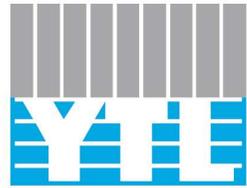


Annual Impact Report 2022/23

**WESSEX
WATER
FOUNDATION**



Wessex Water
YTL GROUP

FOR YOU. FOR LIFE.

The Wessex Water Foundation

The Wessex Water Foundation funds projects that strengthen communities and benefit the environment, while also providing local groups and charities with volunteering support.

It has never been more important to both respond to the needs of our communities and make a firm commitment to support them for the long-term future, and 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, which help to ensure our funding goes towards the communities that are in most need of support.

This report shows the impact of our grants and the projects supporting across our region from April 2022 to March 2023.

Funding overview

Programme	Grants	Direct Beneficiaries	Indirect Beneficiaries	Amount
Community Fund	67	48,906	73,595	£176,745
Environment Fund	63	127,973	201,695	£72,170
Community Connector Fund	13	16,269	-	£66,630
Partner Grants – Environment	4	-	-	£70,000
Partner Grant – Debt advice	34	2,476	-	£223,766
Partner Grants – Cost of Living	7	-	-	£158,165
TOTAL	188	195,624	275,290	£767,476

About the Community and Environment Funds

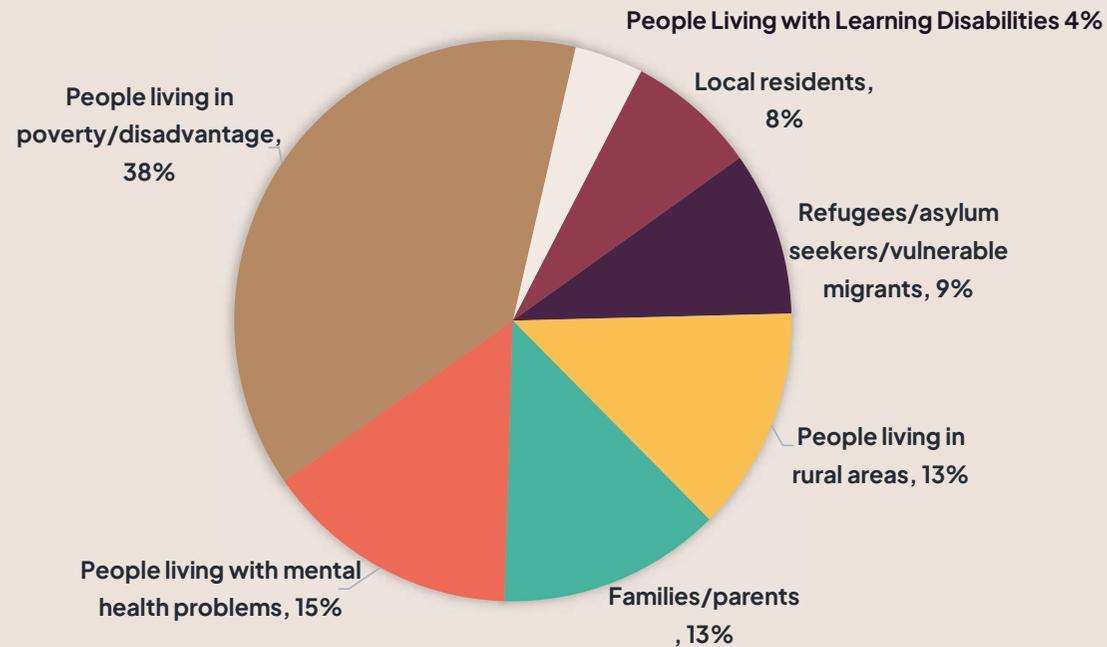
The Wessex Water Foundation's Community and Environment Funds are both open grants programmes, with local charitable and community groups and organisations able to apply for grant funding from our four local Community Foundations: Dorset, Somerset, Wiltshire, and Quartet (covers the old county of Avon).

The **Community Fund** supports community-based activities or projects that meet a local need and seek to improve the lives of local people who are most in need of support.

The **Environment Fund** supports activities that improve local biodiversity or have a positive impact on the local environment for local people. Priorities for this programme are activities that are reducing water use, improving environmental sustainability in the local area, and/or improving local biodiversity.

Analysis of Community Fund grants

Who Benefited



Analysis of Community Fund grants

Top 5 issues

- Poverty & Disadvantage 21%
- Mental Health 20%
- Isolation & Loneliness 16%
- Food Poverty 10%
- Community Cohesion 5%

