus on deepening collaboration, expanding digital inclusion, and scaling impact across the South West.

Our focus will be centred around:

- Expand digital adoption programs for VCSEs, particularly in underrepresented areas supported by skills based volunteering from large enterprises and the broader tech community.
- Strengthen the South West network with place-based activations and interventions to create more sustainable, connected communities
- Promote measurable social impact through AI, digital tools and innovation.

Tech4Good South West is committed to fostering a vibrant ecosystem where technology and social purpose intersect.

By supporting VCSEs and tech-for-good businesses, we are creating a future where digital skills, innovation and social impact grow hand in hand.



We provide practical, place-based learning opportunities to help individuals, teams, and VCSEs develop the digital confidence and capacity they need to thrive

Digital Skills Academy



We support an ecosystem of organisations (e.g. VCSEs, Tech SMEs and startups, Big Tech and corporate CSR teams) where people can connect with others, learn together and access expert guidance and funding

Advisory & Peer Networks



We co-design programmes that respond to specific regional challenges and opportunities — building evidence and enabling innovation, inclusion, and scale

Bespoke Programmes

