

Surrey Coronavirus Response Fund

Our support for Surrey, delivered together



Community Foundation for Surrey

The Community Foundation for Surrey is an independent charitable foundation that brings together local Donors with voluntary organisations, addressing the many challenges within our communities.

We work with individuals, families, businesses and charitable trusts who want to make a real and lasting difference within Surrey, by connecting them with charitable projects that are providing vital support to local people across the county.

Local Donors can establish a bespoke fund with the Foundation, or contribute to one of our collective funds, supporting a growing programme of grant-making. We are proud to manage more than 85 active funds and provide meaningful support to over 400 community projects each year.

Since our inception in 2005, we have awarded over £15 million to Surrey communities. Our mission is to continue to grow local philanthropy to change lives.

We are part of a national network of 46 accredited Community Foundations, one of the fastest growing philanthropic movements in the UK.

Together for all communities



Jim Glover, Chair

If the past few months have taught us anything, it is how resilient we are as a county. At a time when Surrey could have stumbled, we took a major step forward – with the single ambition of working together to achieve long-term change.

The not-for-profit organisations, supported by thousands of volunteers working tirelessly behind the scenes, are truly remarkable. Their scale of operation, professionalism and dedication is simply astonishing.

We were met with enormous generosity from local residents, companies, partners and councils, and together were able to effectively distribute over £2.7 million of vital emergency funding to the inspirational charitable organisations providing direct support to those most impacted by the virus.

This historic challenge certainly brought considerable devastation and loss, but was also accompanied by a wider sense of community and togetherness no one could have predicted.

I would like to say a sincere thank you to everyone who fuelled our Surrey Coronavirus Response Fund (SCRF) and enabled us to continue to connect local communities with the help and support they critically need.

This report shares the achievements of our emergency response delivery but also exposes the shocking reality that, for many within our community, the hardship is far from over.

The pandemic has impacted our communities, widened social divides and exacerbated inequalities that already existed. Demand for the often life-saving services provided by our voluntary groups has rocketed, and it is estimated that 60% of this huge increase is from people who have never before had to seek help from the sector. 1 in 8 of all people living in the UK are expected to request such support this year, as we begin to cope and recover.

Our next chapter will depend on our willingness to continue to work together in order to address the many challenges facing our county, and to give every individual in Surrey hope. Our hope, is that you feel inspired to take action!



We have come together to effectively distribute over £2.7 million of vital emergency funding to the inspirational charitable organisations providing direct action to those most impacted by the virus.

Launching our Surrey Coronavirus Response Fund



Kate Peters, Director of Grant-making

March 2020 – who can forget?

The world turned upside down, and we all had to come to terms with living a totally different kind of life separated from loved ones and our normal routines. Meanwhile, the voluntary sector was not only stepping up to be a lifeline to thousands of our vulnerable neighbours, but facing a disaster in terms of lost income. Community fundraising was cancelled, and contracts and grant funding were put into question as projects became undeliverable.

The Community Foundation for Surrey launched the Surrey Coronavirus Response Fund on 26th March 2020 and 6 days later, on 1st April, we made our first awards. The first batch set the tone with £121,000 to assist with provision of food and essentials to those shielding and isolated, and to help local charities continue to deliver their services remotely.

Although the money was obviously critical, what we heard from our grantees back in April was how important it had been to know someone was going to help. There was huge worry whether the sector would collapse and how communities would cope without this crucial support.

The biggest factor enabling us to make quick grant awards was our knowledge of our applicants and grantees that has built up over the years – we know these groups; we know they can and do deliver good work.

What has been fantastic is how, in true voluntary sector style, almost everyone found a way through the crisis. Established charities and tiny voluntary groups adapted to keep going and provide services in innovative new ways, some of which will become the new normal.

Our CFS team worked tirelessly throughout 2020 to keep the vital funds flowing and it was worth it to support our amazing Surrey voluntary sector.

What next?

CFS focused its Coronavirus Response Fund on being there for the community; a rapid response, enabling those supporting vulnerable people to just keep going at the most critical time of need. The emergency response has been delivered but we know the devastation left by the pandemic will be felt by many for years to come. Our Surrey Community Fund will now pick up the baton to ensure that together we can continue supporting local residents and communities to cope and find a long term and sustainable pathway to recovery following the pandemic.

The situation in Surrey

By the week ending 26th February 2020, the first case of COVID-19 had been identified in Surrey. In just a few weeks, the R infection number was increasing at dramatic pace, and the impact this unknown virus was having on our local communities began to show.

- 779** Surrey households were considered **homeless or threatened with homelessness**. From July–September 2020, local data estimated there were **324 households** assessed to be homeless in Surrey. **779 households** were considered to be homeless or threatened with homelessness in the next **56 days**.
- Charities faced up to £1M financial loss**. By August 2020, Surrey charitable organisations had reported losses of up to **£1,000,000** in their forecasted income for that year.
- 160% rise in Universal Credit claims since first lockdown**. By October 2020, almost one in every 12 people in Surrey aged 16 – 64 was claiming Universal Credit.
- 268% increase in demand for a local foodbank**. By November 2020, Epsom and Ewell foodbank had already fed **9,801** people, compared to just over **5,000** in the whole of 2019.
- Infection rate peaked at 176.05 for every 100,000 of the population of Surrey**. By the week ending 11th November 2020, the infection rate in Surrey had peaked to its highest yet. Little did we know that by January 2021, this number would have risen to **718.92**.
- Second wave saw 1,221 hospital beds occupied**. By 12th January 2021, hospitals serving Surrey and neighbouring Sussex and Berkshire experienced **40.7%** of beds taken by COVID-19 patients.
- An increase of 1,100 calls for domestic abuse helpline**. By March 2021, Surrey domestic abuse charity Your Sanctuary had recorded a **31%** increase in calls to their support helpline, compared to the previous financial year.
- Nearly 3,000 lives lost in Surrey**. By 5th March 2021, **2,843** people in Surrey had died either from COVID-19, or with the virus as a contributory cause.
- 3,000 came forward as part of surge testing**. By May 2021, more than **3,000** people in Surrey and Hampshire had completed a polymerase chain reaction test within the first two days of a surge testing programme. This data would be invaluable and help support the county.
- 61.7% of the population of Surrey vaccinated**. By 2nd June 2021, **734,840** people within the county had received their first dose of a vaccination for COVID-19. This figure continues to rise.