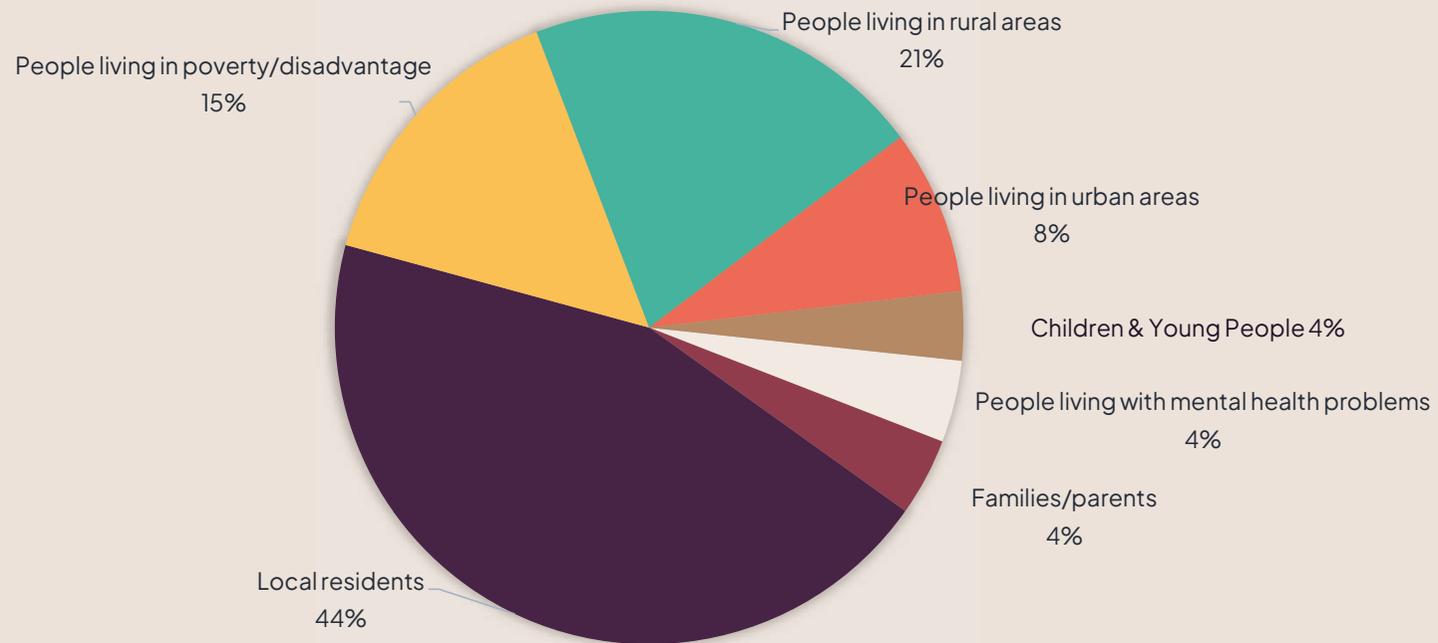
Top 5 Outcomes

- Improved mental health and wellbeing 30%
- Improved access to services and support 17%
- Reduced social isolation 9%
- Improved economic wellbeing 8%
- Reduced Food Poverty 6%

These are percentages of the total amount awarded from this grants programme. They may total over 100% as applicants could select more than one option for issues being addresses and outcomes they anticipate.

Analysis of Environment Fund grants

Who Benefited



Analysis of Environment Fund grants

Top 5 issues

- Environmental improvements 34%
- Biodiversity 16%
- Environmental conservation 11%
- Education 9%
- Community Spaces 8%

Top 5 Outcomes

- Increased conservation of local natural spaces and heritage 39%
- Improved or expanded local environment and/or public space 24%
- Reduced carbon footprint (i.e. waste, emissions, energy) 14%
- Improved community facilities 11%
- Improved mental health and wellbeing 9%

These are percentages of the total amount awarded from this grants programme. They may total over 100% as applicants could select more than one option for issues being addresses and outcomes they anticipate.

Community Fund Grants (Quartet)

Organisation	Project description	Location	Amount
Aid Box Community	Towards running costs of the Hub project to provide refugees and asylum seekers with essential living items, welfare support, signposting and a welcoming community.	Bristol, City of	£3,000
Alive Activities Ltd	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.	Bristol, City of	£2,995
BAND Bristol Association for Neighbourhood Daycare	To fund support workers for disabled children attending childcare in the Bristol region.	Bristol, City of	£2,000
Bath Youth For Christ (One Eighty)	To provide free dance classes for children aged 7-11 living in the Twerton, Whiteway & Southdown areas of Bath.	Bath and North East Somerset	£2,906
Beloved	Towards core costs to help continue support work for women in the indoor sex industry in Bristol through the cost of living crisis.	Bristol, City of	£3,000
Boomsatsuma Creative CIC	For awareness raising sessions on hygiene and hygiene essentials packs for young people living in South Ward, Weston super Mare.	North Somerset	£2,800
Bridges for Communities	A contribution to core organisational costs for this group supporting asylum seekers and refugees.	Bristol, City of	£2,000
Bristol Autism Support	To support parents and carers of children with autism with information via in-person/online groups, family activities, and a website and social media community.	Bristol, City of	£1,500
Filwood Hope	Towards the core costs of the advice service between January and March.	Bristol, City of	£3,000

Community Fund Grants (Quartet)

Organisation	Project description	Location	Amount
Green Community Travel	Towards core costs to support a Ring and Ride service and to enable increased capacity and sustainability.	South Gloucestershire	£3,000
Harbour	To offer grief support for people facing death, dying and bereavement in the Filwood Ward of Bristol.	Bristol, City of	£3,000
Mentoring Plus	For training for the group's Volunteer Mentoring Practitioners in order to meet high demand for their mentoring programmes.	Bath and North East Somerset	£2,500
Open Minds Active Ltd	Towards a social prescribing programme for marginalised and disadvantaged people experiencing poor mental health; improving lives and increasing wellbeing through access to the outdoors.	Bristol, City of	£2,000
Park Centre (Kingswood)	For a weekly low-cost meal in the community centre to allow residents to get together.	South Gloucestershire	£1,500
Re:Work	For core running costs, staff training and work around enabling skills sharing between local residents.	Bristol, City of	£2,900
SWALLOW	For the Gardening in the Community Project to enable people with learning disabilities to offer gardening to vulnerable older people living locally in their own homes.	Bath and North East Somerset	£2,906
Talking Money	Towards Money Advice Caseworkers who provide financial advice to help alleviate poverty, support people to access food and fuel, and prevent homelessness.	Bristol, City of	£3,000
That Creative Thingy Wotsit CIC	To deliver workshops and puppet shows in three residential and care settings for people with dementia and their carers and people with mental health difficulties.	North Somerset	£2,600

