



IWCF

Isle of Wight Community Foundation



Isle of Wight Community Foundation Annual Review 2020
Supporting Island Communities During The Covid-19 Pandemic

Lord-Lieutenant's Welcome



It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to our Annual Review for 2020, thank you for taking a look at our achievements and the difference that we have been able to make to the lives of vulnerable people on the Isle of Wight.

The Isle of Wight Community Foundation (IWCF), part of a wider network of Community Foundations around the country, is committed to mobilising funds and allocating grants to support local charitable, voluntary and community organisations helping people in need. It has been an extremely challenging time for our communities, with the Covid-19 pandemic leading to severe hardship and isolation for many families and individuals on the Island.

During 2020 we were able to support more Island groups than ever before, with 51 grants worth £235,698 supporting 35 organisations, (compared to grants totalling £88,224 the previous year). Our grant making helped us to support an estimated 28,643 beneficiaries during 2020 and I would like to thank all our donors, supporters and partners for your generosity and goodwill. We are incredibly grateful as it is truly only through your continued commitment that we can help so many people in need on the Isle of Wight.

Looking forward to 2021 and beyond, the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation has very recently appointed Jacqui Scott as new CEO. Jacqui has already undertaken visits to groups supported by IWCF on the Island and I am delighted to welcome her, as I know how passionate she is about ensuring that every penny possible goes towards supporting the most vulnerable and deprived members of our community.

I hope you enjoy reading about our work to support Island communities in these most difficult of times and on behalf of everyone at IWCF and the organisations and people that you have helped, thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Susie Sheldon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Susie Sheldon, Her Majesty's
Lord-Lieutenant on the Isle of Wight**



Chairman's Report

During the most extraordinary of years, the Island Community faced challenges not seen since wartime. Families and individuals facing sudden extreme hardship, bereavement and isolation were supported by inspirational groups of people who mobilised to provide help that a year ago might not have ever been thought needed. And we were proud to play our part in providing funding to help underpin this wonderful community effort.

As a locally based grant giver, IWCF works incredibly hard to build Island funds for Island causes, creating a permanent financial resource to support the local voluntary sector. Our Isle of Wight endowment funds are now worth £1.54 million, and this is ring fenced for Island grant funding.

Endowment funds are managed by the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation (HIWCF) and the income is distributed at the discretion of the Isle of Wight Committee or at the request of our Island fundholders. To help meet the desperate need for emergency funding during the pandemic, we combined resources with other like-minded Island organisations to support individuals and families facing huge challenges. Our emergency partnership with WightAID, The IW Sports Foundation, The Isle of Wight Foundation, The High Sheriff's

Trust and The Daisie Rich Trust, together with the funds received from the National Emergencies Trust, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, the NHS Covid-19 Fund and our IWCF fundholders has enabled us to support local people experiencing really hard times.

It is truly inspiring that since our grant making began back in 2007, over £1.7 million in grants has now been awarded to support 700 charitable projects and good causes, making us the largest grant-making foundation working specifically on the Isle of Wight. I would like to extend my thanks to the Isle of Wight Community Foundation Committee, Trustees and Staff, and particularly our fundholders and donors, as it is only with your continued commitment that our services can continue to benefit all of those who live on the Island.

It is more vital than ever that we help our local charitable and voluntary sector to ensure that they are better prepared for any future crises. Thank you for all of your support during these particularly challenging times, we hope that you will continue to support our work in the coming years.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Michael Smith, IWCF Chairman

Partnering With The NHS

The NHS Covid-19 Fund awarded £21,000 to Island organisations, in order to help ease pressure on NHS services during the peak of the crisis.

At a time when there was a severe shortage of availability for PPE equipment, medical aid charity **Mad-Aid** received a grant of £10,000 to provide high quality PPE for care organisations, including Age UK and Mountbatten Hospice. This has enabled hospice staff to continue to protect and provide care services for cancer patients and has allowed Age UK Isle of Wight volunteers and staff working on the front line to feel secure and protected, while continuing to provide vital services caring for vulnerable older people.