Coming together

We have seen the very best of our community come together. When the crisis hit, we were immediately met with donations from local people and partners wanting to help from across the county, and within a matter of days since launching the fund, we had raised a staggering £300,000.

Our generous existing network of Surrey Donors were the first to be called upon, and within hours we had our initial wave of funding to award out emergency grants to start supporting those working on the frontlines.

The National Emergencies Trust (NET) soon launched their Coronavirus Appeal, which Community Foundations across the country were trusted to distribute to their local organisations supporting those most impacted by COVID-19.

Other National Emergency Funds that supported and enabled our delivery came from The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), The National Lottery Community Fund, and Co-op, with funding supporting grants awarded for food related projects.

Of the £2.7 million distributed across Surrey, over £1.5 million came from generous local individuals, families, businesses and partners.

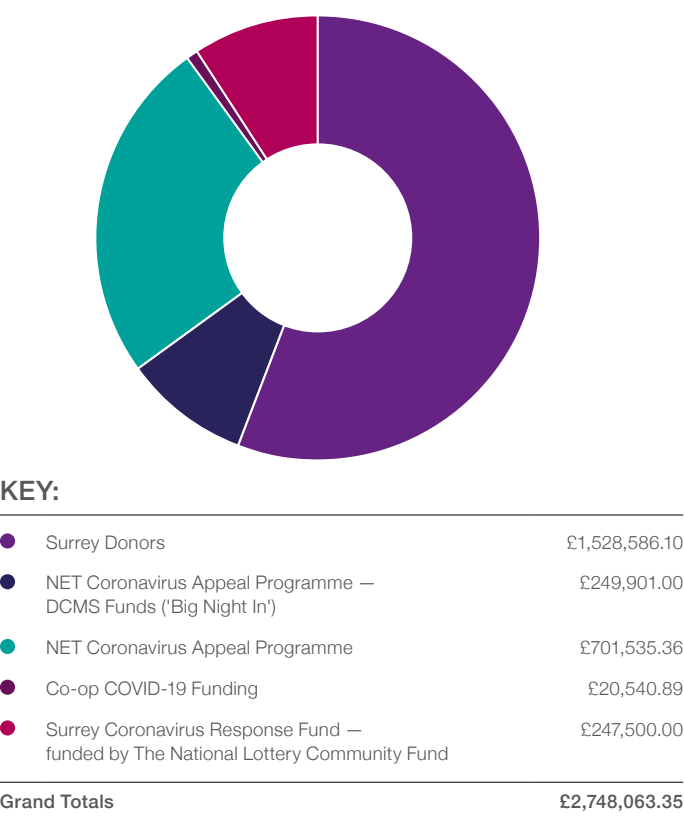
It is thanks to this concerted effort that together we were able to effectively support Surrey.

“Can I say how impressive the Foundation has been through this crisis. The speed in which you mobilised and the success you’ve had in raising additional funds and allocating them in a simplified way is nothing short of remarkable. I know the whole sector is immensely grateful to you.

Chris Hickford, Chief Executive, The Eikon Charity

Coronavirus Response Programme donation breakdown

This pie chart represents the breakdown of Surrey contributions into our Surrey Coronavirus Response Fund. **Over £1.5 million came from Surrey Donors.**



“In these unprecedented times, it is reassuring to see such public generosity to assist the response at a local level. Most importantly, it is extremely welcome news to both donors and grant recipients that donated funds can be distributed so rapidly to the front line where they are urgently needed.

Crispin Blunt, MP for Reigate

A big thank you to our Donors and Partners

We are extremely grateful to every single donor who generously supported the SCRF. Individuals, families, charitable trusts and corporates came together and enabled us to respond to the crisis. We simply could not have done it without you! Our special thanks are extended to the following donors and partners*.



*It has not been possible to list every donor and we have respected the wishes of those who wanted to remain anonymous.

CFS Response timeline

December 2019
COVID-19 was first discovered in Wuhan, China

29th January 2020
First case is confirmed in the UK

By week ending 26th February 2020
First case is confirmed in Reigate and Banstead, Surrey

5th March 2020
First death announced in the UK

11th March 2020
The World Health Organisation characterised COVID-19 as a pandemic

23rd March 2020
The start of National lockdown

31st March 2020
UK cases surpass 10,000

1st April 2020
First round of grants awarded from SCRF, totalling £121,315

28th April 2020
£1 million raised into the SCRF – including £326,700 from the National Emergencies Trust and more than £717,000 from local donors and partners

Listen now

Lesley McCabe, BBC Radio Surrey, interviews CFS Chair, Jim Glover

1st June 2020
Lockdown measures begin to ease

4th July 2020
'Super Saturday' – pubs, businesses, hotels reopen, and many more restrictions are lifted

24th July 2020
Face coverings are made compulsory in shops

18th September 2020
Warnings of a second wave of COVID-19 in the UK

21st September 2020
Grants awarded through the SCRF reach £2 million – 280 grants supporting 200 local charities

By week ending 11th November 2020
Surrey infection rate peaks at 176.05 for every 100,000 of the population of Surrey

5th November 2020
UK enters 2nd National lockdown

29th September 2020
CFS launches a second urgent appeal, to meet the £931,000 of unmet need the SCRF is currently unable to support

2021

2nd February 2021
Captain Sir Tom Moore dies of COVID-19 age 100

22nd February 2021
PM Boris Johnson publishes roadmap for lifting the lockdown

7th May 2021
Final grant awards made from the SCRF – 372 grants supporting 225 local charities

By 2nd June 2021
734,840 people within Surrey have received their 1st dose of a vaccination for COVID-19

14th June 2021
PM announces a delay in progress of the National COVID-19 roadmap - until 19th July

2020

26th March 2020
Launch of Surrey Coronavirus Response Fund (SCRF) Phase 1 Grants Programme – grants of £5,000 to support charities with their emergency response

27th March 2020
CFS existing Donor network raises £300,000 into the SCRF

31st March 2020
SurreyLive and their associated newspapers agree to support CFS response campaign

5th April 2020
The Queen addresses the Nation

16th April 2020
Captain Sir Tom Moore walks 100 laps of his garden – which would in time raise more than £32 million for the NHS

22nd April 2020
Human vaccination trials begin in the UK

11th June 2020
CFS launches an urgent appeal for donations, as applications for support soar

5th June 2020
CFS launch Phase 2 Grants Programme – grants of up to £25,000 to support charities longer-term

