

# WESSEX WATER FOUNDATION

## Annual Report 2023-24

May 2024



**Wessex Water**  
YTL GROUP

# What is the Wessex Water Foundation?

Wessex Water Foundation provides funding to projects that strengthen communities and benefit the environment.

It has never been more important to both respond to the needs of our communities and to make a firm commitment to support them now and in the future - the Wessex Water Foundation allows us to do just that.

The Foundation was launched in 2020 in partnership with the Somerset, Wiltshire, Dorset and Quartet Community Foundations, who help to ensure our funding goes towards communities that are in most need of support.

Every year grants totalling at least £500,000 are distributed through the Foundation to support core debt advice services and environment Partner Programmes, and through our Community Fund and Environment Fund.

In each area, funding for these is awarded at decision making panels comprising volunteers from Wessex Water and representatives from the local community, who bring a wealth of experience and local knowledge to help us make the best decisions.

# Summary of grants awarded 2023-24

## Funding overview

Programme	Number of grants	People supported	Amount awarded
<b>Community Fund</b>	58	37,401	£166,999
<b>Environment Fund</b>	61	Not applicable	£100,821
<b>Partner Grants - Environment</b>	4	Not applicable	£70,000
<b>Partner Grants - Debt Advice</b>	36	2,732	£230,078
			<b>£567,898</b>



## Acknowledgements

We are proud to work with all our partners across the region and especially the local community foundations and their panel volunteers who enable us to reach and fund such a wide range of community projects.



Cover photo shows Westbury and Warminster Youth Club who were awarded a community fund grant.

# Community Fund

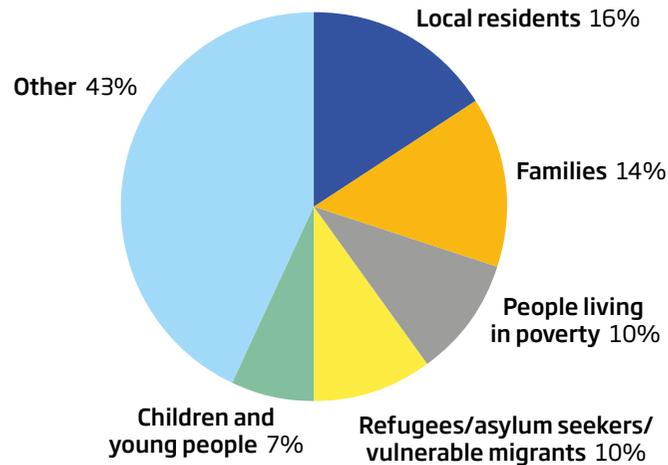
The Community Fund supports charitable activities that aim to build stronger communities and improve the lives of local people. Funding supports community-based activities or projects that meet a local need and improve the lives of local people who are in most need of support.

These activities or projects should be informed by the people or community it seeks to serve and have considerable reach.

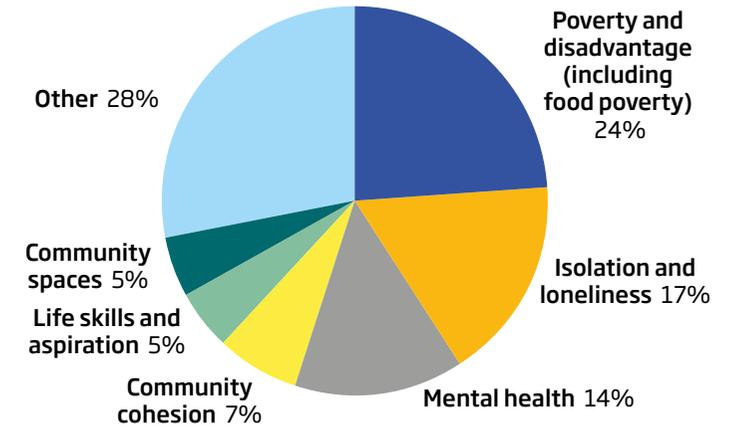
Priority has been given to activities that fulfil one or more of the following criteria:

- take place in areas of multiple deprivation or rural isolation, where people lack access to local services
- help build stronger communities, enabling people to work together and create solutions to local challenges
- help people take steps to manage or avoid debt and build their financial capability. This can include activities that raise awareness and increase the take-up of utility affordability support, such as our help-to-pay schemes.

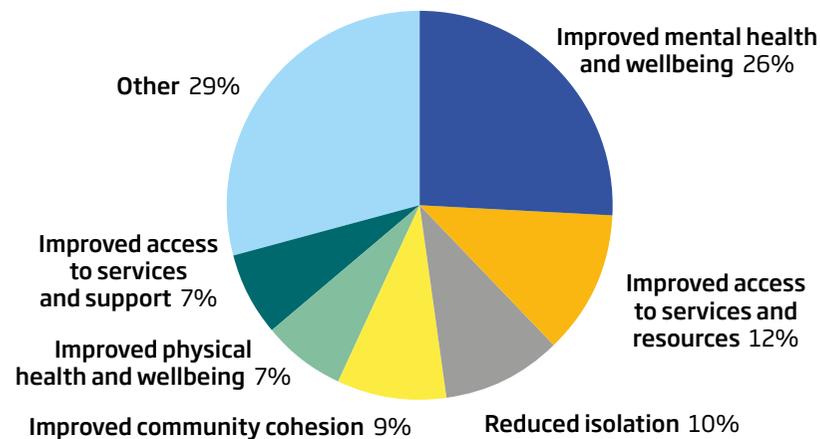
**Top beneficiaries for Community Fund**



**Top Issues addressed by the Community Fund**



**Top outcomes for Community Fund**



# Community Fund - case study

## Game Changer, Taunton, Somerset

*A grant of £3,150 for running costs was awarded by the Wessex Water Foundation Community Fund managed by Somerset Community Foundation.*

Game Changer is a lively weekly project that brings together neurodivergent adults or those with a learning disability to access a weekly social club centred around gaming.