Island Communities Pulling Together

In a crisis, communities always pull together, and IWCF partnered with other grant making organisations WightAID, The IW Sports Foundation, The Isle of Wight Foundation, The High Sheriff's Trust and The Daisie Rich Trust during the peak of the crisis to collectively support vulnerable and deprived local people.



This support enabled the Isle of Wight Youth Trust to receive a grant worth £2,000, to help the team continue working with young people who were facing increasingly complex issues around their emotional wellbeing and mental health, which were significantly impacted by successive lockdowns.



“Right now, community support is everything. As we are working through unprecedented challenges, we are delighted to have been awarded a Crisis Appeal Grant from Wight Aid and Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation. This crucial funding is helping us to continue to support young Islanders remotely during this time.”



Through our partnership with the National Emergencies Trust during 2020, funding worth £100,677 enabled 13 Island community groups and voluntary organisations to respond to the challenges of the Covid-19 crisis.



Nature Therapy CIC received £3,250, to provide gift boxes containing sensory activities for families and individuals with dementia, to help tackle the confusion, disruption and isolation caused by lockdown. The grant helped to provide a workshop base for the group to store and collate their resources and to meet growing demand.



“We have been unable to offer group and face to face activities to help build sensory resilience, so we have been working flat out to help families stay connected and to date we have sent out over 200 Senior Sense Boxes. We have also pushed forward to design a Sense Box for adults experiencing mental distress.” Dr Kim Brown, Founder Director of Nature Therapy CIC



South Wight Area Youth (SWAY) Partnership received £8,228 to help local people, including families experiencing child behavioural problems during lockdown. SWAY were able to reduce the impact of isolation on vulnerable families through a range of online and socially distanced activities, including cooking and poetry and also kayaking when government restrictions finally began to ease.



“It’s vital that we continue these relationships throughout the pandemic as they offer a stable, reliable contact for the family whatever happens.”

Jennie Burke, SWAY’s Youth and Families’ Worker



Distributing Government Funds

In order to deal with the longer-term impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, grant funding totalling £25,212 supported the work of seven charitable projects and community organisations on the Island in 2020.

When the pandemic hit, **Wessex Cancer Trust** immediately closed their support centres and suspended face-to-face support groups to protect clients. However, vulnerable patients dealing with a cancer diagnosis still needed additional emotional support as they became more isolated from friends and family, while making difficult decisions around prioritising cancer treatment and protecting their immunity. A grant of £1,000 helped remote and virtual services to continue operating, including telephone counselling, helplines, online resources and live-stream classes, to support vulnerable patients shielding at home. In total, over 2,500 support sessions and over 500 counselling sessions were provided by the Trust during 2020.



“*This money will help significantly with our current work, providing emotional support to Islanders affected by cancer.*” Wessex Cancer Trust

Storeroom2010's Cowes Men's Shed received a grant of £5,000 to help continue to provide a safe haven for over 100 members. An outreach programme led by project leader Adam Martin has also been able to focus on helping members to improve their mental health.

Mr A is in his 70s and lost his wife to cancer a short while ago, leaving him alone with no family. He has been coming to the Shed two or three times a week and we have witnessed a complete transformation in him. Mr A is now happy to engage in conversation, maintains eye contact and gives off a more confident air.



“*Many people have experienced mental health issues as a result of Covid-19 and for us it is really about building up the confidence and self-worth of people who have faced a series of hardships during the pandemic.*”
Adam Martin, Project Leader, Storeroom2010's Cowes Men's Shed

Supporting People into Employment

In autumn 2020, the three year £1.76m Solent Supporting Employment Programme was launched by the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Foundation (HIWCF), to help local people into employment and increase their job prospects. The programme is part-funded by the European Social Fund, Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council and HIWCF donors and during the first round of funding, grants totalling £32,310 supported two Island projects, helping residents into work.



Sovereign, in partnership with Southern Housing is offering participants tailored advice and guidance through 'The Skills 4 Work Programme', which includes a series of vocational courses, one-to-one and group based sessions to help people find employment.

