



Annual Report

2024 - 2025

Our *Chief Executive's* Report

This year has been one of change, challenge and renewed purpose for Sussex Community Foundation. Like many in the voluntary sector, we have felt the effects of a more uncertain funding landscape, with many donors navigating wider global and economic instability. Yet through it all, the strength and creativity of Sussex's communities have continued to inspire us.

At the heart of what we do is connecting people who care with the causes that matter. Our focus on place-based giving ensures funding reaches the grassroots organisations best placed to make a difference. In 2024-25, we are proud to have awarded £2.8 million in 518 grants to 420 small charities and groups across Sussex, supporting local communities during a challenging time.

We've continued to see incredible examples of innovation and collaboration in action. The Chagossian Community Fund, supported by the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), is helping this marginalised community build capacity and confidence, supported by our dedicated Grants Officer for the fund. The Southern Water Goodwill Fund for Hastings and St Leonards introduced a new model of community-led grant making, empowering local residents to shape priorities and decisions. And the Brighton & Hove Homelessness Fund brought together charities and donors to develop joint projects that address the root causes of homelessness in the city.

This year also saw the publication of our second Sussex Uncovered funding priority report, Reaching Potential, which explores education, training, and employment across the county. The report shines a light on the barriers facing young people – from poor school attendance and mental health challenges to limited access to training and work – and celebrates the brilliant local organisations helping them overcome these obstacles and reach their full potential.

Across Sussex, we continue to meet inspiring people and projects demonstrating the difference local giving can make: youth organisations building confidence and skills; community groups tackling isolation and small charities providing connection and hope. These stories reinforce our belief in the power of community and the importance of investing in it for the long term.

As we look ahead, we remain focused on ensuring the Foundation is sustainable, effective and ready for the future. The Board has reviewed our governance and strategy to help us adapt to a changing environment while staying true to our mission.

And as we approach our 20th anniversary in 2026, we have a special opportunity to reflect on two decades of generosity, collaboration and impact, and to lay the foundations for the next chapter in our work supporting the people and places of Sussex.

Through challenge and change, our purpose endures: to build stronger, more connected communities and make Sussex a place where everyone can thrive.

Kevin Richmond
CEO





Creative Heart

Who we are.

Sussex Community Foundation is a registered charity that exists to make Sussex a fairer and more equal place. We do this by enabling local people to support local causes, making vital grants through over 100 dedicated funds to small charities and voluntary groups working in communities across Sussex.

We connect the people who care with the causes that matter.

Our funding priorities.



Tackling poverty

Reducing poverty and disadvantage in our communities



Improving health

Helping people live longer, better lives



Reaching potential

Providing life-changing skills, education and training



Acting on climate

Taking local action for the climate

Through our philanthropy advice, we help to match our supporters' aims with the many small, effective local charities offering solutions to local issues.

Since 2006 we've raised £70 million, given grants of £36 million to over 3,000 organisations and £27 million is in endowment to provide for future generations across Sussex.

Making an *impact*.