Community Fund Grants (Quartet)

Organisation	Project description	Location	Amount
The Key - Unlock Potential	A contribution towards the cost of a project manager who will support delivery of the Key Cafe project and oversee fundraising activity.	Bristol, City of	£2,000
West of England Rural Network	To develop a digital inclusion programme, offering supported group and one to one sessions in a friendly and relaxed environment, to people who need help to engage online.	North Somerset	£3,000
Your Park Bristol & Bath	To run the Roots to Wellbeing Project, which provides in-nature therapy sessions, in Brickfields Park, Bath.	Bath and North East Somerset	£3,000

Community Fund Grants (Somerset)

Organisation	Project description	Location	Amount
Active and In Touch	Reducing isolation and loneliness among adults in Frome and the surrounding area	Mendip	£3,000
ARK at Egwood	Training and supporting volunteers to support a land-based day service near Merriott	South Somerset	£2,854
Chard Community Hub	Increasing the capacity of a community hub offering advice and support to vulnerable people	South Somerset	£3,000
Chard WATCH	Training volunteers with lived experience to support adults with mental health problems	South Somerset	£2,800
Citizens Advice Mendip	Training and supervising additional volunteer advisors to meet the demand caused by the cost of living crisis	Mendip	£2,869
Cultivating Community CIC	Weekly therapeutic gardening sessions to support people with mental health challenges in Mendip	Mendip	£2,600
Diversity Voice	Providing a debt management and budgeting course for refugees in Sedgemoor	Sedgemoor	£3,000

Community Fund Grants (Somerset)

Organisation	Project description	Location	Amount
Love Glastonbury	Running a community fridge and community pantry for those experiencing food poverty	Mendip	£3,000
Magdalen Environmental Trust	Running a residential stay for Ukrainian refugee families at a therapeutic green space	Somerset West and Taunton	£2,900
Nightingales	To provide a safe space for Ukrainian refugees, to facilitate workshops to develop basic English language skills, support wellbeing, to champion work, housing and transport, and to promote community integration.	South Somerset	£3,000
Somerset Child Contact Centres	Supporting the core running costs of Somerset's 5 child contact centres for parents and children to meet safely after family separation	South Somerset	£3,000
Stogursey Youth Club	Running weekly youth club sessions in a rural area	Somerset West and Taunton	£3,000
Ups and Downs Southwest	Peer support sessions for families who have a child or young person with Down Syndrome	Sedgemoor	£3,000
ARC (formerly Taunton Association for the Homeless)	Contribution towards the overheads of a homeless charity, which have risen due to the cost-of-living crisis	Somerset West and Taunton	£1,815.50
Home Start West Somerset	Contribution towards the overheads of a early years support service, which have risen due to the cost-of-living crisis	Somerset West and Taunton	£1,815.50

Community Fund Grants (Dorset)

Organisation	Project description	Location	Amount
ASCape (prev. Bridport ASD and Social Anxiety Group)	To provide a monthly youth club for autistic and socially anxious teenagers aged 12-17, concurrently with a support group for their parents and carers, based in Bridport.	Dorset	£2,952
Beaminster Young Farmers Club	We would like to request a grant to help cover hall hire costs and activity/transport costs to enable the club to run a varied programme for its members in 2023.	Dorset	£1,500
Bournemouth Foodbank	To help staff the Cafe at Bournemouth Foodbank and provide hot meals, a warm place and support for those who need it.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£3,000
Corfe Mullen Village Hall	Hall hire, energy and refreshment costs to enable us to open the doors to residents as a warm space with hot refreshments during the cost of living crisis.	Dorset	£807
HealthBus Trust	To provide patient support, allowing them to access services to improve social, emotional and practical needs in order to enhance their mental wellbeing and general health.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£1,391
Home Start Wessex (prev Home-Start South East Dorset)	To provide an outdoor community weekly drop-in session offering support for isolated parents with children under 5. Trained staff offer advice, guidance and emotional support.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£2,899
Home-Start Blackmore Vale (previously Home-Start North Dorset)	We are requesting a grant towards our core volunteer support work. The grant will support our volunteer recruitment, training and travel costs for supporting 73 families across North Dorset.	Dorset	£2,400
Open House	To continue the work outlined, covering costs for Training, Emergency aid costs, running of the Storehouse van and Core costs, including wages and costs for a Christmas Party.	Dorset	£3,000

Community Fund Grants (Dorset)

