

# What is Sussex Community Foundation?

Sussex Community Foundation is an independent charity that develops and supports local charitable giving. We are part of a national network of UK community foundations that distributes £65 million a year to charities and community groups.

We raise money for and make grants to local charities and community groups across East and West Sussex and Brighton and Hove. We manage charitable funds on behalf of Sussex donors and oversee the grant-making from those funds.

Unlike a national charity, we have a unique Sussex-wide understanding of the county's smaller charities and community groups. We make it easy for people to give money to local causes close to their hearts and ensure their donations reach the Sussex people that need them.

Since 2006, we have given grants totalling over £12 million to 2,000 charities and community groups. Most of the grants we give are between £1,000 and £5,000 and make a big difference to the groups that receive them. Many of these are smaller organisations that do not have the profile or fundraising resources of larger charities.

We have built a permanent endowment fund, currently standing at over £17 million. It will provide Sussex communities with sustainable funding into the future.

## Why choose Sussex Community Foundation?

Sussex Community Foundation is the ideal vehicle for people who want to put something back into the communities in which they have lived and worked. By channelling funds directly into grassroots community projects, Sussex Community Foundation aims to improve the quality of life for people across Sussex with a special focus on helping those who are disadvantaged in some way.

## Named Fund

The main service we provide for our donors is our named fund. This is a charitable fund, set up and tailored to the donor's interests in both geography and charitable themes. We currently manage over 90 named funds on behalf of individuals, families, companies and charitable trusts. A named fund is a great way for a donor to get directly involved in community philanthropy, without the cost and administration of setting up a separate charitable trust. Sussex Community Foundation handles all administration and applications from community groups for support.

Named funds can either be distributed over a set period in a flow-through fund or invested in an endowment fund to establish a long-term resource for the Sussex community. We can advise on the best approach for a named fund to reflect the donor's wishes and needs of the community. Depending on the size of gift and how involved the donor wishes to be in making decisions about individual grants we can advise on the best approach for a named fund.



**Sussex  
Community  
Foundation**

INSPIRING LOCAL GIVING • MEETING LOCAL NEEDS



**For further information, please contact Stephen Chamberlain or Toni Darton on 01273 409440**

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# Benefits of giving through Sussex Community Foundation

## Flexibility

Through our named funds, we provide a tailor-made service that reflects the wishes of each donor. This bespoke service covers all aspects of the fund's operation, from targeting areas of special interest to the extent to which a donor may wish to be involved in the grant-making process. Through Sussex Community Foundation, gifts may be made to any charitable project that benefits the local Sussex community. These do not necessarily have to be registered charities as Sussex Community Foundation is able to fund non-registered community and voluntary groups.

## Convenience

Named funds can be set up quickly and easily. Much of the work involved in registering a new charitable trust and the consequent time and expense can be avoided, as Sussex Community Foundation already has the people and the framework in place to carry out this work. A simple written agreement is drawn up, which can be amended later, if required. Sussex Community Foundation undertakes all the day-to-day work involved in administering the grant-making programme. This includes handling enquiries from prospective grant applicants to making decisions, as well as fulfilling all the accounting and reporting requirements.

## Meeting needs

Many people see Sussex as a well-off county but there are significant areas of deprivation, particularly in some coastal areas and less obvious areas of disadvantage in more rural, isolated areas, hidden from view. A great deal of vital work is done by smaller, less well-known charities and community groups but it can be difficult to know which of these groups need support. Sussex Community Foundation's local knowledge can help to identify suitable recipients and therefore reach those who might not otherwise find the funds they need. We can guarantee that money donated to us will only be spent locally and in support of any charitable, educational or benevolent purpose.

## Expertise

Sussex Community Foundation is governed by a board of trustees from a variety of backgrounds with a wide range of skills and experience. The professional staff team is led by Chief Executive Kevin Richmond who has been with the Foundation for ten years and has extensive experience in managing charities. The team has a wide knowledge of the local community and its needs. It has established comprehensive grant-making policies and procedures, ensuring each application is dealt with efficiently and assessed carefully. Sussex Community Foundation also has access to professional advice, for example, in managing its growing investments.

## Permanence

Sussex Community Foundation is here to stay. By building a substantial, endowment fund for the community, Sussex Community Foundation is not only helping to tackle today's needs, but also developing the means to address the needs of future generations. Anyone who is considering establishing a fund or leaving a legacy to the local community can be assured that Sussex Community Foundation will honour their charitable wishes.



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