Alex Roland, founder of the group which he runs in Bridgwater, Taunton and Yeovil, explained how gaming brings people in, but actually it's about a lot more than that.

"We knew more neurodivergent people play video games as a percentage compared to neurotypical people and my work as a support worker confirmed this. Being part of the 'Game Changer Tribe' gives people, who can have limited social mobility, a chance to make friends and build a sense of belonging and community".

Set up after Covid, the group brought people out of isolation in a safe and fun environment and the project has now run more than 200 sessions. It was also created and developed together with people with a learning disability. Alongside firm favourites such as Mario Kart and FIFA series, physical games such as Just Dance and Ring Fit encourage movement and gaming.

Game Changer provides a great opportunity for people to come together and socialise. "Our greatest success story is providing a space where one of our volunteers was able to meet his first ever romantic partner," Alex added.

"Being part of the 'Game Changer Tribe' gives people a chance to build a sense of belonging and community"



# Community Fund - around the region

Working with local community foundations for each area, we track and monitor feedback on previous year's funding. Here are some examples of work funded over 2022-23.

## **Dorset - Home-Start Wessex**

*Awarded £2,899 to provide an outdoor community, weekly drop-in session offering support for isolated parents with children aged under five.*

"The weekly Harmony nature outdoor community group has been open to all in the community and has enabled us to meet isolated parents and their children under five. Our group has provided a safe, confidential space where parents can talk without judgement. A programme of therapeutic sessions was planned to meet families' needs with group discussion on relevant topics and 1:1 confidential support."

"Family felt very welcomed to the group. Mum has made friends and engaged with other mums. Daughter has interacted and

played alongside other children. If the family hadn't received Home-Start support, they would still be isolated and at home, unable to attend other groups on events," commented parents who took part.

## **Wiltshire - West Lavington Youth Club**

*Awarded £4,000 to provide weekly support to children, helping them build confidence and accessing opportunities otherwise not available to them due to rural deprivation or disadvantage.*

Manager Josh Newton said: "Since the club re-opened after the pandemic it became obvious that demand had grown and there was a risk young people would have to be turned away to stop sessions becoming too crowded.

"The grant has made a massive difference because we can now actually accommodate the number of kids wanting to come along. We've also got a very high number of special needs children who attend our sessions and we are now able to support them more effectively as we are able to manage the group sizes better.

"We've some children who have very difficult home lives and having the youth club gives them that relief, that being able to get away from that, and just a safe environment to hang out with friends. The grant has made a huge difference to the community. We're really grateful for the support because it means that we can provide the amazing facilities and staff that we've got, and that really helps the young people within the area."

## **Somerset - Diversity Voice**

*Awarded £3,000 to provide debt management and budgeting course for refugees.*

"We used our grant to run a project with Navigate, a Somerset charity that teaches skills for long-term money management. Together we created a specialist course for refugees leaving sponsored accommodation and moving into their own homes.

"The aim was to help them manage their household budget, deal with any debts, and reduce their energy and water bills. The two-day course we created was attended by 76 people during the course of the year. We then turned the resources created into a leaflet and translated it into

Polish, Romanian, Ukrainian, and Portuguese.

"One of the people we worked with was Miss K, who arrived in the UK from Ukraine in April 2022. She attended our money management course, and we were also able to help her access a mental health service. With our team's support, she was able to prepare a monthly saving plan in order to save for a house deposit. Miss K moved into her new home in the summer of 2023 and has successfully maintained her tenancy. She now acts as a champion for others who have arrived from Ukraine and who are facing similar challenges."

## **Bristol and BaNES - Alive Activities**

*Awarded £2,995 to deliver weekly social and therapeutic horticulture community gardening sessions to improve the lives of people living in a deprived inner-city area and help to build a stronger community.*

"We have delivered weekly supported community gardening sessions in partnership with the Wellspring Settlement in the Barton Hill/Lawrence Hill area of Bristol.

"We supported 100 local older people through the project from working class and multicultural backgrounds, families for whom English is a second language who live in the neighbourhood, and those coming to the Wellspring Settlement centre for support around seeking asylum or mental health needs. Most participants were new to gardening or haven't gardened for a long time because they haven't had access to a garden."



# Environment Fund

The Environment Fund supports charitable and community activities that improve local biodiversity or have a positive impact on the environment for local people.

To receive funding, projects must demonstrate one or more of the following outcomes:

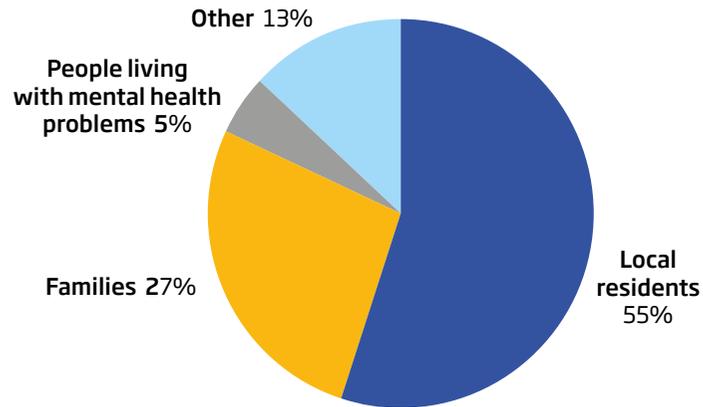
- involve communities in environmental activities that benefit their local area
- restore, maintain or enhance the local natural environment
- engage people in supporting the local natural environment.