Listen now

Adrian Harms, BBC Radio Surrey, interviews former CFS Chief Executive, Laura Thurlow

30th August 2020
COVID-19 cases rise in all but one area of Surrey

2nd October 2020
Around a quarter of the population of the UK (approx. 16.8 million) are now in local lockdowns

12th October 2020
New 3 Tier system of COVID-19 restrictions come into force across the UK

8th December 2020
Vaccinations for those most vulnerable begin in the UK

20th December 2020
Christmas is cancelled for many as London and the Southeast enter Tier 4 restrictions

26th December 2020
More areas of England move up to new Tier 4 restrictions

6th January 2021
3rd National lockdown begins

By 7th January 2021
Surrey infection rates peak, with 718.92 cases per 100,000

30th March 2021
Our SCRF closes to applications, while a new grants programme is devised to support the county move forwards

23rd April 2021
Surrey County Council transfer £500,000 of COVID-19 funds, granted by the Government to the County Council, to CFS to kickstart the Surrey Community Fund and enable voluntary organisations to support communities to cope and recover during 2021/22

26th June 2020
Grants awarded through the SCRF reach £1 million – 199 grants supporting 176 local charities

Together we have

Awarded—

£2,732,678

to support local communities in crisis, across **325 grants**

Provided vital financial support to—

225

Surrey voluntary organisations

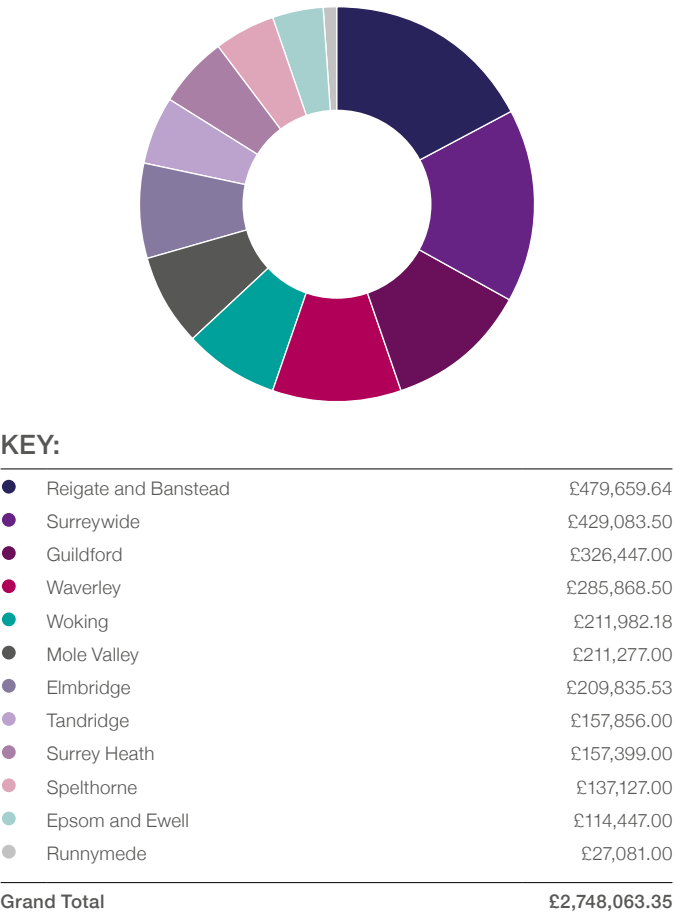
Made a difference to the lives of over—

192,067

local people

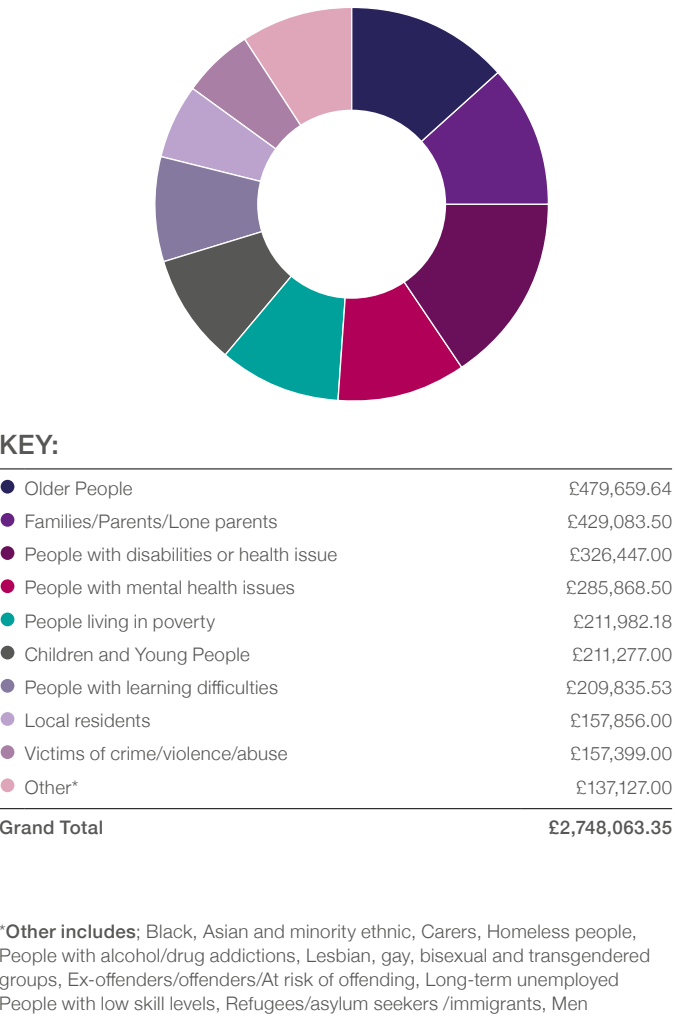
Grants awarded by geographical area

This pie chart represents the breakdown of grants awarded by local authority by value.



Grants awarded by primary beneficiary

This pie chart shows the breakdown of grants awarded by primary beneficiary.



Together for lasting change

Our Vision is to build a strong movement of local philanthropists, connecting them with local charitable organisations – together to ensure that every individual in Surrey has **hope**. This has never been more relevant than it is at this moment.

The Surrey Coronavirus Response Fund did much to provide support to communities impacted by the virus, but the hard work is far from over. At the time of writing, restrictions are being lifted and there is a sense that life is starting to return to normal. However, we know that in Surrey many of the inequalities that already existed, are now more prevalent, and that new challenges have arisen as a direct result of COVID-19.