£2.8

million

Over £2.8 million awarded
in 2024/25



518

grants

518 grants given



420

organisations

420 community
organisations supported



400,000

Over 400,000 people supported

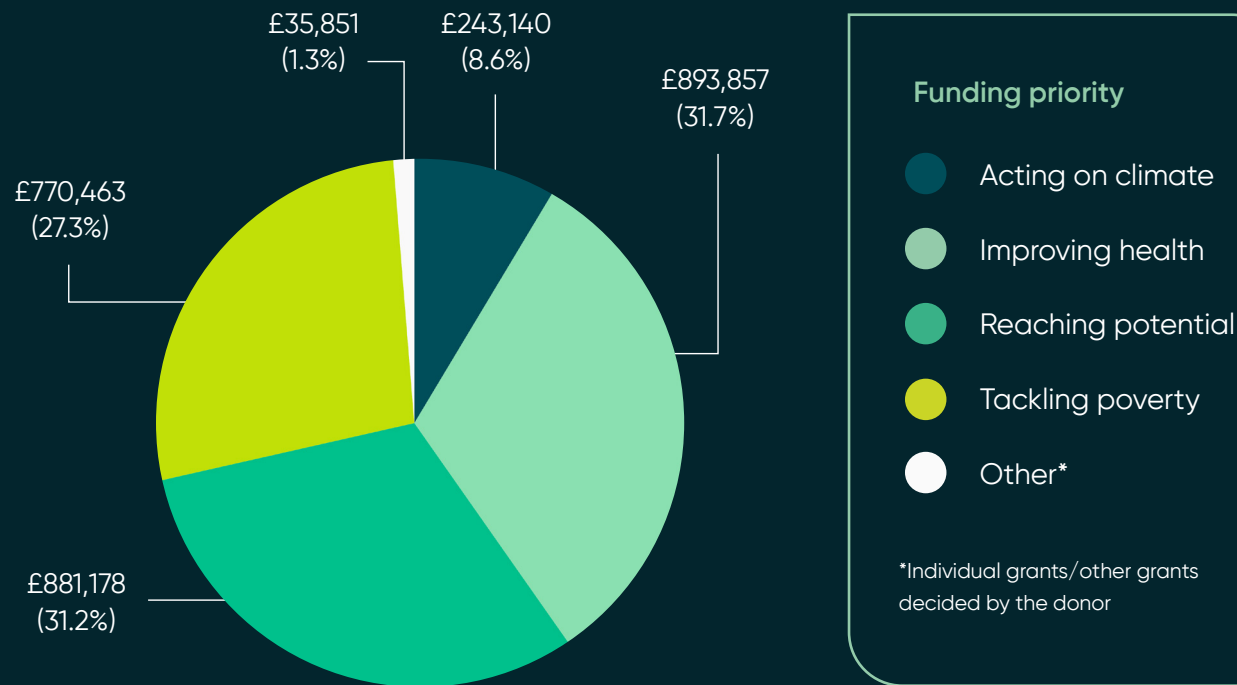


£4,630

The average grant awarded was £4,630



Grants given by funding priority



Area	Total awarded
Brighton & Hove	£671,251
East Sussex	£951,303
West Sussex	£912,753
Sussex Wide	£228,581
Other	£60,601
Total	£2,824,489

“We found the grant process to be clear, supportive and encouraging of grassroots, community-led projects like ours. The funding enabled us to deliver another creative programme at the Crew Club, and it gave us the flexibility to adapt the workshops based on the needs and interests of the young people involved. The application and reporting stages feel manageable and proportionate, which allowed us to focus our energy on delivery rather than administration.”

Komedia Productions Ltd



Tackling *poverty*.

Reducing poverty and disadvantage in our communities

Too many people across Sussex can't afford to meet their basic needs or take part in their communities. Many find themselves on the margins of society, left behind by a lack of services or support. This funding priority supports grassroots charities and community groups that are tackling poverty and disadvantage.

In 2024-25, we gave **122 grants** under our Tackling poverty funding priority totalling **£770,463**.

Image - Eastbourne Foodbank



Improving *health*.

Helping people live longer, better lives



Our health and wellbeing are fundamental to our lives. But across Sussex, many people don't get the support they need. This funding priority addresses that gap, by supporting organisations that positively impact local people's physical and mental health and wellbeing.

In 2024-25, we gave **251 grants** under our Improving health funding priority totalling **£893,857**

Image - Dementia Singing Experience



Reaching *potential*.

Providing life-changing skills, education and training

There is so much untapped potential in Sussex, often among people who face real barriers to their progress. This route addresses that, by reaching and supporting local organisations that build people's skills, confidence and life opportunities.

In 2024-25, we gave 165 grants under our Reaching potential funding priority totalling £881,178.

Image – mASCot



Acting on *climate*.

Taking local action for the climate



The climate emergency is a global one, but the effects are also local. The Acting on Climate funding priority helps us reach those in our communities who are both affected by, and taking positive and proactive action on, the climate, nature and biodiversity.