Organisation	Project description	Location	Amount
Prout Bridge Project	To help fund our core running costs that support & ensure the long-term sustainability of the services we deliver	Dorset	£2,943
Relate Bournemouth Poole & Christchurch	We will provide people and families in financial hardship with relationship counselling, reducing stress and conflict, and helping them face the cost of living crisis together.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£2,977
Samee	Facilitate a job club to enable 10 residents from the socially deprived Somerford Estate to escape living in poverty by building new skills/confidence in order to gain sustainable employment.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£2,926
Somerford ARC Community Centre	To provide food for our community lunch for the elderly including their Christmas lunch	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£2,955
The Burrough Harmony Centre	Supporting mental health around financial wellbeing	Dorset	£3,000
Thorncombe Village Shop Association Ltd	To fund the Thorncombe Village Shop Tuesday lunch for 12 months commencing December 2022 and to purchase new tablecloths and volunteer T-shirts/sweatshirts with the shop logo..	Dorset	£3,000
Townsend Youth Partnership	To provide weekly support to disadvantaged young people living on the Townsend Estate affected by multiple disadvantages including poverty, abuse, substance misuse and mental ill health.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£3,000

Community Fund Grants (Wiltshire)

Organisation	Project description	Location	Amount
Alzheimers Support	Westbury Music for the Mind project to support local people with dementia and their carers by encouraging them to join in communal singing with specialist music therapists and trained volunteers.	Westbury	£2,160
Arts Together	To continue to provide 6 inspiring and life enhancing art groups, and essential well-being support, for the most isolated and vulnerable older people in our Wiltshire communities.	Wiltshire	£2,000
Bybrook Benefice	To enable support for community (non-religious) activities within existing office premises. These activities will include financial planning courses, parenting classes, a bereavement café and a warm space.	A group of 10 villages in North Wiltshire - office based in Yatton Keynell	£2,750
Chippenham Community Eco Hub	To develop an area of the Hub to provide a 'Living Room' two days a week for those in need of support due to financial, energy, & other social challenges	Chippenham	£3,000
Crosspoint (Westbury)	We aspire to become an affiliate of Community Money Advice so we can ensure that local people have access to a quality-assured debt advice service.	Westbury and surrounding villages	£2,825
God Unlimited Outdoor Therapy	GUL provides therapeutic support through outdoor activities for young people with additional needs. Funding will help with core costs,	SALISBURY	£3,000
Group 5	helping to support our volunteers with daily lunch money & any travel costs. Organisational running costs; rent, electric, phone, safety equipment, van running costs, etc	West Wiltshire	£3,000
Help Counselling Services	Our waiting list stands at 10 weeks, despite our efforts to reduce it. We want a Keep in Touch Counsellor who will contact clients to maintain their well-being whilst waiting	Wiltshire	£3,000

Community Fund Grants (Wiltshire)

Organisation	Project description	Location	Amount
Laverton Institute Charitable Trust	For Abrahams Kitchen project to provide a free hot meal to 50-60 people on a regular basis during each school holiday.	Westbury	£2,000
St Michael's Community Centre	To purchase cookware and appliances for our kitchen to complete refurbishment and make it fully functioning to serve the local community with affordable cooked meals.	Bemerton Heath	£3,000
Waste Not Want Not	To provide people on low income with affordable household goods whilst providing work experience and training opportunities to the local community and diverting useable items away from the waste stream.	Chippenham, Corsham, Calne, Malmesbury, Melksham, Trowbridge, Wotton Basst	£2,000
West Lavington Youth Club	provide weekly support to children in Lavington area to support them with building confidence and accessing opportunities otherwise not available to them due to rural deprivation/disadvantage	West and market lavington	£3,000
West Wilts Child Contact Centre	To provide a safe child centred environment for children of a split relationship to meet their non-resident parent.	Trowbridge	£1,000
Westbury & Warminster Youth Clubs	Core funding. This is to cover staff wages, hall hire and equipment to enable us to run the weekly sessions in both Westbury and Warminster.	Westbury warmisnter	£3,000
Westbury Area Network	To continue to support the ongoing work of the food bank. Any donation would be used to purchase food and toiletry/cleaning items as we need to replenish stocks.	Westbury	£3,000
Wiltshire Portage	To provide tailored guidance to parent/carers which supports them in removing the barriers to learning that fuel/utility poverty creates for their child and for the wider family.	Chippenham	£3,000
TOTAL			£176,745

Case Study: Mothers for Mothers, Bristol – awarded £1,465 in December 2021 from the Community Fund towards delivering weekly peer support groups for women affected by mental ill health

“The grant has enabled us to keep existing peer support groups open and given us freedom to be successful in obtaining funds for new groups. It also enables us to work with children. Maternal Mental illness can impact on a woman’s ability to be sensitive and responsive in her parenting. By working with women and their children together in group we are able to encourage sensitive and responsive interactions as well as supporting faster recovery both of which lessen the impact of the illness on children’s emotional development.

The feedback from clients shows how important this element of the work is in enhancing their relationships with their children. Our work with Children ensures the children are emotionally well, they socialise/play with others and have more fun. The children have more positive relationships. We work with the Mother to better understand her child's needs and be more sensitive/responsive in her parenting which establishes and strengthens bonds. By strengthening this relationship at such an early stage the child will be more likely to form positive relationship with others as they grow.”



Case Study: Hope Housing ,Training and Support, Dorset – awarded £2,290 from the Community Fund in 2021 towards weekly cooking activities.

Life skills are lacking greatly in our residents and due to homelessness and bad life choices they already have long term ailments. We arranged group cooking activities across our houses, providing food, sharing skills and teaching residents how to make healthy meals on a budget and promote the social benefits of eating together.