We have been working closely together with organisations across the county to identify crucial areas of ongoing need. Demand for funding the voluntary sector in Surrey remains high to support local people recover and rebuild their lives and livelihoods. That is why, in closing the SCRF, we are renewing our Surrey Community Fund.

Surrey Community Fund

Our Surrey Community Fund allows us, using our local knowledge and expertise, to get funds to where the need is greatest quickly and efficiently.

We will assist charities and voluntary groups supporting local residents and communities to cope and find a long-term and sustainable pathway to recovery. The priority areas for funding will be;

- Health & wellbeing**
There will be a long-term impact on physical and mental health, much of which is yet to be fully understood. We will support projects which advance people's physical and mental health, wellbeing and safety.
- Opportunities for education and training**
School and University closures have left young people fearing for their education and future career opportunities. We will make grants to improve life skills, education, employability and enterprise.
- Promoting inclusion and overcoming disadvantage**
The pandemic has caused an increase in job losses, homelessness, poverty and social exclusion. We will support initiatives which reduce disadvantage and isolation and increase access to local services for support.
- Empowering communities**
The voluntary sector has demonstrated their vital role in supporting the community from providing befriending support to foodbanks. We will make grants to strengthen community cohesion and build social capacity.

Together we can

Our county's most pressing issues have been brought sharply to the forefront and it is our responsibility to come together and address them.

We are actively seeking donations towards the Surrey Community Fund to support these initiatives. If you would like to make a contribution or find out more, please contact:

Claire Heath
Director of Philanthropy
Community Foundation for Surrey
claire@cfsurrey.org.uk
01483 906383

Our response

The following section of this report highlights some of the shocking realities amongst our communities, and also the inspirational stories of organisations and individuals we together supported.



Food and Essentials

COVID-19 and restrictions left many vulnerable people across Surrey out of work, shielding at home and unable to pay for or collect essential items. Across the county, local people assembled to support those in critical need.

Emergency response to lockdown

When the early talks of a lockdown were underway, Pam Whittingham was already thinking about how to gather community volunteers. She called her local councillor in Warlingham and set up a meeting to form a plan.

“He said, ‘I’ll bring a couple of people with me’ and twelve people turned up!” The meeting, which took place in her sitting room, formed the committee that now functions as the **Coronavirus Aid in Chelsham, Farleigh, Warlingham** (CACFW). Almost immediately, the dozen had recruited an army of volunteers to deliver shopping and prescriptions to hundreds of shielding residents within the community.

Our grant ensured the organisation could manage through the intense spike in demand and juggle all the unknowns.

Of the many locked away, one lady and her husband who has cancer thanked CACFW *“who have supported me, when I have been at my lowest. The food has been exceptional and has really helped in my husband’s recovery.”*

Longer-term liaison

As the pandemic progressed the Community Foundation were quick to identify that the needs of groups were changing rapidly. By the Summer of 2020 we noticed that whilst demand remained high, many organisations were in a stronger position to source emergency supplies and were more focused on longer-term delivery. As a result, we launched our Phase 2 Grants Programme to help organisations such as **St Matthew’s Foodbank** in Redhill.

*Video statistics were correct at the time of production.



CACFW Box Scheme Volunteers, packing vital supplies ready for delivery.

[▶ Watch now](#)

Our £20,000 grant enabled them to purchase portacabins and funded a Co-ordinator. They had seen a 380% increase in demand for their support and recognised that they needed a dedicated space and employee to meet the growing needs of local residents. Between April – July 2020 they sent out 1,742 food parcels (compared to 400 food parcels over the same four-month period in 2019). Throughout the crisis we have seen the demand for foodbanks increase by three times on average. Many have also seen a significant increase in the amount of donations received, which have required further storage facilities. Some local foodbanks have processed over 2 tonnes of essential items per week.

Liz Wheeler, the foodbanks Co-ordinator, has seen local men come to the door who have not eaten for days, struggling to admit the position they are in. Women visit determined to feed their children, but are scared of contracting the virus, knowing their families are dependent on them. Other clients are lonely and long for socialisation when collecting supplies.

One local resident was referred to St Matthew’s Foodbank by the Employment Support Retraining Agency after his sister had reported his depression due to debt and family breakdown. He had run out of food and had not eaten for several weeks. When he was found he was on the edge of unconsciousness.

Before he was discharged from hospital, one of the foodbank volunteers delivered food ready for his return and has been supporting him weekly since. He credits the foodbank for saving his life. Liz Wheeler advises *“Truthfully it was the NHS, but he now smiles and says that he just wants to get well enough to thank the rest of the volunteers here!”*

Isolated Older People

Lockdown restrictions have been challenging for us all, but more so for our older, and vulnerable residents – many of whom were advised to shield even before the Nation was ordered to stay at home.

For the most part, many of us could connect with loved ones by way of video call at the click of a button. For those without access to technology, or the knowledge of how to use it, the world became increasingly lonely.

Behind closed doors

Feelings of loneliness and isolation can take a terrible toll on people’s mental, physical, and emotional health.

“She asked him how he was and he told her he was feeling suicidal. She then asked him how he would do this. He said he would cut his wrists.

This was the harsh reality for an elderly service user of charity **Woking Age Concern**. Cut off from the world and grieving for the recent passing of his wife, this otherwise gregarious, warm spirited gentleman, was considering taking his own life to escape the horrors that the pandemic had delt him.

The small but mighty team at Woking Age Concern exists to promote the wellbeing of the town’s older population. They enlist volunteers, known as ‘friends’ to support and offer companionship to their isolated clients through regular visits and support services for both their clients and their families.

The English Longitudinal Study of Ageing and a research survey for Age Concern^[1] have both found the prevalence of loneliness among older people to be around one third.

In Surrey, this equates to over 77,000 older people experiencing loneliness, with 35,000 of those being in the 80+ age group.

1] English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA) and ICM Research survey for Agenda for Later Life, Age Concern and Help the Aged, 2009/10 (unpublished) cited by Age



The team at Woking Age Concern delivering 'Hamper Bags' containing essential items to their isolated clients, funded by the Community Foundation

Like all other organisations supporting older residents, the Woking charity had to quickly adapt their services as restrictions caused a multitude of challenges.

Face to face services where clients came together to experience vital socialisation with volunteers and their peers ceased. Many older people that already felt isolated were now more anxious, with major concerns around access to food, shopping, and medical supplies.