RCS Ltd has a long history of working with those who find it hard to gain work or training opportunities and their grant is providing individual assistance for participants that find it difficult to engage fully within society, helping them to avoid social isolation and low aspirations. Participants work on a Personal Intervention Plan covering financial and interview skills and gain valuable volunteering and work experience.



“*The funding will change people’s lives on the Island, giving them one-to-one support and encouragement to participate and believe that anything is possible.*”
Wendy Masterson, Community Development Manager, RCS Ltd





Sixteen grants from the Isle of Wight Community Funds worth £23,542 have been awarded to support the vital projects and services of eleven community organisations on the Isle of Wight during the pandemic.



A grant of £2,500 has enabled **Aspire Ryde** to provide hot meals and support to those experiencing isolation and loneliness due to self-isolating and shielding at home to stay safe.

“Whether providing food for people, cooking and delivering meals or offering friendship and advice at the end of a phone, we all need to be looking out for each other at the moment and that is what Aspire exists to do.”
Trevor Nicholas, Aspire Ryde

A grant of £1,525 to the **Footprint Trust** is helping Islanders to save money on energy and water bills through free home visits, helping to keep people warm and well. Those struggling to heat their home this winter, can call 01983 822282 for advice and support.

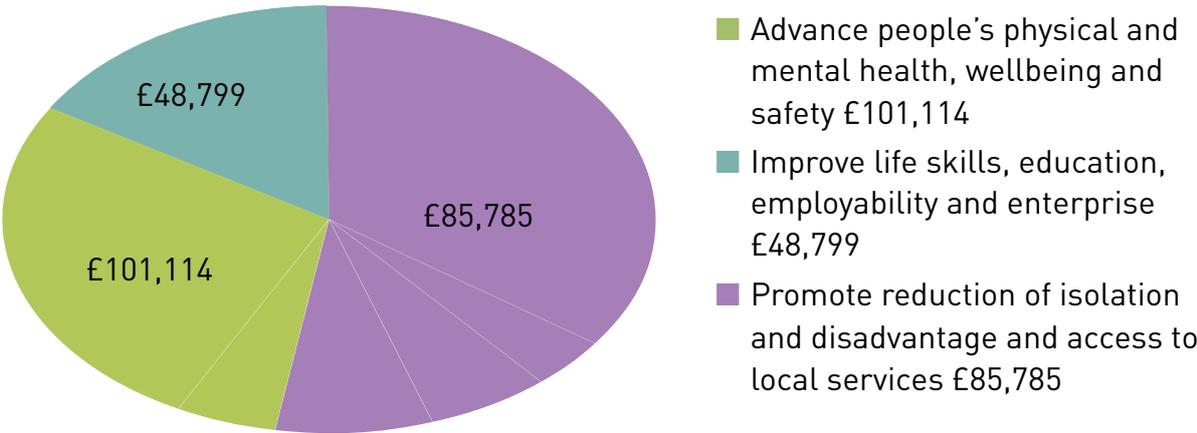
“By supporting people to take control of their own energy use, we save most Island families £200 on their bills, which can then be spent on food or other essentials.”

Ray Harrington-Vail, Footprint Trust



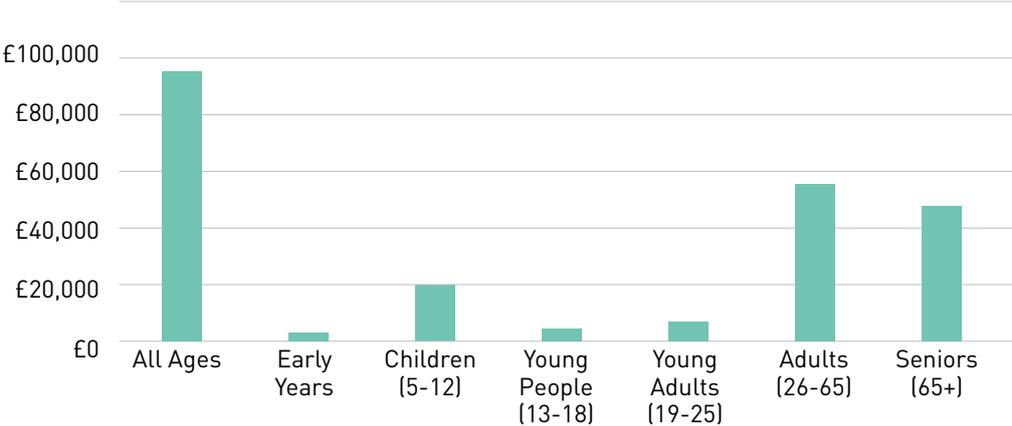
‘**Help through Crisis**’ is a project managed by **Citizens Advice Isle of Wight**, which helps vulnerable clients who have no money for food and domestic fuel. Demand doubled in April 2020 soon after lockdown regulations came in, and £1,000 was awarded from IWCF funding to help individuals and families in need.