Priority will be given to projects that:

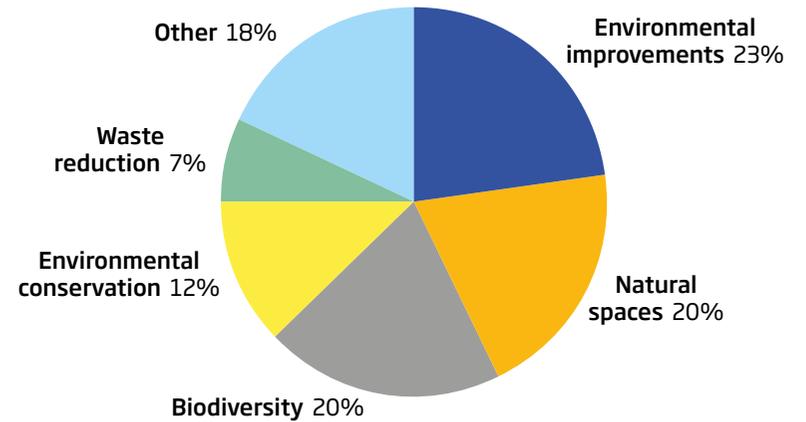
- reduce water usage
- improve environmental sustainability
- improve local biodiversity.

The main focus of this programme is to achieve positive outcomes for the environment through activities that have a direct environmental impact.

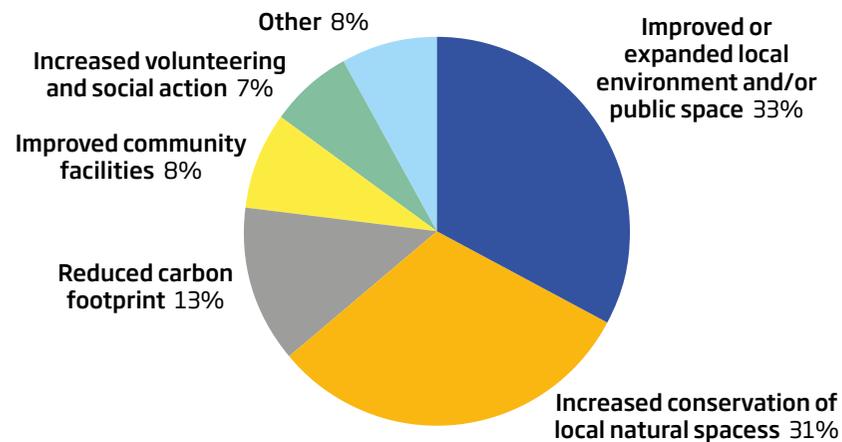
**Top beneficiaries for Environment Fund**



**Top Issues addressed by the Environment Fund**



**Top outcomes for Environment Fund**



# Environment Fund - case study

## All-Aboard Watersports

*This group received a grant from the Wessex Water Foundation Environment Fund of £1,810 through the Quartet Community Foundation.*

All-Aboard Watersports, a charity in Bristol, received a grant of £1,810 to purchase new equipment so they can hold litter picks using paddleboards, kayaks and canoes.

Centre Manager Dominic Betts said: "By using paddleboards, kayaks and canoes, the volunteers can collect litter they wouldn't usually be able to get to, which will help protect marine life in the area.

"We will also be visible on the water, which will hopefully encourage more people to get involved and help the environment."



"We will be visible on the water, which will hopefully encourage more people to get involved"



# Environment Fund - around the region

Working with local community foundations for each area, we track and monitor feedback on previous year's funding. Here are some examples of work funded over 2022-23.

## **Dorset - Grounded Community**

*Awarded £1,500 to support a community garden and community composting programme.*

"Our community garden now has an off-grid kitchen with a complete water system. Workshop attendees, as well as visitors and volunteers have a greater awareness of water conservation. The workshop and DIY attendees have improved skills to complete similar projects at home.

"Our outdoor kitchen water system means that we use less water from the mains. All water that is used in the kitchen is properly cleaned before being reused to water the raised beds. High-quality compost has been used in our community garden in Boscombe, in raised bed installations in eight home gardens, at Shelley Gardens and Deacons Park (community green spaces) and Christchurch Junior School."

## **Wiltshire - Sustainable Devizes**

*Awarded £330 to create a waste reduction demonstration pack, which would include reusable menstrual and continence products, washable nappies and other alternatives, supporting information and a suitcase to display them.*

Group member Liz Read said: "The project has been a real success. Having the suitcase, where people can see and feel the products to convince them of their practicality, is a good way of triggering conversations. We've taken it to quite a few events with different age groups and types of people.

"Over the course of the events we visited we had many lively and encouraging conversations. Many of the people we have spoken with were genuinely interested to learn about alternatives to single use available to them and went away inspired to try these options out."

## **Somerset - Carymoor Environmental Trust**

*Awarded £1,500 to deliver an environmental education programme to connect people with nature.*

"Our grant contributed to our programme of work during the year, including 90 school trips totalling 2,486 pupils. Schools were invited to take part in our Waste Free Lunch Competition to reduce waste. We took this message out to schools as well, with 47 visits to primary schools. We reached 7,000 children with this message.

"We also ran 32 additional sessions for nurture groups at Carymoor, working more regularly with children to help build their confidence and self-esteem. This included a Duke of Edinburgh group from Ansford Academy who were working on achieving their bronze award.

"Feedback from schools include, 'Lots of our children lack life opportunities - experiences like this enrich their learning and ignite a sense of passion and excitement! It is also great for our vulnerable learners or children who struggle with academic learning.'"

