

Mole Valley Community Fund IMPACT REPORT



The Fund

The aim of this fund is to support and benefit local residents, community projects and voluntary groups in the borough of Mole Valley, providing stepping stones to stronger, more resilient communities.

Key objectives of the fund:

- To establish, manage and distribute a sustainable Fund to support organisations and projects that benefit local residents.
- To raise awareness, inspire philanthropic giving, and encourage donations from local residents and businesses.
- To make it easier for Mole Valley community and voluntary groups to access funding for local projects.

Grants may fund existing services or facilities and new initiatives and can contribute to either capital costs or support on-going running costs.

Impact Snapshot

Fund Established

Q1 2024

Total Beneficiaries

3,680

Total Grants

£42,299

Breakdown of Giving Grants Awarded



GRANT



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Leatherhead Community Hub - Advice Cafe

Funding towards the running costs of an Advice Cafe in a recognised area of disadvantage in North Leatherhead.

B@titude - Charity Shop Refurbishment

Funding towards shop refurbishment works for a charity providing affordable baby and children's essentials as well a range of wellbeing projects for people in an area of disadvantage.

Dorking Men's Shed - Essential Running Costs

Funding for materials to be used in various community projects. The group provides a space where men can come together to work on practical workshop projects.

The Pandemic Community Bandstand - Furniture

Funding towards the small capital costs associated with a bandstand such as accessible seating for the audience and performers.

The Jam Place - Dance Floor Renovations

Funding towards renovation costs to make a dance floor wheelchair accessible by children with educational needs and disabilities.

Leatherhead Trinity School and Nursery - Chrome Books

Funding towards the purchase costs of chrome books for a local school, allowing access to computing curriculum for children with special educational needs.

Horsley, Bookham & Leatherhead Riding for the Disabled Association - Core Costs

Funding towards the essential running costs of an organisation that supports disabled people to ride horses.

Patchworking Garden Project - Essential Running Costs

Funding for a social horticultural project providing a safe and friendly space for people with physical or mental ill health.

Leatherhead Youth Project - BFree Chairs

Funding towards the purchase costs of new furniture for a youth club in Leatherhead.

Breakdown of Giving Grants Awarded



GRANT



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Home-Start Epsom, Ewell & Banstead - Baby and Toddler

Funding towards baby and toddler sensory sessions and additional support sessions for parents.

Harvest Community Church, Dorking - Purchase of a laptop

Funding towards the purchase and installation of replacement laptop linked to the audio system used extensively as a Community Centre in Goodwyns Estate.

St John's School, Dorking - The Reading Zone

Funding towards an outdoors reading area and library at a local school.

Amber Foundation - Electric Fast Charging Point

Funding towards the purchase and installation of an electric fast charging point to enable an organisation to get their young people to appointments and job interviews.

New Life Church Dorking

Funding for Parent and baby support for local families providing a range of post-natal classes, practical and emotional support and first aid sessions.

Tapestry Day Club - Pre-Assessment Care and Travel Costs

Funding to support travel costs for Mole Valley residents attending the day centre, enabling respite for carers of family members in the early stages of dementia.

The Brigitte Trust - Volunteer Training

Funding to train three local residents as volunteers for a local charity that offers free non-medical emotional and practical support for people facing life-threatening illness.

B@titude - The Hive

Funding towards a storage space for equipment at The Hive, a place for adults experiencing poverty to improve their health and wellbeing.

Sight for Surrey - Eye Clinic Liaison

Funding towards the costs of a service that supports people with visual impairments.

18th Dorking (Holmwood) Scout Group - Hardship Fund

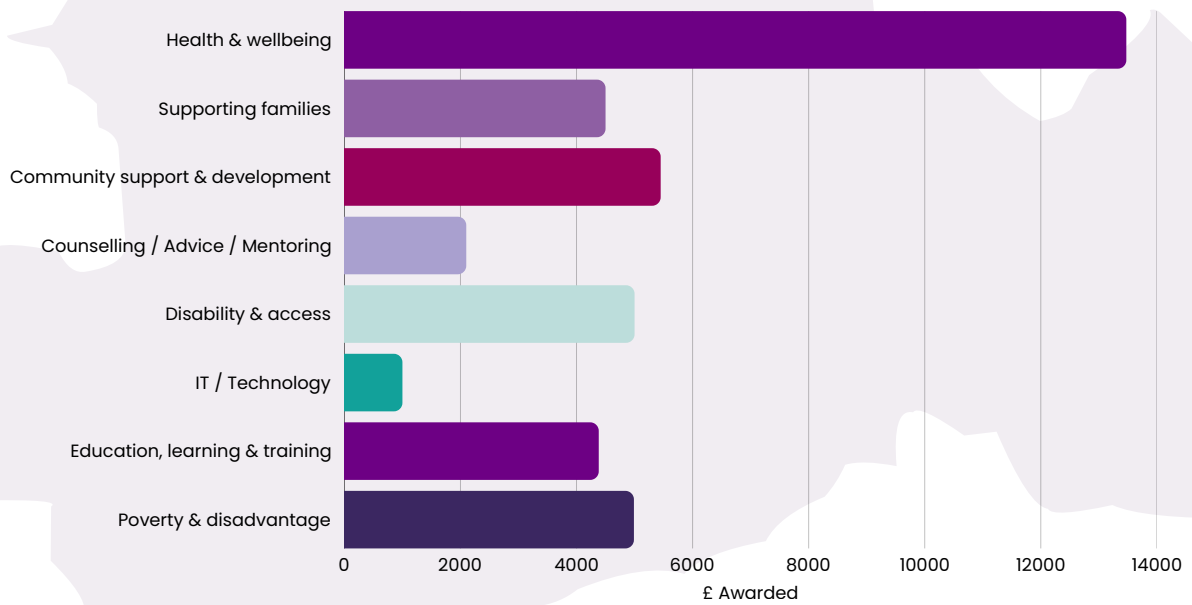
Funding towards a hardship fund to enable young people that are experiencing disadvantage to have the opportunity to experience nature.