The Impact of Our Island Grants



The pie chart above demonstrates how our grant funding has impacted on our Island communities.

Age Groups Supported By Grants



The bar chart above shows the different age groups that our grant funding has supported during 2020.

Grants awarded in 2020

£235,698

Our grants reached an estimated 28,643 beneficiaries in 2020

Please note that due to the high number of Covid-19 emergency grants made during the pandemic, it was not possible to collect reporting data for every grant awarded in early 2020 and our figures and statistics are based only on grants where full data is available.

Island Grants 2020

Age UK Isle of Wight	£2,500	Isle of Wight Samaritans	£10,000
Age UK Isle of Wight	£2,500	Isle of Wight Youth Trust	£2,000
Age UK Isle of Wight	£9,900	Jigsaw Family Support	£2,543
Aspire Ryde	£2,500	Jigsaw Family Support	£5,000
Aspire Ryde	£470	Mad Aid	£10,000
Aspire Ryde	£6,000	Medina Park Residents Association	£2,000
Changing Tunes	£4,070	Nature Therapy CIC	£3,250
Citizens Advice Bureau Isle of Wight	£1,000	Network Ryde	£500
Community Action Isle of Wight	£550	Network Ryde	£2,748
Community Action Isle of Wight	£9,000	Newclose County Cricket Ground	£6,465
Community Action Isle of Wight	£9,600	Pan Together	£4,028
Community Spirited Cafe	£2,000	Pan Together	£4,200
Cowes Baptist Church	£7,836	People Matter IW	£1,000
Daisy Chains Isle of Wight	£4,120	Romsey Community School	£8,655
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Footprint Trust Ltd	£1,525	Sea View Yacht Club Ltd	£2,100
Frontline	£6,000	South Wight Area Youth Partnership	£8,228
Helping Hands	£2,000	Sovereign	£15,000
Home-Start Isle of Wight	£500	Storeroom2010	£5,000
Home-Start Isle of Wight	£111	Suicide Prevention & Intervention (SPIIOW)	
Home-Start Isle of Wight	£346	£9,329	
Home-Start Isle of Wight	£2,522	Wessex Cancer Trust	£1,500
Home-Start Isle of Wight	£4,642	Wessex Cancer Trust	£1,000
Isle of Wight Association for		West Wight Men In Sheds	£1,800
Spina Bifida & Hydrocephalus	£3,500	West Wight Sports Centre	£10,000
Isle of Wight Community Rail		Wight DASH	£8,502
Partnership	£10,000		
Isle of Wight Foodbank	£5,000		
		Total	£235,698

Funds Supporting the Isle of Wight 2020	Grants Awarded
Co-op Fund	£9,028
Brian Gardener Cricket Revenue Fund	£6,465
Isle of Wight Community Revenue Fund	£20,204
Island Hundred Fund	£816
Newport Social Needs Revenue Fund	£2,522
IOW Rock Bottom Revenue Fund	£13,839
IOW Sail Away Foundation	£2,100
National Emergencies Trust	£100,677
National Emergencies Trust/DCMS Fund	£25,212
NHS/HIWCF Emergency Covid-19 Fund	£21,000
Solent Supporting Employment Programme	£32,310
Surviving Winter Fund	£1,525
Total	£235,698

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