

The Anti-Poverty Events Group are a partnership of eight organisations working together to tackle poverty and financial exclusion through community development and resourcing community organisations around the Bradford District.

The Covid pandemic has increased the financial problems of many vulnerable families who are at risk of loan sharks, legal high cost lenders, scams, gambling and other related issues over lockdown in the lead up to Christmas.

Just this week we heard of one legal doorstep lender offering 'LockDown Loans' at 500% APR!

The results of these financial pressures increase poverty, mental health conditions, domestic violence and in some cases lead to suicide.

Last year we ran a #LoanSharksAreMonsters Halloween Campaign through community centres that engaged over 1500 people and led the high profile prosecution of a loan shark operating in Keighley.

This year, we have joined forces with Artworks Creative Communities for their '**Bundles of Creativity**' project to produce and distribute **8,000 #LoanSharksAreMonsters Halloween Booklets** packed with fun spooky activities and plenty of help and advice about steering clear of scams and loan sharks, as well as making your money go further.

Information about the Credit Union and our new affordable **Family Loan** also included.

Bundles of Creativity has been up and running since May, working closely with Food Banks, community partners, schools and city wide organisations to get accessible, free resources and creative opportunities to children and families hard hit by poverty, the effects of covid-19 and digital exclusion. **There have already been 18,000 Bundles distributed so far.**

We are **doubling our distribution target this month to 8000** in the certain knowledge that the need is increasing.

So thanks to **funding from The National Lottery Community Fund and support from National Science and Media Museum**, we are able to offer the booklets to even more groups across the District.

[Can you help? Join in this great endeavour and help get some great resources out to vulnerable families in time for half term holidays and especially Halloween.](#)

- **Launch 15th October:** We are launching the #LoanSharksAreMonsters edition of Bundles of Creativity on 15th October 'International Credit Union Day'.
- **Collection Location:** Packs will be available for collection from this date at Delius Arts & Cultural Centre, 29 Great Horton Road, Bradford, BD7 1A
- **[If you can distribute, please fill in the information below and send it to Deborah Collett \[deborah@artworkscreative.org.uk\]\(mailto:deborah@artworkscreative.org.uk\) as soon as possible.](#)**
- **[If you are already on board and have distributed Bundles of Creativity before, she will be getting in touch with you soon](#)**

Organisation	Main Contact and email	Number of activity packs required

The 'Anti-Poverty Event Group members' are:

Bradford District Credit Union, Artworks Creative Communities, Barnardo's, Cnet, Carers resource, People Can, Stronger Families, Bradford Council