Leatherhead Trinity School and Nursery - Music Instruments

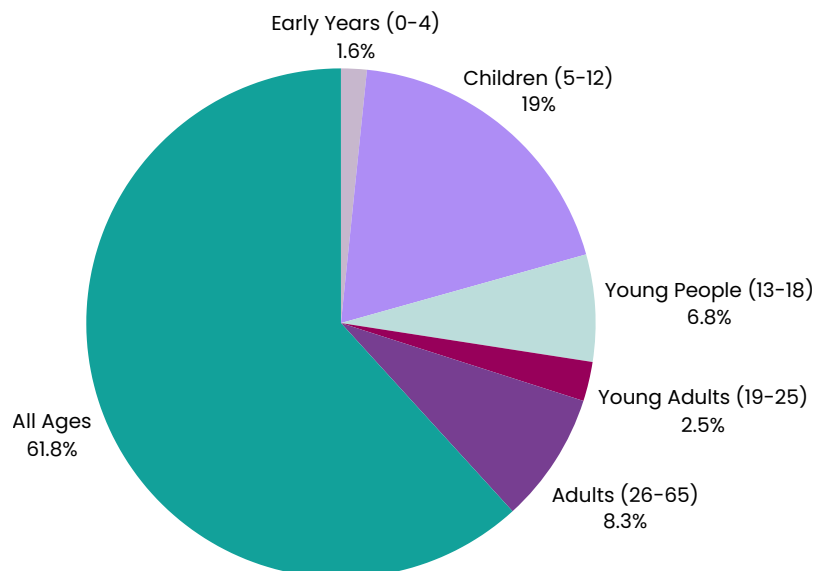
Funding towards the purchase costs of musical instruments, to enable school children the ability to learn and develop new skills

Breakdown of Giving Themes of Impact

Grants awarded by Primary Issue



No. of beneficiaries by age group



Case Study

Leatherhead Trinity School and Nursery

The grant from the Mole Valley Community Fund enabled us to purchase a set of outdoor musical instruments **to enhance and broaden the opportunities for children** during their playtimes at Leatherhead Trinity School and Nursery.

The samba drums, chimes, and steel drums are all tuned instruments to a degree, and they allow the children to experiment with scales, notes, melody and tunes. They are also excellent for exploring rhythm, beat and volume.

As soon as the instruments were installed, they became a popular part of the children's daily play, especially the steel drums, which had to be rotated around the different parts of our school site to allow the maximum number of children to access them.

The children play with the instruments daily outside for an hour and a quarter each day. They play solo, but most often, a group of children join together to play in time and alongside each other. We also bring the steel drums inside as they are more portable and allow children to perform on them together.

Through collaborative music play, the children practise **teamwork**, refine their **communication** skills, listen to and provide **feedback** on each other's performances and choices, and compose music together to perform this to other children and adults in the school. The school's staff can also use the instruments in their music lessons, and they will eventually be moved to our recently developed outdoor classroom area on the Paradise Garden site.

“This generous grant has allowed us to make a start on our amazing Paradise Garden project, and it has been so joyful to hear the sounds of music being played around the school. We at LHT are extremely grateful for the grant – thank you”.



Photo credit: Leatherhead Trinity School and Nursery

Case Study

Tapestry Day Club

Tapestry Day Club offers small, home-based “club days” in the welcoming homes of trained Hosts. These sessions create a familiar and supportive environment, helping guests stay socially active, engaged, and independent for longer.

With this grant, we delivered essential dementia support to families in the Mole Valley area, including one resident in Horsley. We focused on access to club days and wraparound support, enabling guests and their family carers to engage with confidence and consistency. Funding supported three key areas: transport, guest pre-assessment and onboarding, and ongoing family support.

Our impact extends beyond guests to their family carers. We recognise that dementia affects both individuals and those who care for them. Through regular, trusted respite and ongoing guidance, we help carers maintain their wellbeing and sustain their caring role.

We also strengthen community connection within Mole Valley. Our Hosts create small, welcoming environments in their homes, where guests build friendships and feel part of their local area. This helps reduce isolation, a key risk factor in declining wellbeing for people living with dementia. A single Tapestry Day Club Host supporting six guests weekly can provide over 1,000 hours of respite care annually, alongside hundreds of meaningful social interactions. Through this grant, we have expanded our reach, supporting more families to access vital care and connection.



One of our guests, Peter, has contributed to all our lives more than most. During his 40-year career as a chartered civil engineer, he not only oversaw the building of numerous harbours, roads and bridges, but also the Channel Tunnel and Thames Barrier.

Very sadly his wife died in early 2025, but Peter continues to join us from a care home three times a week. Tapestry has been a place of safety and stability during a very turbulent and distressing time. Over the last three years, he has flourished in this time despite living with Alzheimer’s and has grown to be an enormously valued member of all three TDC groups.

Peter says, “Without conversation life is nothing.”



Photos (from the top):

Leatherhead Trinity School and Nursery – Chrome Books,
 The Jam Place – Dance Floor Renovations, Patchworking Garden Project,
 Horsley, Bookham & Leatherhead Riding for the Disabled Association,
 Sight for Surrey – Eye Clinic Liaison,
 Tapestry Day Club – Pre-Assessment Care and Travel Costs,
 Leatherhead Youth Project – Furniture

Thank you - this is all possible thanks to your support and generous giving



Photo credit: 18th Dorking Scout Group

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