

POSITIVE MONEY MISSION

MISSION

Positive Money campaigns for reform of the money and banking system to support a fair, democratic and sustainable economy

WHAT PROBLEM ARE WE TRYING TO SOLVE?

Right now the money and banking system causes house price bubbles, high levels of debt, and rising inequality. It lays the foundations for financial crises. It harms our environment. And there is a large democratic deficit in the way the money system works and policies are decided.

WHAT IS OUR VISION?

To deal with the big social, economic and environmental challenges we're facing today, we need to transform our money and banking system. Positive Money's goal is a money and banking system that serves a fair, democratic, and sustainable economy:

- An economy that isn't reliant on housing bubbles, stock markets booms and unsustainable levels of inequality and debt to keep it growing.
- An economy that's stable, with more secure jobs, less household and government debt, which does not automatically increase inequality and that will give us a solid footing to tackle the environmental crisis.
- Where the Bank of England works with the Government in a democratic way to implement economic policies to shift the UK economy to one that is fairer and more sustainable.
- Where implicit subsidies for banks are removed, and a diverse ecosystem of banks serve the needs of society.

HOW DO WE PURSUE CHANGE?

We research the problems with the money and banking system, to develop our proposals for reforming it and to win the support of economists.

We build a growing, skilled, and diverse network which works together to campaign for change.

We influence key decision makers and influencers in the UK.

We lead and support an international movement advocating reform around the world.

Positive Money local groups are at the heart of the Positive Money network and campaign – bringing people together in communities all around the UK to raise awareness of the need for a reformed money and banking system. Local groups and the activities they pursue are proof for policy-makers, the media and economists that there is a critical mass of people calling for reform of the money system and that this is an issue with mainstream support.

POSITIVE MONEY LOCAL GROUPS OBJECTIVES

Positive Money is a supporter driven organisation. Via grass-root links at the local level, we raise awareness of the connections between our money and banking system and modern social, economic, and environmental issues. Positive Money local groups have always been the driving force our campaign. Every local group is different in character, makeup and activity. But most groups both *meet regularly*, and *organise activities* outside of their meetings. All Positive Money local groups work towards these three objectives:

AWARENESS RAISING

This should be the bedrock activity of all Positive Money groups. It is important to remember that money and banking can be off-putting topics for a lot of people. So raising awareness of these issues needs to be done in a respectful, fun and accessible way. Most politicians don't understand where money comes from - so it is not a surprise that the general public don't have a clear idea! Our Local groups raise awareness in various ways, including holding stalls at local festivals, doing presentations for other community groups, organising film screenings, or doing pub quizzes! We have lots of resources and ideas to help you raise awareness, on the 'Local Groups Resources' page on our website: www.positivemoney.org/resources/local-groups/

LOBBYING YOUR LOCAL MPS

The results of a Dods monitoring poll conducted in 2014 showed that only 1 in 10 MPs have an accurate understanding of where money comes from. Following the successful backbench debate in 2014 on 'Money Creation and Society', the debate on monetary policy in 2016, and our two packed-out events at the Conservative and Labour Party Conferences in 2016 and 2017, together we need to keep money creation and its impacts on the agenda in Parliament and with local decision makers. Here are some ways our local groups lobby influential people:

- Visit MPs surgeries individually or as a group
- Go to a local election hustings and ask a question
- Organise a big event (35+ people) on a topical subject, and ask all political candidates, and the media in the area to attend

Please see our website for more materials to help you influence people in your local area: www.positivemoney.org/lobby-your-mp/ or www.positivemoney.org/resources/organise-an-event/

CONTENT AND UNDERSTANDING

We know this subject can be complicated, and that to have confidence speaking about it in public and to politicians you need to understand the basics. Local groups are the perfect place to support each other to keep learning and to practice presentations.

Your group could watch our popular *Banking 101* video series, or explore our six campaign areas on our website, which all include handy videos and research papers. You could have a presentation and/or informal discussion on a different topic each month, to keep deepening the groups understanding. Please ensure that people in your group take it in turns to 'host' the discussion, so that the person doing background reading changes from month to month.

We also have a 'speakers network' of people around the UK, who are trained to deliver talks about Positive Money. Please email info@postivemoney.org if you are interested in having a speaker attend one of your group meetings.