## **Bristol and BaNES - Black2Nature**

*Awarded £1,000 towards engaging young people from inner-city Bristol with nature and undertake different activities to teach them the importance of the local environment.*

"This project has made a huge difference to the lives of the young people we worked with. We taught the young people about the environment through fun activities. Increasing diversity within natural spaces. All the children we work with would not otherwise be able to participate in these activities.

"It is really important for us to break the barriers to access. We talked about going to outdoor spaces and how this helps your mental and physical wellbeing, explaining that after a bad day at school or feeling anxious, even just looking up at the sky and watching a bird fly over can help."



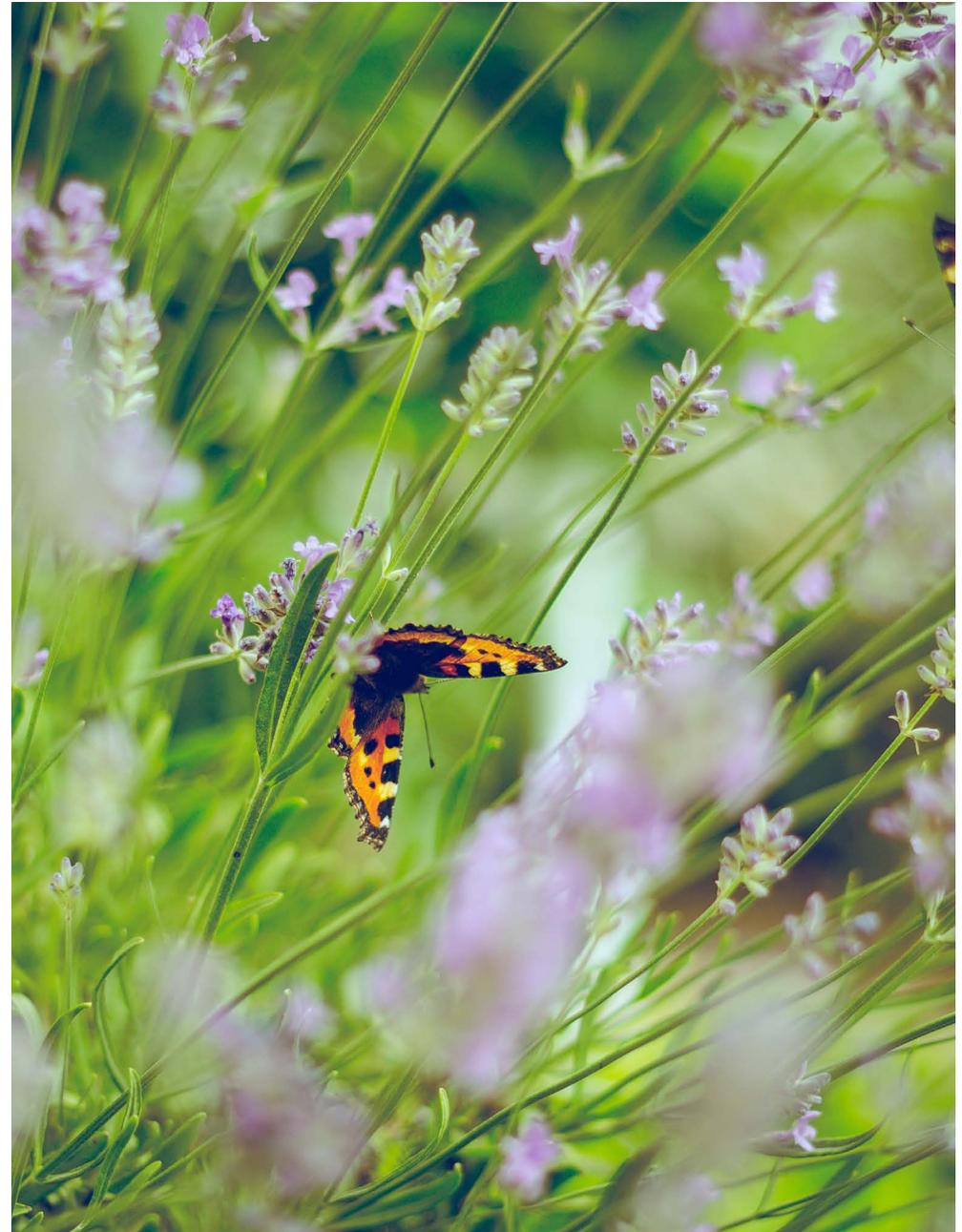
# Wessex Water Foundation Direct Grants: Environment

## Partners Programme

The Partners Programme provides five-year funding to projects carried out by environmental organisations which conserve and enhance biodiversity and the aquatic environment across our region. Every year the Fund awards a total of £70,000 to these organisations. This year, 2024, is the fifth and final year of the current programme and the following has been achieved so far:

- A Better Biss Approach (Wiltshire Wildlife Trust) has delivered a range of interventions across the Biss catchment, from wetland scrape creation to river channel enhancement.
- Dorset Wild Rivers (Dorset Wildlife Trust) has delivered more than 52 hectares of habitat improvement and 2.3km of watercourse improvements across key rivers and catchments in Dorset.
- The Wider Wylde Strategy (Wessex Rivers Trust) has used our funding to drive forward local improvements on the River Were in Warminster and to lay the foundations for a successful bid for a long-term landscape recovery project to enhance the River Wylde.
- The Wilder Waterways project (Avon Wildlife Trust) has supported 4.7km of ditch restoration work on the North Somerset Levels, engaged more than 100 people through citizen science/volunteering work while working with nine land managers to link land and riparian management.