Cooking together helps them bond with their house mates, helps them learn skills from each other and helps them budget for food costs more realistically. It also helps with anxiety, boredom, isolation and loneliness, improving their overall wellbeing. We had some problems with anxiety over working together in close proximity but we dealt with this by letting people just watch or eat the food at the end, until they felt reassured to join in.

Thanks to the evidence we have gathered we have been able to apply to the Healthy Heart Grant and I am thrilled to say we have been accepted with a further grant of £10,000 in 2023 to continue this project plus other activities which improve the heart and life of residents.



Environment Fund Grants (Quartet)

Organisation	Project description	Location	Amount
148th Bristol (1st Stockwood) Scout Group	Water butts and hoses around HQ building to enable water harvesting. Gardening tools to enable completion of the gardeners badge work for all sections.	Bristol, City of	£500
1st Bristol Muslim Scout Group	To restore the garden area, grow plants, create a wildlife bug station and install a water station. Purchase garden equipment to maintain the garden.	Bristol, City of	£500
1st Paulton Guides	Support our Guides to purchase and plant up a low maintenance, self sustaining fruit and herb garden within the grounds of our community Hall, following bio diverse permaculture ethics.	Bath and North East Somerset	£500
APE Project CIC	To help expand and maintain our community and sensory garden, teaching children about food cultivation and gardening, and harvesting food for the provision of free meals to all children attending.	Bristol, City of	£1,500
Bathampton Community Co-operative Ltd (Dry Arch Growers)	We wish to expand our existing rainwater capture and storage facilities which has proved successful in reducing our water consumption and costs.	Bath and North East Somerset	£750
Bathford Parish Council	Creation of a wildlife pond and natural fencing at Bathford allotments, plus community Pond Dig weekend.	Bath and North East Somerset	£810
Bristol Beekeepers (branch of Avon Beekeepers Association)	From fundraising we completed a branch training apiary building and wish to replant the surrounding area with bee-friendly flowers and trees, and encourage the surrounding estate to support the environment.	South Gloucestershire	£1,500
Corston Community Orchard & Garden	To enhance the biodiversity of the orchard for the benefit of wildlife and to be accessible as a beautiful and productive community space for people from the local area.	Bath and North East Somerset	£1,000
FACE (Foundation for Active Community Engagement)	To reach out and upskill the local community and provide facilities to improve the local environment by running a weekly community project and ensure specialist input and resources.	South Gloucestershire	£1,500

Environment Fund Grants (Quartet)

Organisation	Project description	Location	Amount
Friends of Charborough Road School	To help with Biodiversity within the school grounds. We have recently had a MUGA built and we are keen to increase plant and wildlife around the school grounds.	South Gloucestershire	£750
Friends of Hannah More Primary School	BS2 community herbs	Bristol, City of	£1,000
Friends of Hedgemoor Park	To provide environmentally sound improvements to our in-park facilities, including a rainwater harvesting system, a dual-bin composter for green waste, and a tool chest to store low value gardening paraphernalia.	Bath and North East Somerset	£500
FRIENDS OF LYNCOMBE HILL FIELDS	We intend to build 3 water collection devices to serve 2 tiny forests and a small (10m x 5m) nursery for trees.	Bath and North East Somerset	£636
Friends of Page Park	To add wild flower plugs, primroses, cowslips etc and spring bulbs, english bluebells, naturalising Daffodils to the parks wild flower areas and the Dingily Dell around the Celebration seat area.	South Gloucestershire	£750
Friends of Portbury Wharf Nature Reserve	To fund ongoing research including educational and interest materials and information boards, centred on the importance of the Nature Reserve and Salt Marsh for local interest groups including schools	North Somerset	£750
Sea Mills and Coombe Dingle Climate Action Group	Running costs of a local monthly environmental hub comprising a regular Repair Café to reduce waste and accompanying environmental informational events focused on issues relevant to the local community.	Bristol, City of	£1,054
St Matthew's, Kingsdown.	To provide water butts to the 4 corners of our building for use in further enhancing our community gardens and facilitate education in the benefits of water conservation.	Bristol, City of	£750
The Birch Collective	Reclaim a significant area of derelict allotments, adjacent to an existing community garden to create a wildlife friendly orchard and soft fruit area, alongside nesting sites for birds and invertebrates	Bristol, City of	£1,000
Transition Bath	To develop the Eco Together project, setting up neighbourhood eco groups in Bath and beyond to take action on Energy, Food, Transport, Waste and Resources.	Bath and North East Somerset	£1,000

Environment Fund Grants (Somerset)

Organisation	Project description	Location	Amount
Carymoor Environmental Trust	Environmental education programme near Castle Cary to connect people with nature	South Somerset	£1,500
Curry Woods Conservation Trust	Establishing a new woodland in Curry Rivel to manage flood risks	South Somerset	£750
Friends of Apex Leisure and Wildlife Park	Gardening tools and wildflower plugs for a green space in Burnham-on-Sea	Sedgemoor	£150
Friends of Yeovil Country Park	Improving the biodiversity of a wildlife garden at a community green space	South Somerset	£750
Frome Field 2 Fork CIC	Installing rainwater harvesting and irrigation system on a community garden	Mendip	£1,500
Frome Wild Bunch	Bird and bat box building in streets across Frome	Mendip	£1,500
Home Furniture Services Trust Ltd	Expanding a furniture recycling scheme around Somerset	Somerset West and Taunton	£1,500

