



**LET'S WORK TOGETHER:**

**TO HELP MORE PEOPLE TO CROSS THE DIGITAL DIVIDE -  
AND ENJOY THEIR DIGITAL DIVIDEND ON THE OTHER SIDE!**



Our social enterprise is 10! We're celebrating a decade of helping thousands of people to enjoy discovering and using their digital voices.

But we're anxious to help many more who are still shut out from the benefits of the digital world!

The digital divide is real. It has stubbornly blocked the way for many people who are already battling with disadvantages in society. We are grateful that Digital Voice's enthusiastic team has pioneered new ways to support and motivate people of all ages and abilities to cross that divide.

**Martha Lane Fox, Digital Inclusion Champion, said that the digital divide harms "some of the most disenfranchised and excluded groups in society". Digital Voice for Communities is convinced that it doesn't need to stay that way!**



Digital Voice has developed courses and projects tailored for priority groups, so that they can benefit from going online, develop skills and replace the risks of isolation with connections and a chance for creativity. With a decade of expertise in this specialist area, our team is working hard and achieving progress.

**"Digital participation – helping everyone to get online and maximise the benefits of digital technology – is arguably one of the great social challenges of our age."**

**– Carnegie UK Trust**

Positive responses and detailed feedback from participants and commissioners have been a driving force for Digital Voice, leading to repeat bookings, recommendations to similar organisations and the development by DV of new follow-up projects in response to demand. The services on offer now have increased focus on delivery via tablets, added to other digital devices in its multimedia services. It has build a series of inTouch and iSkill courses and Geostories projects; these provide an enjoyable and accessible way to use digital media, to create connections between people across time and space.

The need for digital skills has continued to be demonstrated by research.

- More than 5 million adults in the UK have never used the internet
- More than a quarter of people with a disability have never gone online
- Three quarters of jobs require some sort of computer use
- Offline households miss out on savings of more than £500 a year from shopping and paying bills online
- More than half of older people report loneliness and isolation – that greatly reduces if they have the chance to develop online social contact

While the need and demand for digital skills continues to grow, the other part of the equation is who will pay for the digital divide to be tackled. The funding context has been tough, with reductions in local authority budgets resulting in closures and cutbacks across the charitable and third sector. Digital Voice has succeeded in opening new relationships with a wide range of funding sources, but is concerned that many groups currently miss out due to lack of funds and equipment. **Unless the digital divide is seen as a higher priority – they'll stay on the wrong side of that divide for many decades to come.**

**If you share our mission – get in touch!**

**You may have participants who will benefit,  
or funding for projects to achieve change and progress.**

**We'd be delighted to make change happen together!**

[contact@digitalvoice.org.uk](mailto:contact@digitalvoice.org.uk)

**01207 438718**

[www.digitalvoice.org.uk](http://www.digitalvoice.org.uk)



**Digital Voice**  
for communities