The Community Foundation is proud to have awarded over £348,800 in funding to charities supporting Surrey’s older residents, to ensure those most vulnerable within our communities could access vital supplies, technology, support, and a listening ear when it was most needed.

34,026

isolated older local residents have received support from our **SCRF**.

Find out more about this work

Mental Health and Wellbeing

It is no surprise that COVID-19 has and will continue to have an ongoing effect on the mental health of the population for some time. A prevalent issue with disastrous impact, we must now look forward for ways we can work together to support those struggling the most.

Facing new challenges of isolation

Emerge Advocacy supports young people who are experiencing an emotional or mental health crisis. Throughout the pandemic they have been offering crucial emotional support to Surrey’s young people who are often without access to their usual coping resources.

Joy Wright, Founder, has built an experienced team that are primarily based in the A&E departments at the Royal Surrey and St Peter’s hospitals, to help those aged 10-25 who are self-harming, or considering suicide.

Nearly half of 17-19 year olds with a diagnosable mental health disorder has self-harmed or attempted suicide at some point.^[1] This equates to over 23,000 children and young people in Surrey needing help.^[2]

When the pandemic hit, the charity was forced to think of new ways to reach and support their clients and accelerated with the implementation of a mass outreach service.

Listening to fears and sadness has been a sad truth for many mental health professionals at this time. A girl whose mother had passed away, recently spoke of how much grief she was feeling. Despite encouragement from Emerge Advocacy, she wasn’t comfortable speaking with her dad about this sadness for fear of adding to his distress.

Having a reliable and caring support service that exists outside the immediate family has been an essential comfort during this tense and raw period.

Joy says the Foundation’s grant has meant they were able to maintain continuity in their services to help avoid any young people “spiralling” into crisis.

[1] https://youngminds.org.uk/about-us/media-centre/mental-health-stats/ Young Minds (as at August 2020)
[2] The Office for National Statistics (ONS) estimated as at Mid 2017, Surrey



Joy Wright, founder of Emerge Advocacy, with her team of youth workers prior to lockdown

Joy shares it was the “insightfulness” of the Foundation, in anticipating the need for mental health services and awarding grants quickly, that ensured that Emerge Advocacy could meet its increased demand.

“We’re really grateful to the Foundation that they were so responsive and made the process so streamlined. They trusted us to know that we’re still going to do our best for young people.

You sprung into action and provided even more resources so that we could push forwards and meet needs. It was hugely encouraging and releasing at a time when there was so much uncertainty everywhere.

The Community Foundation is a long-term supporter of Surrey-based organisations supporting children and young people’s mental health.

We know that accessible, specialist services embedded in the community are fundamental to ensuring that young people can find the support that they need and alleviate pressures on other services.

These services, now more than ever, require a significant uplift in funding as we start to build back stronger.

£295,137

has been awarded from the SCRF to support the mental wellbeing of over **16,300 local residents**.

Find out more about this work



1. The Foodwise TLC Ltd. team distributing cooked meals to disadvantaged local families and older and isolated people across Guildford and Woking. Credit: SurreyLive
2. Stripey Stork Referrals Coordinator Sonya Allan checking supplies ready to be distributed to vulnerable local families across Reigate and Banstead
3. Client of The Grange at Bookham with her new Echo Dot, funded by the Community Foundation, to keep clients connected and engaged
4. Intergenerational Music Making CIC delivering their intergenerational Music Therapy Hub, aimed at supporting those suffering from long COVID-19, loneliness and isolation
5. Liaise Women's Centre sewing and upcycling workshop, part of a series of collaborative and practical activities supporting the health and wellbeing of B.A.M.E communities



Families with Young Children

The pandemic has affected families with young children in a multitude of ways, particularly in areas of the county that were already socially deprived. Many are walking a financial tightrope, struggling to source essential items. Some have had to juggle home-schooling whilst homeworking to ensure their children can still access education imperative for their child's future development. Others have been denied the chance to see loved ones to help them through difficult times.

It is feared that the existing disadvantages experienced by many of these children will have increased or worsened.

Creating lasting memories

Momentum Children's Charity provide invaluable support to children and their families suffering from cancer and other life-limiting conditions. They believe no family with a seriously ill child should have to cope alone, and strive to ease the suffering of affected children and families by offering practical and emotional support.

COVID-19 presented the families Momentum support with immense new challenges. They were fearful that their already immuno-compromised child could be taken by the virus, or that the virus would affect a parent caring for their sick child. Family and friend supportive networks were removed, as they dealt with increased isolation. New financial stresses arose, and anxieties and poor mental health were heightened.

Our grant enabled the charity to continue to provide respite short holidays and boating breaks along the river Thames. These trips were for dealing with life-challenging conditions or bereavement.

The charity reported that the primary challenge was keeping abreast of the ever-changing government guidance in relation to UK travel and advice regarding use of holiday homes and access to leisure activities. Together with the Holiday Park Managers and their dedicated staff team, they were able to safely provide respite for 189 local children and their families.

The annual respite programme provides families precious time away together to ease feelings of loneliness, build emotional and mental wellbeing and give hope and strength for the future. Of those that have been supported – 100% of families said their break improved their emotional and mental wellbeing; 93% of families agreed that it strengthened family relationships and 97% said it helped them to create lasting memories. When social distancing and travel restrictions were in place, many Surrey families were unable to access these essential services.

“The pandemic has not stopped children being diagnosed with cancer or a serious condition, or prevented children sadly dying as a result of their illness. But it has increased the difficulties for families coping with these situations, and their need for support from organisations like us, as the ongoing lockdown and restrictions continue to limit their normal social contact.”

The Community Foundation is privileged to have played a part in bringing families together at such a critical time.



A local family enjoying their boating break.

Domestic Abuse



A survivors story from Reigate and Banstead Women's Aid.

Coronavirus has raised public consciousness of the extreme fear and harm that survivors, both adults and children, have been suffering across the country as they have been locked in with their abusers.



You know, the one thing I hear time and time again? Domestic abuse doesn't happen in Surrey. I can tell you that actually it does happen in Surrey – it happens across all socioeconomic groups, races, religions. There is no area of society that remains untouched by domestic abuse.

Charlotte Kneer is CEO of Reigate and Banstead Women's Aid (R&BWA), a refuge based in East Surrey, for women and children fleeing domestic abuse.