In 2024-25, we gave 52 grants under our Acting on climate funding priority totalling £243,140.

Image – Sussex Surplus

Our *Finance.*

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 March 2025



	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
Incoming Resources					
Total incoming and endowments	799,581	1,877,337	876,692	3,553,610	4,062,970
Expenditure On:					
Raising funds	163,119	-	-	163,119	160,174
Charitable activities:	-	-	-	-	-
Grants awarded	-	2,804,249	-	2,804,249	2,639,725
Other direct charitable expenditure	700,528	292,278	289,387	1,282,193	1,210,038
Total resources expended	863,647	3,096,527	289,387	4,249,561	4,009,937
Net gain / (loss) on investments	-	-	(21,883)	(21,883)	2,580,089
Net incoming / (outgoing) resources before transfers	(64,066)	(1,219,190)	565,422	(717,834)	2,633,122
Gross transfers between funds	1,852	1,300,145	(1,301,977)	-	-
Net movement in funds	(62,214)	80,955	(736,555)	(717,834)	2,633,122
Fund balances at 1 April 2024	343,311	1,405,025	27,033,434	28,781,770	26,148,648
Fund balances at 31 March 2025	281,097	1,485,980	26,296,879	28,063,936	28,781,770

The statements on this page are a summary of information extracted from the statutory financial statements and may not contain sufficient information to allow a full understanding of the financial affairs of Sussex Community Foundation. For further information the full statutory accounts, the unqualified auditors report on the accounts, and the trustees report dated 25 July 2025 should be consulted. Copies of these (which have been filed at the Charity Commission and the Registrar of Companies) can be obtained from the charity at 15 Western Road, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1RL.

Mark Spofforth, Chair

On behalf of the trustees of Sussex Community Foundation

25 July 2024

Balance Sheet.

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 March 2025



	2025 (£)	2024 (£)
Fixed Assets		
Tangible assets	0	0
Investments	26,004,423	26,889,251
	26,004,423	26,889,251
Current Assets		
Debtors	292,788	191,846
Investments	291,000	291,000
Cash at bank and in hand	1,565,842	1,473,179
	2,149,630	1,956,025
Creditors falling due within one year	(90,117)	(63,506)
Net current assets	2,059,513	1,892,519
Net assets	28,063,936	28,781,770
Represented by:		
Endowment fund	26,296,859	27,033,434
Restricted funds – grant funds awaiting distribution	1,485,980	1,405,025
General reserves – for core operating costs	281,097	343,311
	28,063,936	28,781,770

Report of the Auditors

In our opinion the summary financial statements on this page are consistent with the full annual statutory financial statements for the period ended 31st March 2025 on which our opinion was unqualified.

TC Group
Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors
One Bell lane
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 1JU



Limitless Youth Football Club

For every £1 *invested* in fundraising, we *raised* £22

Our *People.*

Founder

10th Duke of Richmond and Gordon

Joint Presidents

Mr Andrew Blackman Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex, Lady Emma Barnard Lord Lieutenant of West Sussex

Patron

11th Duke of Richmond and Gordon

Trustees*

Andrew Baird, Sally Case, Guy Davison, Corinne Day, Mebrak Ghebreweldi, Christine Gibbons, Nick Munday, Martin Roberts, David Sampson, Mark Spofforth OBE – Chair, Kevin Powell – Chair of Finance Committee, Deirdre Prower – Deputy Chair

Thank you to the following who served as trustees during the year: Patrick Stevens, David Hill, Brian Mills.

Staff team*

Sarah Ablett, Vicky Booth, Hannah Clay, Zoë Gandey, Tracey Glendinning-Smith, Pete Jones, Louise Meehan, Natasha Owen, Kevin Richmond, Alex Stewart, Nikki Wheeler, Jackie Wilkes.

*At time of publication



Our *fundholders, donors and supporters* make all our work possible. We are so *grateful* for their continued *support*.