Organisation	Area	Amount
Wessex Rivers Trust	Wiltshire	£15,000
Avon Wildlife Trust	Bristol, Bath & North East Somerset, South Gloucestershire, North Somerset	£15,000
Dorset Wildlife Trust	Dorset	£20,000
Wiltshire Wildlife Trust	Wiltshire	£20,000
		<b>£70,000</b>



# Debt advice funding

Wessex Water funds organisations working in the community who provide debt advice or budgeting and apply for our main affordability schemes on behalf of their clients.

Funding grants are determined by the volume of applications to our schemes in each

year. We currently fund more than 35 organisations in our region and expect a rise in applications from our partners for debt advice that reflects the continuing difficult financial position many customers are experiencing.

Organisation	Area	Amount
Citizens Advice in East Dorset and Purbeck	Dorset	£11,400
Citizens Advice Wiltshire	Wiltshire	£16,200
StepChange	Throughout the Wessex Water area	£17,553
Bath & District Citizens Advice	Bath and North East Somerset	£32,025
Citizens Advice Bournemouth Christchurch & Poole	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£27,950
North Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau	North Somerset	£10,725
South Bristol Advice Services	Bristol, City of	£10,725
Citizens Advice South Somerset	South Somerset	£21,450
Citizens Advice Mendip	Mendip	£6,875
1625 Independent People	Bristol, City of	£900
Brigstowe Project	Bristol, City of	£500
Bristol Citizens Advice Bureau	Bristol, City of	£8,700
Bristol Somali Resource Centre	Bristol, City of	£3,525
Centre For Sustainable Energy	Bristol, City of	£7,500
Bristol North West Foodbank	Bristol, City of	£1,500
South Gloucestershire Citizens Advice Bureau	South Gloucestershire	£4,500

Organisation	Area	Amount
Navigate CIO	Bristol, City of	£975
South and East Bristol Foodbank	Bristol, City of	£3,900
North Bristol Advice Centre	Bristol, City of	£2,100
Citizens Advice Bridport and District	Dorset	£2,750
Citizens Advice Central Dorset	Dorset	£4,550
Citizens Advice Sedgemoor	Sedgemoor	£4,550
Citizens Advice Taunton	Somerset West and Taunton	£3,000
Citizens Advice West Somerset	Somerset West and Taunton	£4,200
Talking Money	Bristol, City of	£4,875
St Pauls Advice Centre Association	Bristol, City of	£825
Faithworks Wessex	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£3,000
Ignite Life	South Gloucestershire	£500
Grace Advocacy	Sedgemoor	£1,000
Hope Debt Advice Service	Wiltshire	£900
Filwood Hope	Bristol, City of	£550
Money Advice Trust	Croydon	£5,000
Trowbridge Debt Advice Service	Wiltshire	£900
Melksham CMA	Wiltshire	£1,100
Christians Against Poverty	Bristol, City of	£2,625
Scope	Wiltshire	£750

**£230,078**

# Appendices

Wiltshire - Community Fund awardees			
Arts Together	Arts Together provides creative arts activities for older people in the interests of social welfare, recreation and leisure time occupation.	Melksham, Trowbridge, Pewsey, Bradford-on-Avon, Marlborough, Devizes and rural surrounds	£1,571
Wiltshire Search and Rescue (WILSAR)	Wiltshire Search and Rescue is a voluntary organisation deployed via referral from Wiltshire Police to locate vulnerable missing people, administer emergency medical care and transport them to a place of safety.	Wiltshire wide	£2,000
Harnham Day Centre	Harnham Day Centre provides day care facilities for older residents of Harnham.	Salisbury	£3,000
Home-Start South Wiltshire	Home-Start South Wiltshire (HSSW) trains and supports volunteers to work with families who have at least one child under five facing a range of challenges.	Salisbury	£3,000
Group Five	Group Five provides donated furniture and household items to referred families and individuals in need, free of charge.	West Wiltshire	£3,000
Calne In Tune - Calne Central Community Hub	Calne In Tune runs a community space including a community fridge and larder, low/no cost day time café, space for arts and crafts groups to use, bicycle repair and sales, and the refurbishment and loan of mobility aids.	Calne	£3,000
West Wilts Child Contact Centre	West Wilts Child Contact Centre provides a safe child-centred environment for children of a split relationship to meet their non-resident parent.	Trowbridge	£3,000
Help Counselling Services	Help Counselling provides low-cost counselling for people in poor mental health in and around Trowbridge.	West Wiltshire	£3,480
Westbury and Warminster youth club	The charity runs weekly youth club sessions in both Westbury and Warminster.	Westbury and Warminster	£4,000
Doorway Wiltshire Ltd	Doorway, based in Chippenham, is a drop in for vulnerable adults experiencing homelessness or housing issues, providing food, washing and laundry facilities, activities, support and advice.	Chippenham	£4,000
West Lavington Youth Club	West Lavington Youth Club operates for young people from West Lavington, Market Lavington and Easterton.	West Lavington and Market Lavington	£4,000
God Unlimited Outdoor Therapy	GUL provides therapeutic support through equine and other outdoor activities for young people with additional needs.	Salisbury	£4,000
Wylde Coyotes	Wylde Coyotes CIC aims to improve social and economic wellbeing in the village of Codford and surrounds, through employment and training opportunities and meeting practical needs.	Codford	£4,000
			<b>£42,051</b>