Environment Fund Grants (Somerset)

Organisation	Project description	Location	Amount
Loop:Frome	Building the capacity of a community composting initiative	Mendip	£1,500
Minehead and Coast Development Trust	Community wildlife mapping, community citizen science and data collection event	Somerset West and Taunton	£1,500
Seed of Hope	Installing rainwater harvesting systems at growing spaces in Bridgwater, Watchet and Glastonbury	Sedgemoor	£1,500
Shepton Beauchamp Cowleaze Meadow Project	Electric lawnmower for a community green space	South Somerset	£1,500
St Benedict's Church, Glastonbury	Installing a rainwater harvesting system at a community garden	Mendip	£1,200
Yeovil Rivers Community Trust	Increasing habitat diversity to benefit local water vole populations	South Somerset	£1,500
A Greener Langford Budville	Contribution towards a new woodland as part of the communities plans to improve local biodiversity	Somerset West and Taunton	£1,500
Climate Action Taunton	Establishing a 'Climate Community Hub' to inspire local people to take action in response to the climate emergency	Somerset West and Taunton	£900

Environment Fund Grants (Dorset)

Organisation	Project description	Location	Amount
Beaminster School	A novel student-led project which will provide an oasis for nature in our school grounds and where we and local residents can learn about and record changes in biodiversity.	Dorset	£1,500
Broadwindsor Allotment Group	To install a composting toilet facility housed within a timber shed. for use by allotment plot holders, centrally located on the allotment site, with attractive landscaping.	Dorset	£1,200
Dorset Men of the Trees (Trees for Dorset)	Cover a year of "My Life - My Tree" Schools project "I'm Backing a Greener Britain" Creating a new habitat, a Willow Carr from cuttings we have taken and rooted.	Dorset	£1,500
Friends of Uddens and Cannon Hill Woodlands	We will dam a drainage ditch and excavate behind to create a dog recreation pond, whilst also raising the water level behind to create a wetland habitat and reduce flooding	Dorset	£550
Grounded Community	Maintaining our community garden for food growing and running our community composting programme, as part of our attempts to create a closed loop system that benefits the environment.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£1,500
Lower Char Community Project	1.To monitor the lower River Char and identify sources of pollution, 2.To engage the community in rainwater separation schemes, 3.To investigate and implement nature-based treatment solutions.	Dorset	£1,500

Environment Fund Grants (Dorset)

Organisation	Project description	Location	Amount
Plush Paddock Charitable Incorporated Organisation	To improve and maintain the sward and hedgerows of Plush Paddock to achieve parkland environment with wildflower and indigenous tree areas plus an area for recreation with safe community access.	Dorset	£1,500
Purbeck Youth and Community Foundation	We are still growing our PP and PYCF youth group and it needs dedicated youth worker time meeting weekly over the next year.	Dorset	£1,235
St Catherines Pre-school	To both inspire our children and improve local biodiversity, we would like to expand our preschool's growing space, plant more pollinators, and buy some gardening equipment.	Dorset	£500
Sustainable Wareham	Funds to run educational sessions at various local venues, hold environmental film shows, host further Repair Cafes.	Dorset	£1,500
The Friendly Food Club	To deliver creative cookery ideas and education to reduce food waste by running 14 interactive educational demonstrations to turn 'food 'waste' into tasty, cheap, delicious and nutritious meals.	Dorset	£1,464
Weymouth Skatepark Association	We would like robust recycling bins within our facility that are clearly labelled to get our members recycling bottles and cans etc to then go into our large recycling bin	Dorset	£800
Wilding Wimborne (sub group of Wimborne War on Waste) co Wardman Goodman	Our aim is to increase the pollinators in our town to combat the massive insect decline. In 2023 we plan to build on this with work to support small wildlife.	Dorset	£1,500

Environment Fund Grants (Wiltshire)

Organisation	Project description	Location	Amount
Box Parish Council	To create a bog garden and pond adjacent to the existing pond in the Lovar Walk, connecting to the river, planted with native species encouraging greater biodiversity and new habitat.	Box and surrounding parishes	£1,500
Bratton Primary School	To restore and increase the size of our wildlife pond and surrounding area to create a safe haven for our children to learn about their environment.	Bratton and Westbury	£1,500
Bremhill Parish Council	Purchase and sowing of native British wild flower perennial seeds to sow around the parish in verges, new village hall grounds & under-used open spaces.	Villages within the parish	£1,360
Environment and Climate Working Group - Melksham Town Council	To promote and contribute towards the costs of the ECWG's Climate Fest in Melksham including advertising, purchase of litter pickers and other promotional material .	Melksham	£839
Friends of Broadmead Pond	To restore and maintain a wildlife pond on Broadmead Trowbridge, which has confirmation of great crested newt presence. Specifically, to create a reed bed to filter out chemicals .	Trowbridge / Broadmead area	£1,500
Harnham Community Network	To plant 10 standard Small-leaved Lime trees as part of Harnham's Green Corridor Project to mark the Queen's Jubilee and provide a lasting benefit for the environment & local residents.	Harnham, Salisbury	£1,500
Hilperton Allotment Association	Purchase Solitary Bee Observation Nest Boxes; Bumblebee Nest Boxes; educational material, eg. identification posters, wildlife information; purchase screening to protect educational material; purchase spring flowering bulbs	Hilperton, Staverton, Paxcroft Mead	£652
Market Lavington Parish Council	Help with preventing river bank erosion, and placement of a ramp and dipping platform. Making the area accessible without disturbing the biodiversity of the river bank.	Market Lavington	£1,500