When the first lockdown lifted in August 2020, the number of people calling Surrey Police for help had increased, with an 8% rise in the number of incidents being reported and, on average, Surrey Police recorded 28 domestic abuse crimes every day.

A safe place to call home

Acting on the urgent calls from community groups a partnership was formed to create a new safe building for survivors fleeing violence. The partnership comprised Reigate and Banstead Women's Aid and Your Sanctuary, Surrey County Council, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and the Community Foundation.

CFS awarded a total of £58,560 to furnish the new refuge, including funding from the SCRF and CFS Donor Funds. Within the span of four weeks, the building provided by the Council had been fitted with all the benefits of home and the refuge opened its doors to welcome eight women and their children.

In Surrey, there are an estimated 35,400 victims of abuse, with 3,300 children visible to services as living in homes where there is domestic violence. Sadly, these figures are only the tip of the iceberg as we know that less than one in four victims report to the police.

The refuge now accommodates up to 20 families fleeing violence, for whom 'home' is the most dangerous place they can be.

Supporting survivors together

Surrey Domestic Abuse Partnership (SDAP), is a formal partnership of four independent charities, that have come together to support survivors of domestic abuse across our county.

£87,178 has been awarded by the Community Foundation to help SDAP meet the surge in demand for local domestic abuse support services as lockdown restrictions ease further. The award was made possible by our SCRF, together with the generosity of the Foundation's local donors, and match funding from Surrey County Council.

Michelle Blunsom MBE, Chief Executive of East Surrey Domestic Abuse Services:



We are acutely aware of the way in which lockdown is impacting upon survivors and their children. There is a significant need not only to sustain services during the pandemic, but also resource them so they can deal with the physical, psychological and emotional trauma that being in lockdown with an abuser will create. We are so grateful to CFS and their partners for listening to our need and taking action at a time when this support has never been more of a lifeline.



BBC Radio Surrey interview with Charlotte Kneer, CEO R&BWA

People with disabilities and long-term health issues

People with disabilities have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19. Some of the challenges faced include limited access to medical appointments, a lack of home and respite care availability and increasing mental ill-health concerns.

Local organisations have reported to us that isolation and uncertainty has triggered a worsening of symptoms for people suffering with acute mental health and anxiety issues.



We have witnessed a deterioration in the mental well-being of people with learning disabilities in our community. We have experienced two overdoses and the mortality of five members. These incidences impact on the wider group and increase the likelihood of depression.

Statistics show that people with disabilities are significantly more likely to die from COVID-19, the risk being 2.4 times greater for females and 1.9 times greater for males ^[1].

We know that the sector has faced challenges in adapting services to meet the often complex needs of their service users.

Support for those who need it most

The Community Foundation were quick to identify the need to support local groups helping people with disabilities and efficiently issued grants to support priority groups. **Cherry Trees** received a grant to continue providing exceptional respite care to the 120 Surrey families with children with disabilities that they support.

In the early stages of the virus, many charities reported dealing with highly distressed service users who struggled to understand about the pandemic or social distancing.

One mother of a supported child advised:



His school rang saying he is blowing raspberries and not understanding social distancing, he now needs to stay home from school for 14 days. I burst into tears. How are we going to cope with him at home? I feel sadness for his sister who gets ignored when he is at home and is falling behind with her schoolwork. Thank goodness I have Cherry Trees.

We are proud to have awarded grants totalling £30,000 to ensure Cherry Trees could remain open throughout the pandemic.



Cherry Trees service user enjoying sensory foam

The needs of the organisations supporting people with disabilities progressed rapidly.

The **Queen Elizabeth Foundation for Disabled People** (QEF), based in Leatherhead, were hit hard by reduced fundraising. The charity took drastic action to mitigate the impact of COVID-19. They prioritised their essential, frontline services; furloughed over 100 staff; sold underused assets; and launched new virtual fundraising activities. Our grant purchased Personal Protective Equipment that supported QEF as they became one of the first centres to provide rehabilitation for patients who have suffered a neurological event, such as a stroke during hospital treatment for COVID-19.

[1] Office for National Statistics 19.06.2020

Organisations we have together funded

All those supported through our Surrey Coronavirus Response Fund since the fund’s establishment in March 2020, until its close in May 2021.

Organisation Name	Supporting	
40 Degreez Centre	Mental Wellbeing	£22,225
Action for Carers (Surrey)	Supporting Carers	£3,700
Active Prospects	People with Disabilities	£34,948
Age Concern Epsom and Ewell	Isolated Older People	£10,000
Age Concern Merstham, Redhill & Reigate	Isolated Older People	£32,500
Age Concern Mole Valley	Isolated Older People	£20,000
Amber Foundation	Homelessness	£20,132
Ash Citizens Advice Bureau	Advice and Support	£900
Be My Hope	B.A.M.E.	£4,965
Belong: Making Justice Happen	Mental Wellbeing	£3,000
Big Leaf Foundation	B.A.M.E.	£3,080
	Advice and Support	
Bipolar UK - Surrey	People with Disabilities	£4,048
Bletchingley Skills Centre	People with Disabilities	£5,000
Bloomin' Arts	People with Disabilities	£24,981
Brightwells Gostrey Centre	Food and Essentials	£29,972
Brockham Baby and Toddler Group	Families with Young Children	£240
Brockham Emergency Response Team (BERT)	Food and Essentials	£5,000
Byfleet Community Action (Byfleet Care)	Isolated Older People	£2,000
Caleidoscope CIC	People with Disabilities	£3,560
Camberley Nepali (G) Society	B.A.M.E.	£8,000
	Food and Essentials	
Cancer Testing South	People with Disabilities	£2,000
Catalyst	Mental Wellbeing	£5,000
Catherham and Warlingham Citizens Advice Bureau	Advice and Support	£5,000
Caterham Foodbank	Food and Essentials	£5,000
Central Surrey Voluntary Action	Infrastructure Support	£18,149
Challengers	People with Disabilities	£26,173
Change of Scene	Families with Young Children	£14,034
	Mental Wellbeing	
Chatterbus	Food and Essentials	£1,000
Cherry Trees	People with Disabilities	£30,000
Chiddingfold Lunch Club	Food and Essentials	£650
Citizens Advice Elmbridge West	Advice and Support	£26,000
Citizens Advice Runnymede and Spelthorne	Advice and Support	£29,650
Citizens Advice Surrey Heath	Advice and Support	£25,075
Citizens Advice Waverley	Advice and Support	£9,759
	Domestic Abuse	
Citizens Advice Woking	Advice and Support	£4,480
Cobham Area Foodbank	Food and Essentials	£5,000
College of St. Barnabas	Hospices	£4,885
Community Debt Advice (CDA)	Advice and Support	£2,200
Community Life Trust	Food and Essentials	£5,000
Connect Counselling Service	Mental Wellbeing	£5,000
Coronavirus Aid	Food and Essentials	£5,000
Chelsham, Farleigh and Warlingham		
Creative Response Arts	Mental Wellbeing	£4,950
CREST	Mental Wellbeing	£2,300
Crossroads Care Surrey	Supporting Carers	£30,000
Cruse Bereavement Care	Mental Wellbeing	£5,000
South West Surrey Area		
Dame Vera Lynn Children's C harity	People with Disabilities	£3,120
Disability Arts in Surrey	People with Disabilities	£3,864
Disability Initiative	People with Disabilities	£30,000
Discovery Church Trust	Education	£4,050
Dramatize Theatre Company	People with Disabilities	£13,170
Dyscover Limited	People with Disabilities	£13,100
East Surrey Domestic Abuse Services	Domestic Abuse	£5,000
East to West	Mental Wellbeing	£14,319

