

Information for
Local Authority Planning Departments

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Community Foundation

Community Benefit Funds



HiWCF
LOCAL GIVING FOR LOCAL NEEDS

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Who are Hampshire & Isle of Wight Community Foundation?

HIWCF are an independent grant making charity focused on enabling positive social change within the poorest and most disadvantaged communities in Hampshire, Portsmouth, Southampton and the Isle of Wight. We help our local communities to flourish by making charitable grants to effective community groups tackling poverty, disadvantage and inequality - when and where they can make a real difference. We inspire local philanthropists, funders and donors to make a lasting impact with their generosity through our endowment model and professional grant making approach. By working closely with our funding partners, we find the community organisations to fit individual funding priorities.

We work as part of a national network of 47 UK Community Foundations that provide strategic charitable advice and grant making to positively impact local communities. As well as our own experience managing a huge range of Funds on behalf of different kinds of funder and with different purposes, we can draw on a wealth of experience from within the Community Foundations network. Many Community Foundations have extensive experience of delivering through the network of delivering Community Benefit Funds for a range of developments including nuclear power, wind and solar, as well as housing.

HIWCF has been established as a grant maker for over 20 years and have made grants to local communities totalling nearly £20 million. We are guardians of an endowment fund worth around £15 million built up over that time – contributed to by philanthropists, Local Authorities, Charitable Trusts and local businesses. We also manage "Flow-Through" funds which are directed where the need is greatest, typically on an annual basis.





Why partner with HIWCF?

- No vested interest: we are independent of the planning process – we don't have an interest in the outcome of any planning application, and don't have a position on any type of development.
- Cost efficiency: we charge a fixed price to manage a grant making programme. Depending on the model the funding takes, this will vary between 5% and 15% of the total value of the funds. Our service removes the need for Council staff to spend valuable time managing a community grant making programme.
- Our impact framework: all our grant making is categorised against six Impact Themes, enabling us to match funder priorities neatly with community needs, without excessive reporting burdens for community groups.
- Independence: we are an independent grant making Foundation; we are governed by a Board of Trustees with a wide field of expertise, who are drawn from around the region – and we are not influenced by interest groups.
- Matched funding potential: through our networks we can often quickly raise money to match secured funding, avoiding the need for imposing this often difficult requirement on local groups.
- Flexibility: we can offer a flexible approach to Community Benefit Funds – endowment funds if the impact needs to be made “in perpetuity”, or “Flow-Through” if the impact of the grant making needs to be more immediate. Our approach to shaping a grant making programme can be equally flexible, to ensure the aims of the fund can be met by the most effective organisations in that field.
- Local knowledge: we have local knowledge based on data, networks and our 20 years of local grant making experience.
- Expertise: we already have robust processes in place to manage significant levels of funding – we currently make grants totalling between £1m to £2m in the region every year, to 350-400 community groups. Assessing funding bids, reviewing finances, understanding charity policies, evaluating risk in a project - it's in our DNA.

Community Foundation network experience

Millions of pounds of Community Benefit Funds unlocked through planning requirements have been distributed to communities around the UK by the Community Foundation network. The following are just a handful of examples of these effective partnerships.

Somerset Community Foundation



Somerset Community Foundation manage the Hinkley Point C Community Fund – the Community Benefit Funds created through the biggest development ever seen in Somerset. This is a live development with construction ongoing until potentially 2029. Since inception, this funding has supported affected communities with over £8 million in grants, and in 2022/23 alone, enabled grant making of over £2.6 million. Funding has supported community arts projects, sports and physical activity work, local health and wellbeing initiatives – and much more.

Cornwall Community Foundation



Wind Farms are now a major feature of the Cornwall landscape. Cornwall Community Foundation have managed several funds to benefit local communities which were created through wind power generation. The wind farm on Goonhilly Downs has been generating for over 10 years, providing clean electricity to the entire Lizard peninsula. Simultaneously with the repowering of the original turbines, a community fund was established through CCF to benefit communities within the TR12 postal region. This has been quietly operating since February 2012 and has given away nearly £455,000 to local organisations since that time.

Cumbria Community Foundation



Cumbria Community Foundation have managed several Community Benefit Funds over the years, as this region has seen significant developments in wind generated power for several years. Their Funds have been bespoke, fulfilling what each Fund requires, and vary from small to large programmes.

The Beck Burn Fund is a large Community Benefit Fund generated through EDF. To date it has delivered a total of over £1 million for local communities in and around Beck Burn. This Fund has provided funding to 330 community groups from village halls to tennis clubs, and provided 45 educational bursaries for local young people to benefit.

The Broughton Moor Fund is a small Fund which has enabled grant making of just over £7,000. This has enabled meet up groups for older people, a community Coronation Celebration and maintenance of a local churchyard. Community Benefit Funds are an excellent source of funding for tiny local groups which have very little access to other types of funding, yet deliver work that often makes a huge difference to many local people.

HIWCF impact in 2024



£1,153,935

total funds awarded in
2024



£4,490

average size of
grant



71,351

approx. number of
beneficiaries reached



257

grants
made in 2024

Contact us to learn more

Community Foundations are uniquely positioned to enable Local Authorities to develop and deliver effective Community Benefit Funds.

Contact Hampshire & Isle of Wight Community Foundation now to learn more about how we can help your Local Authority to support local communities through Community Benefit Funds, CIL, Section 106 or other planning requirements.

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We use the term “Community Benefit Funds” to cover all types of potential grant funding created as part of the planning process for developments of all natures – for example housing, power or infrastructure - and may be CIL, S106 or other types of fund.