## Dorset - Community Fund awardees

Access Dorset	'Beat the Budget' will equip disabled people with the know-how to cook very low-cost nutritious meals, budgeting skills and the confidence and materials to grow their own produce.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£3,914
Age UK North, South and West Dorset	To support the free services which do not provide any income generation. In particular, the welfare benefits team and it's vital income maximisation work.	Dorset	£2,000
Bournemouth Foodbank	To build on the connections and relationships through the Social Canteen and Foodbank Hub at St George's, giving more support around maximising income, accessing grants and saving energy and costs.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£3,000
Castleman Community Larder CIC	General running costs over winter.	Dorset	£2,000
Citizens Advice Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	To provide a free monthly accessible Immigration Advice Clinic drop-in service to any residents across Dorset who are experiencing problems understanding and navigating the complex UK immigration system.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£2,000
Dorset Blind Association	Delivering in-depth advice and support on financial management, helping people manage their finances more effectively, preventing them getting into debt, or establishing realistic plans to address existing debt issues	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£2,000
Escapeline	Helping to prevent child exploitation by county lines criminal gangs in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole through awareness-raising, education and youth mentoring.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£4,000
Faithworks Wessex	Providing money management workshops for schools and colleges to provide poverty prevention training and financial confidence	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£1,551
Home-Start Wessex (prev Home-Start South East Dorset)	To recruit and train a new cohort of volunteers to continue the weekly family support in the local area	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£3,912
Immanuel United Reform Church	To support the Men's Shed and Sparkle Time and to extend the work of the volunteer co-ordinator.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£2,000
Islanders Youth and Community Centre (previously Islanders Club for Young People)	To upgrade toilets as part of a wider project to renovate the community centre, ensuring it stays open for the community.	Dorset	£3,744
The Blackmore Vale Charity (aka The Vale Pantry)	Hands-on cookery education and workshops	Dorset	£449
The Bus Shelter Dorset	To improve the laundry facilities at The Bus Shelter Dorset	Dorset	£1,602
Tingleton Village Hall	Purchase of replacement oven/trays, an essential tool in running village hall activities.	Dorset	£1,626
Townsend Youth Partnership	Youth work accessible to deprived and marginalised young people from 5-18 and up to 25 years old for those with a disability, delivering youth work three times a week.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£4,000
Weymouth Area Development Trust	Weymouth Information Shop, as a hub of community information and advice, provides information and advice from bus timetables, to benefits, homelessness, cost of living support and community support groups.	Dorset	£2,000
Weymouth Foodbank	The ongoing core running costs. The overheads are very small. All the money would be used to purchase food.	Dorset	£2,000

**£41,798**

## Somerset - Community Fund awardees

Social Circles	Collaboration project working with local organisations to support asylum seekers and refugees in accessing nature-based volunteering opportunities in and around Bridgwater.	Sedgemoor	£2,000
Glastonbury Mental Health Network	Community mental health support at The Snug drop-in	Mendip	£3,950
Bridgwater Armed Forces and Veterans Breakfast Club	Core costs to support veterans in the Bridgwater area	Sedgemoor	£3,000
Merriott Village Hall	Warm space sessions for isolated people	South Somerset	£1,500
Adventure Therapy	Outdoor activities for disadvantaged young people	Somerset West and Taunton	£2,000
Porlock Vale CIC	Core costs for visitor centre and community space	Somerset West and Taunton	£2,500
Game Changer	Running costs for Game Changer social inclusion project for adults with a learning disability or neurodiversity	Sedgemoor	£3,150
Lost Projectz (formerly Lost Projects)	Climbing wall for the Glastonbury youth community	Mendip	£2,000
Somerset Child Contact Centres	Room hire for Child Contact Centres across four Somerset locations	Somerset West and Taunton	£3,500
The Rubbish Art Project	Evening arts sessions for adults with learning differences in Shepton Mallet	Mendip	£2,000
Paddington Farm Trust	Core costs associated with running the farm in Glastonbury and supporting the local community	Mendip	£2,150
South Chard Church (The HUB)	Salary costs for a community worker	South Somerset	£3,000
Sheba Soul Ensemble	Performances and drop-ins for the Black community	South Somerset	£4,000
Taunton Welcomes Refugees	Expansion of support for refugees living in Taunton	Somerset West and Taunton	£4,000

**£38,750**

## Bristol and BaNES - Community Fund awardees

Aid Box Community	Running costs to deal with an increase in demand, staff costs and to purchase additional essential items.	Bristol, City of	£4,000
Project MAMMA	Funding for Project MAMA's drop-in group, which builds stronger communities by supporting migrant displaced mothers in vulnerable circumstances to live more connected and empowered lives.	Bristol, City of	£4,000
Friends of Jubilee Pool	For core costs at Bristol's first community-run pool and gym, benefitting at least 3,500 local people.	Bristol, City of	£4,000
Age UK Bath & North East Somerset	Towards the running costs of the Information and Advice service, offering support to older people experiencing financial hardship.	Bath and North East Somerset	£2,000
Brigstowe Project	To provide 1:1 advice and support for people living with HIV including refugees, migrants and asylum seekers.	Bristol, City of	£2,000
Bristol After Stroke	To provide weekly support groups to stroke survivors to help them pursue physical and cognitive rehabilitation and enable them to rebuild social networks.	Bristol, City of	£2,000
Bristol Refugee Rights	For the Early Years Project, providing a range of services for members with children, including a creche, food support, applying for nursery and other specialist advice.	Bristol, City of	£4,000
Housing Matters (formerly CHAS Bristol)	Towards an outreach project preventing communities in areas of multiple deprivation from falling into crisis, homelessness and debt through early intervention.	Bristol, City of	£4,000
Emmaus Bristol	To increase their support team capacity to help meet the increased support need of the residents.	Bristol, City of	£2,000
Hawkspring	Towards the group's whole family services, supporting recovery clients, children and families affected by addiction and domestic violence, through one-to-one sessions, groups and workshops.	Bristol, City of	£4,000
Rock Community Centre	Towards the running costs of this community centre in Lawrence Weston, which have risen significantly in the last year.	Bristol, City of	£4,000
Young Bristol	To provide weekly youth and play provision in partnership with the Ardagh Community Trust, for young people in Horfield through the 'Youth Club on Wheels'.	Bristol, City of	£2,000
Bristol Autism Support	For coffee mornings, drop-ins and training courses for parents/carers of children with autism.	Bristol, City of	£4,000
Bath Community Kitchen	Eight half-day cookery workshops and four free community meals in disadvantaged areas of Bath during 2024.	Bath and North East Somerset	£2,400
			<b>£44,400</b>