Funds*

ARDIS Fund
Adur Relief Fund
Aisbitt Family Fund
Albert Van den Bergh / Glover Fund
Alta Fund
Amy Hart Fund
Arthur & Doreen Green Fund
Arthur & Doreen Green Property Fund
Arthur & Rosemary Kay Fund
Azalea Fund
B&H Legacy Fund - Children & Young People
B&H Legacy Fund - Libraries
Beechlands Fund
Boltini Fund
Brenda Ford Fund
Brighton & Hove Arts Fund
Brighton & Hove Homelessness Fund
Brighton Rock Fund
CJR Family Fund
Carpenter Box Fund
Cecil Family Fund
Chagossian Community Fund
Cockburn Family Fund
Cragwood Fund
Cubitt & West Charity Fund
Cullum Family Trust Fund
Dame Elizabeth Nash Fund
David & Karen Allam Fund
David James Fund
Davison Fund
Dexam Fund
Dr Joyce Lomas Fund
East Brighton Trust Fund
Elizabeth Tait Fund
Fairfield Fund
Fangorn Fund
Field Family Fund
Fleming Family Fund
Gatwick Foundation Fund
Glenn & Phyllida Earle Fund
Gurney Charitable Trust Fund
Ian Askew Charitable Trust Fund
Innes Fund
Inspire Fund
Isaac Ganas Fund

Jim & Audrey Buttimer Endowment Fund
John Laing Charitable Trust Fund
Kim Addison Fund
Knighton Fund
LF Flow Through Fund
Laing Fund
Lawson Fund
Lewes & District Flood & Disaster Relief Fund
Lewes Fund
Leyden House Fund
Little Cheyne Court Wind Farm Fund
Lynn Foundation Fund
Margaret Greenhough Fund
Marit & Hans Rausing Grassroots Fund
Meads Fund
Millicent Mather Fund
Montagu Fund
Munday Family Fund
Newhaven EZ Community Fund
Nick & Gill Wills Fund
Nino Fund
Noel Bennett Fund
Now! Charity Sustainable Communities Fund
Open Door Fund
Price Family Fund
Pro Bono Fund
Purple Fund
Rampion Fund
Rampion Operations Base Community Fund
Rye Fund
Sachs Trust Fund
Selits Fund
Sharpe Family Fund
Shoreham Air Show Fund
Sierra Gorda Fund
Southern Water Goodwill Fund Hastings & St Leonards
Surviving Winter Fund
Tiney Fund
Tulip Family Fund
Welton Fund
West Sussex High Sheriff Fund
Westdene Fund

Westoute Fund
William Alexander Fund
William Reed Fund
Woodley Foundation Fund
Worthing & Adur Fund

* at 31 March 2025

Our discretionary grants funds:

Sussex Giving Fund
Tackling Poverty Fund
Improving Health Fund
Reaching Potential Fund
Acting on Climate Fund

We would particularly like to acknowledge the support of the following:

Mr Andrew Blackman,
Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex
Lady Emma Barnard,
Lord Lieutenant of West Sussex
Aldama Foundation
APB Charitable Trust
Birthday House Trust
CAF UK
CCLA Investment Management
Eshcon Ltd
Folkington Trust
Foreign Commonwealth
& Development Office
Friends of Sussex Community Foundation
Goodwood Estate Company
Hall & Woodhouse Ltd
John Laing Charitable Trust
Lawson Trust
Mr James and Lady Emma Barnard
(The Barness Trust)
Patricia Routledge Charitable
Foundation
Rampion Offshore Wind Ltd
River Trust
RWE Innogy
Sarasin & Partners
TC Knill James LLP

Thank you.

Inspirational people *create* the change Sussex needs. People willing to give their money, time, expertise and passion to help their *communities* thrive.

Thank you for being part of that absolutely vital group, and being part of our journey to a *fairer* and more *equal* Sussex.



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www.sussexcommunityfoundation.org

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UKCF
MEMBER



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**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**

Company Limited by Guarantee No. 5670692

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