Organisation Name	Supporting	
Eikon	Mental Wellbeing	£55,000
Emerge Advocacy CIO	Mental Wellbeing	£30,000
Emmaus Transformation Trust Ltd	Food and Essentials	£14,766
Epsom & Ewell Citizens Advice Bureau	Advice and Support	£15,000
Esher & District CAB	Advice and Support	£10,000
Fairlands, Liddington Hall, and Gravetts Lane Community Association	Isolated Older People	£1,500
Family Voice Surrey	Supporting Carers	£5,000
Farncombe Day Centre Ltd	Food and Essentials	£6,390
	Isolated Older People	
Farnham Christian Community Trust Ltd	Advice and Support	£6,000
Farnham Maltings Association Ltd	Food and Essentials	£4,000
Foodwise (TLC) Ltd	Food and Essentials	£45,000
Fredericks Foundation	Advice and Support	£5,000
Freewheelers Theatre and Media Ltd	People with Disabilities	£22,586
Friends of the Elderly	Food and Essentials	£2,234
GASP Motor Project	Education	£5,000
Generation Church	Advice and Support	£30,000
	Food and Essentials	
Global Grooves Foundation	B.A.M.E.	£9,590
	Food and Essentials	
Godalming Town Council	Food and Essentials	£238
Gorendang CIC	B.A.M.E.	£5,000
Guildford Action For Community Care	Homelessness	£5,000
Guildford Citizens Advice Bureau	Advice and Support	£28,735
Guildford Shakespeare Company	Mental Wellbeing	£5,000
Hale Community Centre	Mental Wellbeing	£9,450
	Food and Essentials	
Halow Project	People with Disabilities	£30,000
Haslemere Educational Museum	Education	£5,000
Haslewey (Haslemere & District Community Centre)	Food and Essentials	£25,000
	Isolated Older People	
Headway Surrey	People with Disabilities	£27,998
HeBrews@StPauls	Food and Essentials	£4,500
Helen Arkell Dyslexia Centre	Education	£17,500
	People with Disabilities	
Hersham Youth Trust	Mental Wellbeing	£5,000
Holy Trinity Church Claygate – The Well Youth Drop-In	Mental Wellbeing	£3,350
Home-Start East Surrey	Families with Young Children	£25,000
Home-Start Elmbridge (HSE)	Families with Young Children	£25,000
Home-Start Epsom, Ewell & Banstead (HSEEB)	Families with Young Children	£47,300
	Food and Essentials	
Home-Start Guildford	Families with Young Children	£5,000
Home-Start Runnymede and Woking	Families with Young Children	£16,159
Home-Start Spelthorne	Families with Young Children	£3,000
Home-Start Surrey Heath	Families with Young Children	£5,000
Home-Start Waverley	Families with Young Children	£15,320
	Food and Essentials	
Hope African Support Services	B.A.M.E.	£8,038
Horsley and Bookham Riding for the Disabled	People with Disabilities	£2,344
I'm All Ears	Mental Wellbeing	£14,750
Imago Dei Prison Ministry	Mental Wellbeing	£8,722
Intergenerational Music Making CIC	Mental Wellbeing	£15,800
	Isolated Older People	
It's Not Your Birthday But CIC	Isolated Older People	£4,980
Jigsaw (South East)	Mental Wellbeing	£5,000
Jigsaw Trust	People with Disabilities	£15,268
KidsOut	Food and Essentials	£925
Leonard Cheshire Disability	Supporting Carers	£5,000
Liaise Women's Centre	B.A.M.E.	£14,545
Maybury Centre Trust		

