

Intelligent Energy Charitable Trust

## Citizens Advice Charnwood

"Thanks to the funding we can maintain our Training Officer hours, offer well supported volunteering opportunities and identify external training for our volunteers that will ultimately benefit the residents of Charnwood." **Intelligent Energy Charitable Trust** first launched in January 2019 with the aim to make a positive impact on the local community it operates within. The Charitable Trust supports charitable and voluntary organisations, local to Intelligent Energy's headquarters in Loughborough, which support and aid amongst others; community groups, young people, sport and lifelong learning.

The Trust currently distributes £100,000 per annum and several organisations have already benefited from funding awards, including Citizens Advice Charnwood who were awarded £8585 in 2019. Their Chief Officer, Ian Dennis, tells us about the organisation and why it is important to the community.

"Citizens Advice Charnwood helps around 5,000 people each year with a wide range of enquiries and problems. Each Local Citizens Advice office is an independent charity. We offer free, independent, impartial and confidential advice across a range of enquiry areas, such as welfare benefits, debt, housing, employment and relationships and family. Getting good advice can not only resolve the presenting issue but can also lead to improved mental health in our community due to less stress and anxiety.

"To do this we need a team of dedicated volunteer advisers with the necessary skills to give increasingly complex advice to our clients, many of whom are vulnerable. This requires recruitment, support and ongoing training to ensure we can meet the demand for our service whilst maintaining the quality of advice we give. Volunteers are at the heart of our service.

"Thanks to the funding we have received from Intelligent Energy we can maintain our Training Officer hours, offer well supported volunteering opportunities and identify external training for our volunteers that will ultimately benefit the residents of Charnwood."

To find out more about Intelligent Energy's Charitable Trust and to download an application form visit: **www.intelligent-energy.com/about-ie/charitable-trust** or email charitable.trust@intelligent-energy.com

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