**Total community funding: £166,999**

## Wiltshire - Environment Fund awardees

The Waiblingen Way Community Group	Collection of rainwater and compost for use in the community garden - six water butts to be placed on the bungalows by the garden and replace the compost bins.	Devizes	£345
Westbury Town Council	Bulbs to increase the spring flower displays in play areas, town centre beds, pollinator corridors and Vivash Park to improve the wildlife value of the spaces.	Westbury	£870
Sedgehill and Semley Parish Council	Managing a village pond and land to increase biodiversity; increase awareness of biodiversity benefits; create a beneficial space for public use.	Sedgehill, Wiltshire	£1,244
Friends of the Marden Valley	e-DNA study of the River Marden	Calne	£1,890
River Clean Up (River Warriors Calne)	To study the eel population in the river and to assist the migration of approximately 10,000 eels	Calne	£1,900
Pitton Nature Trust	To install information boards in wildlife sites and to purchase equipment to manage the wildlife areas and make them accessible to the community.	Pitton	£1,900
Bristol Avon Rivers Trust	The Gauze Brook Restoration Project will work with the Hullavington Environmental Group to kickstart the much-needed restoration of the Gauze Brook and look to enhance the river for the benefit of people and wildlife.	Hullavington	£2,000
Harnham Schools Association	Making of a community school garden on the junior school site to support the learning and development of environmental activities alongside bringing the community together.	Harnham, Salisbury	£2,000
Pewsey Community Area Partnership	The parish of Grafton has suffered a huge loss of ash trees due to die-back and is planting new trees to reduce the impact on the landscape and local wildlife.	Grafton Parish - five small villages - East Grafton, West Grafton, Wilton, Wexcombe and Marten.	£2,000
Wild Colerne	To support and extend the core activities, including practical volunteering for wildlife, (tools and seeds) education (binoculars and promotional apparatus).	Colerne	£2,000
Warminster Action Group	To support a school uniform scheme and establish a recycling point for TerraCycle, promoting affordability, sustainability, and responsible waste management in our community.	Warminster	£2,000
Share Salisbury (A Library of Things) CIC	Supporting Salisbury's circular economy by growing the existing library of things for hire and the popular Repair Café events to extend the life of household items owned by local people.	Salisbury and surrounding towns / villages	£2,300
Friends of Bradford-on-Avon Railway Station	Creating disabled friendly pathways to a new community bluebell wood/orchard area on derelict former railway allotments and accessible water supply.	Bradford-on-Avon	£2,500
Grovelands Countryside & Wildlife Volunteers	Site maintenance - mowing and cutting back; restoration of wildflower meadows; clearing ditches and watercourses; maintaining footpaths and increasing accessibility for all; litter and fly-tipping removal.	Grovelands estate	£2,500
			<b>£25,449</b>

## Somerset - Environment Fund awardees

Ash Millennium Wood Management Group	Creating a shelter and planting with a rainwater system to encourage community involvement in climate change.	South Somerset	£2,000
Coleford Conservation Volunteers (CCV)	Improving the natural habitat of the Butterfly Bank by planting wildflowers and maintaining the trees.	Mendip	£1,000
Gardening Together	Giving people access to unused green outside space and enabling them to grow their own food.	Mendip	£2,000
St John the Baptist Church, Pawlett	Installing a toilet system to reduce water waste and impact on the environment.	Sedgemoor	£2,000
The Friends of Mendip Hospital Cemetery	Restoration of pond liner for wildlife habitat.	Mendip	£2,000
Cossington Parish Council	To support the creation of a planting plan and supply plants/trees for Cossington Community Woods group	Sedgemoor	£2,000
The Rewild Life Project CIC	To improve local biodiversity and sustainability through the reinstallation of a pond, swales, tree planting and community education opportunities.	Mendip	£2,000
Stogursey Primary School (on behalf of Eco-Club)	Creating a shelter and planting with a rainwater system to encourage community involvement in climate change.	Somerset West and Taunton	£930
West Monkton Parish Council	A sunflower growing competition to encourage young growers and educate local residents to support the environment.	Somerset West and Taunton	£250
In the Mix Youth Project	Workshops for young people to understand the benefits of conservation, environmentalism and land management.	Somerset West and Taunton	£2,000
Sunflowers of Somerset	Reach a wider audience, enhance publicity, generate interest from other groups, encourage young people to grow and improve mental health outdoors	South Somerset	£750
			<b>£16,930</b>