Environment Fund Grants (Wiltshire)

Organisation	Project description	Location	Amount
Pewsey Parish Council (with PARR)	Restore biodiversity & water quality to a previously damaged section of river in the centre of Pewsey by means of a community replanting utilising native marginal & aquatic plants.	Pewsey	£1,240
Poulshot Village Trust	The Trust needs expert advice on looking after two village ponds and a small woodland. With careful informed management and village community involvement, we wish to maximise the native biodiversity.	Poulshot	£1,500
RISE:61	To develop a sensory garden and new composting area at our community garden project in the heart of the Bemerton Heath estate	Salisbury	£1,500
Seeds4Success	We are seeking funding towards the costs of our 'Leisure Credits' scheme for young people where young people will be supported to engage in practical conservation tasks with environmental benefits	South West Wiltshire	£1,500
Steeple Langford Allotments Trust	Clearing rough unused scrubland, and creating a community wildlife meadow and relaxation area for people of the Steeple Langford Parish.	The Steeple Langford Parish	£1,500
Sustainable Devizes	We are seeking funding for a waste reduction demonstration pack, which would include reusable menstrual and continence products, washable nappies etc, supporting information and a case to keep them in	Devizes Community Area	£330
Sustainable Sherston	We would like to purchase our own apple juicing equipment to use excess fruit, reduce food waste and produce local, sustainable juice at our annual Apple Day.	Sherston and surrounding villages	£1,000
The Friends of The Marden Valley	Water Vole survey and Tree planting along Abberd Brook	Calne	£1,500
TOTAL			<u>£72,170</u>

Case Study: Root Connections, Somerset – awarded £1,500 from the Environment Fund in 2021 towards teaching children about beekeeping, pollinators and the environment

“We have been able to purchase junior bee suits, educational resources & candle making equipment. We were then able to confidently showcase our bees & related produce; honey, candles etc. at our Open Day back in October, run educational sessions for adults, children & beneficiaries with specific learning needs & sell our candles at our (first ever!) Christmas Market. We're hoping to organise school visits in 2022 when the risk of Covid eases & plans are being made for the Easter & Summer terms.

One of our volunteers has found this last year particularly challenging. CD is deaf & has found Covid & face coverings very difficult. Added to this, CD is going through a divorce & has had to move house. In the midst of all of this CD has found great solace in helping our resident bee keeper look after the bees & has since signed up for a bee keeping course, has been busy learning to make candles, harvested this year's yield of honey & helped organise workshops & ran the Bee stall at our open Day. CD has already expressed an interest in running educational workshops next year & has said the bees have sustained her through a very difficult time in her life & so grateful for all the new friends she has made.”



Case Study :Wiltshire Bat Group - awarded £1,483 from the Environment Fund in 2021 to help with their South Wiltshire Greater Horseshoe Bat Project.

Our main objective is to promote bat conservation in Wiltshire. We do this by carrying out bat surveys and research projects across the county, while also working in partnership with other organisations and training the next generation of bat ecologists. We launched this project in the autumn of 2020 to increase greater horseshoe bat populations in south Wiltshire.

To achieve this, we have been supporting local communities to improve land management and population monitoring. The greater horseshoe bat is one of the rarer bat species in the UK and it is largely restricted to south west England and South Wales. As this species recovers after declining in the twentieth century, it's important we monitor them to ensure we are taking the necessary steps to increase their conservation status.



Community Connectors



For the first time Wessex Water is aiming to work with whole communities to identify and tackle a number of shared environmental and social goals together. Wessex Water chose Chippenham and Bridport as their first communities, one being urban and one coastal. In both pilot areas Wessex Water has established a local advisory group to help them work with the wider community. Through a series of community engagement activities, Wessex Water have agreed their shared priorities for change and are co-designing projects to tackle them.

This year, through a combination of Wessex Water and community led projects, funded through the Wessex Water Foundation, they will deliver improvements to the environment and the lives of local people and make progress towards achieving our shared goals. You can find out more about the project here [Community Connectors | Wessex Water](#).

In March 2023, in partnership with Dorset Community Foundation and Wiltshire Community Foundation, Wessex Water ran two community-led panels to award funding to groups in Chippenham and Bridport, and the funded projects are below:

Programme	Grants	Amount
Chippenham	7	£37,420
Bridport	6	£29,210
TOTAL	13	£66,630

Community Connector Grants - Chippenham

Organisation	Project description	Amount
Bristol Avon Rivers Trust (BART)	Split across two applications: Funding would bring their established Yellowfish Project (community education about contaminated wastewater) and Riverfly monitoring project (river quality) to Chippenham.	£2,500 & £1,800 (1 year)
Chippenham Community Hub	Funding will help with the cost of upskilling the manager and volunteers to provide better information and signposting during the cost-of-living crisis.	£5,000 (1 year)
Ivy Wildlife Garden	Funding is towards running costs and to engage with local schools, community groups and residents around water use and conservation.	£1,650 (1 year)
Kandu Arts Community Project CIC	Funding is towards a programme of workshops and wider community engagement to raise awareness of water use and conservation with young people over two years.	£8,470 (2 years)
Rooted Chippenham	Funding is towards installing several rainwater harvesting methods to save water, help provide local produce and reduce reliance on mains water.	£4,000 (1 year)
Wiltshire & Swindon Sports Partnership (WASP)	Funding is towards working with the local GP network to share an interactive map of activities in Chippenham to aid signposting and reduce reliance on prescription drugs therefore limiting the volume of pharmaceuticals entering the water course.	£10,000 (2 years)
Zero Chippenham	Funding is towards a series of public workshops to provide information and encourage take up of water saving and energy efficiency measures and climate change mitigation, to help with the cost of living crisis.	£4,000 (1 year)

