

Lawson Trust Endowment Match Challenge Further Information

The Lawson Trust and Sussex Community Foundation both believe in investing in local charities and community groups for long-term benefit of the community in Sussex. We share a belief that endowment funds are a highly effective way of achieving this.

The Lawson Trust has agreed to give a portion of its own endowment fund to Sussex Community Foundation as an incentive to attract new donations to grow endowment.

The trust has agreed to donate £500,000 to Sussex Community Foundation, provided that we can raise £1,000,000 in new endowment donations.

The Lawson Trust has generously agreed that where a donor sets up, or adds to, their own endowment fund, the match funding from Lawson Trust will be added to that fund.

By endowment, we mean investing capital for the long-term, from which can be drawn sums to make grants on an annual basis.

The Lawson Trust will donate 50p for each £1 donated to Sussex Community Foundation, up to a maximum of £500,000, subject to the following conditions:

1. All donations to Sussex Community Foundation are irrevocable charitable gifts.
2. Only endowment donations are eligible for the match. Both the donation and match funding must be invested for the long-term benefit of the community in Sussex as part of Sussex Community Foundation's endowment fund. (Medium-term, spend down endowment funds and flow-through funds are not eligible).
3. The match is achieved strictly on a first come first served basis, when donations are in Sussex Community Foundation's bank account – we cannot reserve match funding based on pledges.
4. Unless a donor sets up or adds to an existing Donor Advised Fund (see below), donations will be added to the Sussex Giving Endowment Fund. Grants will be selected by the Grants Committee in line with our four funding priorities.
5. Grant-making objectives of new funds will be discussed with a donor but should align with Sussex Community Foundation's four funding priorities: tackling poverty; improving health; reaching potential and acting on climate.

6. Donors who wish to establish a new Donor Advised Fund must donate the following minimum amounts (inclusive of any gift aid if eligible):
 - o £25,000 for discretionary endowment funds where you set the criteria and the Foundation selects grants.
 - o £100,000 for donor-advised endowment funds where you set the criteria and can also be involved in selecting grants.
7. The **minimum donation that will be matched** is £10,000 (inclusive of any gift aid).
8. The **maximum donation that will be matched** to any one fund or donor is £100,000 (i.e maximum match funding is £50,000). Larger donations are of course accepted as well but only the first £100,000 will be matched.
9. We will ring-fence £200,000 of the match pot for existing fundholders until 5 January 2024.
10. 5% of donations that are eligible for the match and 3% of unmatched donations will go to support the general charitable work of the Foundation. No contributions will be taken from the Lawson Trust's match.
11. From 1st April following receipt of donations, 1.5% of the total capital value of the fund will be drawn down by Sussex Community Foundations each year to contribute to the general charitable work of the Foundation.
12. The Lawson Trust will pay the match funding to Sussex Community Foundation in October 2024. Match funding will be added to each endowment fund in November 2024.