## Dorset - Environment Fund awardees

AIMCommunity	To develop and maintain an environmentally sustainable community outdoor space at AIM Community, East Howe Youth Centre.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£2,000
Cheselbourne Parish Council	To provide habitat to encourage pollinators in the village.	Dorset	£1,575
Corfe Mullen Allotment Association	To site six large water butts and associated guttering/pipework to the communal shed to collect rainwater. It is an environmentally friendly project and will reduce the mains water usage.	Dorset	£161
DEED (Development Education in Dorset)	To work with students, staff and the local community in and around Wimborne, to design and deliver a Drain Art project to share learning and change behaviour.	Dorset	£2,000
Dorset Climate Action Network	Homes open to visitors across Dorset to demonstrate and promote energy efficiency, renewable energy in the home, wildlife gardening, water saving, sustainable living	Dorset	£1,600
Island Community Action	Towards Atlantic Academy's Wildlife Garden, which will provide activities for students/residents to increase their knowledge, love and respect for the natural environment and how to protect it.	Dorset	£1,973
Poole Waste Not Want Not	To build a food waste storage unit so our local farmer and guinea pig lady can collect end of day waste to feed their animals.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£1,400
Recreate Dorset (formerly Bournemouth 2026 Trust)	To bring the local community together to create a community garden in an area with few green spaces and provide activities for everyone to learn more about sustainability and biodiversity.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£2,000
Ringwood Junior School PTA	Help to revive the wildlife pond, enable observing of visiting birds, provide eco seating to enjoy surrounding nature and re-gravel and make safe the vegetable patch.	New Forest	£1,100
St Nicholas' Church PCC of Studland	Planting 28 carefully selected trees, with an orchard area, shrubs, a butterfly meadow, picnic area, grass paths and benches, adjacent to the churchyard.	Dorset	£2,500
The Power House (Poole)	Water harvesting and irrigation system for a community food growing space: improving local biodiversity, growing local produce, and increasing wellbeing through green therapy and community connections.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£2,500
Upton in Bloom	To refurbish the polytunnel and buy essential gardening equipment to create shared learning and activity space so we can partner with other groups within the community.	Dorset	£925
Winniford River Action Group	To monitor the water quality in the River Winniford, identify sources and types of pollution, and share our findings.	Dorset	£2,000
Win on Waste (previously Ideas2Action)	Towards delivering 'Win on Waste' sessions in Poole town centre.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£1,967
			<b>£23,701</b>

## Bristol and BaNES - Environment Fund awardees

Corston Community Orchard	To build a pond to further enhance the biodiversity and beauty of Corston Community Orchard for the benefit of wildlife and local people.	Bath and North East Somerset	£1,526
Charlcombe Toad Rescue Group	To support the amphibian conservation work of this group of volunteers.	Bath and North East Somerset	£1,400
All-Aboard Watersports	For equipment needed to run regular, year-round, water-based litter picking activities to help clear floating rubbish from the water in Bristol harbour.	Bristol, City of	£1,810
Horfield Common Community Interest Company	To run a series of practical workshops to engage local people of all ages in activities which focus on climate change, its solutions and how to reduce its impact, culminating with the painting of a mural.	Bristol, City of	£2,000
Step Together Volunteering	Towards the group's allotment project in Bishopsworth, a safe space to support 16-25 year olds with multiple complex needs.	Bristol, City of	£2,000
Black2Nature	To take young people into nature to undertake different activities to teach them the importance of the local environment and for their physical and mental wellbeing.	Bristol, City of	£1,000
Sustainable Thornbury	Towards replanting a wildflower meadow, planting more trees and litter picking at the stream at Thornbury Community Orchard.	South Gloucestershire	£2,000
Ardagh Community Trust	To purchase and install rainwater capture equipment across the site to reduce the use of mains water for watering the community gardens.	Bristol, City of	£2,000
Hartcliffe City Farm Ltd	To create a wildlife pond with local volunteers in the learning and therapy garden, increasing biodiversity, improving wellbeing and relieving pressure from flooding.	Bristol, City of	£2,000
Brown Rock Community Garden CIC	To create a rainwater capture system to irrigate Brown Rock Community Garden in Tickenham.	North Somerset	£2,000
Somer Valley Health and Restoration Project (SVHaRP)	To add a pond, land drains and fruit trees to this community garden in Midsomer Norton.	Bath and North East Somerset	£2,000
BS3 Wildlife Group	To buy plants to transform a grassed area in Windmill Hill into a wildlife friendly community garden using local volunteers.	Bristol, City of	£500
Hazelnut Community Farm	To develop a seed library containing English heirloom seeds and seeds for vegetables that reflect the diversity in the East Bristol area.	Bristol, City of	£2,000
Tucking Mill Toad Patrol	Towards equipment for this Toad Patrol Group, which recover and relocate to safety the amphibians which use the roads during their migratory season.	Bath and North East Somerset	£1,200
Grow For Life	For additional water storage, improved irrigation, pond installation, and purchase of trees, plants and seeds for the Walled Garden, which is used for social therapeutic horticulture.	Bath and North East Somerset	£2,000
Land Yeo Friends	To fund equipment and insurance to enable Land Yeo Friends to remove brambles, buddleia, etc on riverbanks by the river in Clevedon.	North Somerset	£445

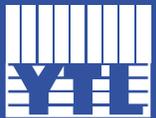
*continued on next page*

## Bristol and BaNES - Environment Fund awardees *(continued)*

Upper Frome Friends Group	Towards equipment and waterside safety training to support safe volunteer working at the River Frome in the Yate area.	South Gloucestershire	£1,890
St. John's School Association	Towards establishing a Forest School within the grounds of this school in Keynsham.	Bath and North East Somerset	£1,000
Friends of the Avon New Cut	To build wooden planters at Butterfly Junction to plant drought resistant herbs that will enhance the biodiversity and environment near the Avon New Cut.	Bristol, City of	£1,250
Heart of BS13	To install guttering, water storage and a pump system to harvest rain water in the market garden at Hartcliffe City Farm.	Bristol, City of	£2,000
Meadow Vale Community Association	For a community gardening project which will create new wildflower and food production raised beds at Meadow Vale Community Centre.	Bristol, City of	£1,970
Incredible Kids	Towards seed planting sessions at the Vench, teaching children with additional needs and disabilities about growing their own wild flowers and plants.	Bristol, City of	£750
			<b>£34,741</b>

**Total environment funding: £100,821**





**Wessex Water**  
YTL GROUP

FOR YOU. FOR LIFE.