Community Connector Grants - Bridport

Organisation	Project description	Amount
ANRP (Asker Nature Reserve Project)	To create a nature trail between Morrisons and East Street to inform visitors and local people, of the history of Asker Meadows.	£4,850
Bridport Food Matters	The 'We Dig No Dig' project will support the development of 'Incredible Edible' beds in Bridport to address food poverty.	£4,920
Bridport Town Council	Installation of two, wall-mounted, water bottle refill units to reduce the use of single use plastic bottles	£6,000
Dorset Community Action	To support the expansion of the Seed2Plate project which turns unused plots of land into growing spaces for the community – new site at the allotment belonging to local charity Burrough Harmony Centre.	£5,960
Dorset Wildlife Trust	Development of a Citizen Science programme to offer training, equipment and mentoring to local people, and co-ordinate data on the environmental health of Bridport's rivers to inspire behaviour change that will have a positive environmental impact	£5,980
Transition Town Bridport	Rainwater harvesting and watering equipment for the edible gardens at St Mary's School and Bridport School. Family event in the summer at Bridport Primary School to improve understanding of the need of water for growing food.	£1,500

Partner Grants – Debt advice

Organisation	Project description	Amount
1625 Independent People	Bristol, City of	£600
Bath & District Citizens Advice	Bath and North East Somerset	£37,538
Brigstowe Project	Bristol, City of	£660
Bristol Citizens Advice Bureau	Bristol, City of	£7,560
Bristol North West Foodbank	Bristol, City of	£1,950
Bristol Somali Resource Centre	Bristol, City of	£4,710
Centre For Sustainable Energy	Bristol, City of	£5,850
Citizens Advice Bournemouth Christchurch & Poole	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£22,320
Citizens Advice Bridport and District	Dorset	£3,600

Partner Grants – Debt advice

Organisation	Location	Amount
Citizens Advice Central Dorset	Dorset	£2,340
Citizens Advice in East Dorset and Purbeck	Dorset	£2,160
Citizens Advice Mendip	Mendip	£6,840
Citizens Advice Sedgemoor	Sedgemoor	£5,460
Citizens Advice South Somerset	South Somerset	£26,640
Citizens Advice Taunton	Somerset West and Taunton	£2,160
Citizens Advice West Somerset	Somerset West and Taunton	£5,040
Citizens Advice Wiltshire	Wiltshire	£18,000

Partner Grants - Advice

Organisation	Project description	Amount
Faithworks Wessex	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£1,650
Filwood Hope	Bristol, City of	£600
Grace Advocacy	Sedgemoor	£2,160
Hope Debt Advice Service	Wiltshire	£1,000
inHope	Bristol, City of	£825
Melksham CMA	Wiltshire	£1,200
Money Advice Trust	Croydon	£7,500
National Energy Action	UK wide	£450

Partner Grants – Debt advice

Organisation	Project description	Amount
North Bristol Advice Centre	Bristol, City of	£600
North Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau	North Somerset	£13,650
Scope	UK wide	£5,000
South Bristol Advice Services	Bristol, City of	£4,680
South Gloucestershire Citizens Advice Bureau	South Gloucestershire	£3,960
St Pauls Advice Centre Association	Bristol, City of	£450

Partner Grants – Debt advice

Organisation	Project description	Amount
StepChange	National	£17,553
Talking Money	Bristol, City of	£450
Talking Money	Bristol, City of	£6,960
Trowbridge Debt Advice Service	Wiltshire	£1,650
TOTAL		£223,766

Partner Grants – Cost of Living Grants

As we are predicting an increase in demand for debt advice services and many are still struggling to get back to full capacity post-Covid, we injected additional funds into the sector, funding seven new projects across our region to directly increase capacity.

Organisation	Project Description	Amount
Bristol North West Foodbank	Bristol	10,000.00
Citizens Advice North Somerset	North Somerset	17,556.00
South Bristol Advice Services	South Bristol	19,773.00
Citizens Advice South Somerset	South Somerset	29,801.00
East Bristol & Purbeck Citizens Advice	East Dorset	42,212.00
Melksham CMA	Wiltshire	2,750.00
Wiltshire Citizens Advice	Wiltshire	36,253.00
Total		£158,345

Partner Grants - Environment

The Partners Programme provides funding to projects carried out by environmental organisations which conserve and enhance biodiversity and the aquatic environment across our region.

Organisation	Area	Amount
Avon Wildlife Trust	Bristol, City of	£15,000
Dorset Wildlife Trust	Dorset	£20,000
Wessex Rivers Trust	Wiltshire	£15,000
Wiltshire Wildlife Trust	Wiltshire	£20,000
TOTAL		£70,000

Thank you

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