Organisation Name	Supporting	
LinkAble Woking Ltd	People with Disabilities	£29,400
Loveworks.org	Food and Essentials	£23,000
ManandBoy	Mental Wellbeing	£3,500
Manna Foodbank (St Mary's and St Peter's)	Food and Essentials	£9,000
Mary Frances Trust	Mental Wellbeing	£29,171
Matrix Trust	Mental Wellbeing	£17,880
Merstham Mix Community Cafe CIC	Food and Essentials	£12,820
METRO SPH	People with Disabilities	£24,000
MHA Communities East Surrey	Isolated Older People	£23,593
Mid Surrey Community Fridges	Food and Essentials	£20,279
Mindful Surrey	Mental Wellbeing	£4,000
Momentum	Mental Wellbeing	£23,388
	Supporting Carers	
Mustard Seed Autism Trust	People with Disabilities	£4,449
New Life Church Woking	Food and Essentials	£15,000
North Guildford Food Bank	Food and Essentials	£5,000
North Surrey Community Counselling Partnership (NSCCP)	Mental Wellbeing	£5,000
Oakleaf Enterprise	Mental Wellbeing	£35,000
Oasis Childcare Centre (Oasis)	Families with Young Children	£30,000
Outline	Mental Wellbeing	£3,000
Painshill Park Trust Ltd.	Isolated Older People	£4,988
Painting our World in Silver	Isolated Older People	£4,000
Parity For Disability	People with Disabilities	£10,000
Parochial Church Council Of The Parish Of Ewhurst With Okewood and Forest Green	Mental Wellbeing	£5,000
Peer Productions	People with Disabilities	£4,770
Personal Independence Support CIC	Domestic Abuse	£5,000
Peterson's Fund For Children	Food and Essentials	£10,000
Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice	Isolated Older People	£24,914
Possability People	Mental Wellbeing	£5,000
Princess Alice Hospice	Hospices	£27,480
Prison Advice & Care Trust (Pact)	Mental Wellbeing	£5,000
Prospero Theatre CIC	People with Disabilities	£24,430
Queen Elizabeth's Foundation for Disabled People (QEF)	People with Disabilities	£5,000
Rainbow Trust Children's Charity	People with Disabilities	£4,750
Rape Crisis Surrey and Sussex	Advise and Support	£5,000
RASASC Guildford	Domestic Abuse	£5,000
Re-engage	Isolated Older People	£5,000
Reigate & Banstead Borough African and Caribbean Community Association	Food and Essentials	£3,060
Reigate and Banstead Women's Aid	Domestic Abuse	£58,561
Relate Mid-Surrey	Advice and Support	£15,000
	Mental Wellbeing	
Relate West Surrey	Mental Wellbeing	£5,000
Renewed Hope Trust	Food and Essentials	£1,895
Rentstart	Homelessness	£5,000
Richmond Fellowship	Mental Wellbeing	£1,840
Samaritans East Surrey	Mental Wellbeing	£5,000
Samson Centre for Multiple Sclerosis	People with Disabilities	£5,000
Sayers Croft Environmental Educational Trust	Education	£4,000
Sebastian's Action Trust	Food and Essentials	£5,000
SeeAbility	Mental Wellbeing	£3,000
SHIFA	Mental Wellbeing	£5,000
Sight for Surrey	People with Disabilities	£28,296
Skaterham	Mental Wellbeing	£5,000
Smart Cranleigh CIC	Isolated Older People	£2,361
Something To Look Forward To	Food and Essentials	£5,000
Southwark Diocesan Welcare	Food and Essentials	£2,000
SparkFish	Mental Wellbeing	£25,000
Spurgeons	Families with Young Children	£5,000
St Catherine's Hospice	Hospices	£5,000
St Johns School, Holmwoods, Dorking	Families with Young Children	£2,620
St Marks Community Centre	Food and Essentials	£2,000
St Martins Church Camberley	Food and Essentials	£5,000
St Mary's Church, Ash Vale	Food and Essentials	£5,000
St Matthew's Foodbank	Food and Essentials	£20,000
St Peter's Church West Molesey	Food and Essentials	£25,000
Stanwell Events	Food and Essentials	£5,000
Stanwell Food Bank	Food and Essentials	£31,000
Stanwell Village Hall	Food and Essentials	£5,000
Stoke Community Support	Food and Essentials	£5,000

Organisation Name	Supporting	
Stopgap Dance Company Ltd	People with Disabilities	£4,000
Stripey Stork	Families with Young Children	£5,000
Surplus to Supper	Food and Essentials	£2,900
Surrey Care Trust	Mental Wellbeing	£24,217
Surrey Choices Employability	People with Disabilities	£10,000
Surrey Coalition of Disabled People	People with Disabilities	£25,474
Surrey Community Action	Infrastructure Support	£5,000
Surrey Domestic Abuse Partnership	Domestic Abuse	£87,178
Surrey Drug and Alcohol Care	Advice and Support	£17,000
Surrey Family & Mediation Services (SFMS)	Advice and Support	£2,134
Surrey Heath Age Concern	Isolated Older People	£4,875
Surrey Lifelong Learning Partnership	Education	£5,000
Surrey Minority Ethnic Forum	B.A.M.E.	£4,994
Surrey Sands	Mental Wellbeing	£1,540
Surrey Welfare Rights Unit	Advice and Support	£5,000
Synergy Dance Outreach	People with Disabilities	£18,643
TALK	People with Disabilities	£5,000
Tandridge Voluntary Action	Infrastructure Support	£5,000
Taylor Made Dreams	Food and Essentials	£1,920
The Artventure Trust Ltd	People with Disabilities	£14,048
The Autism Trust	Advice and Support	£2,384
The Brigitte Trust	Mental Wellbeing	£30,000
	Isolated Older People	
The Children's Trust	People with Disabilities	£10,000
	Families with Young Children	
The Clockhouse	Isolated Older People	£582
The Grange Centre for People with Disabilities	People with Disabilities	£16,999
The Hope Hub Trust	Homelessness	£10,000
The Include Project	People with Disabilities	£5,000
The Lightbox	Mental Wellbeing	£4,000
The Lucy Rayner Foundation	Mental Wellbeing	£5,000
The Meath Epilepsy Trust	People with Disabilities	£40,000
The Normandy Community Therapy Garden	Mental Wellbeing	£15,000
The Orpheus Centre Trust	People with Disabilities	£30,000
The Silverlining Charity	People with Disabilities	£5,000
The Sunnybank Trust	People with Disabilities	£24,747
The Vine Day Centre	Food and Essentials	£5,000
The Woodlarks Centre	People with Disabilities	£5,000
Three Counties Money Advice	Advice and Support	£2,490
Transform Housing & Support	Homelessness	£30,200
Voluntary Action Reigate and Banstead	Infrastructure Support	£19,920
Voluntary Action South West Surrey	Infrastructure Support	£10,000
Voluntary Support North Surrey	Infrastructure Support	£21,500
	Advice and Support	
Waverley Hoppa Community Transport	People with Disabilities	£10,000
	Isolated Older People	
Wayside Hostel (Keychange Charity)	Homelessness	£2,685
Westway Community and Wellbeing Centre	Isolated Older People	£25,000
White Lodge Centre	People with Disabilities	£9,131
Woking Age Concern	Isolated Older People	£5,000
Woking and Sam Beare Hospices	Hospices	£5,000
Woking MIND	Mental Wellbeing	£30,000
Woking Strokeability	People with Disabilities	£1,300
Woking United Reformed Church	Advice and Support	£5,000
Yateley Industries For The Disabled	People with Disabilities	£1,250
YMCA East Surrey	People with Disabilities	£33,783
	Families with Young Children	
York Road Project	Homelessness	£4,518
Young Epilepsy	People with Disabilities	£7,000
yourSanctuary	Domestic Abuse	£3,072

325 grants were awarded to 225 Surrey organisations, totalling £2,732,678



Some organisations received multiple grants



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Registered Charity No. 1111600 | Company Registration No. 5442911 | Publish date: August 2021