Image: Pedal People

Rampion Community Benefit Fund

Impact Report 2025

Sussex COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Rampion Community Benefit Fund

The Rampion Community Benefit Fund, managed by Sussex Community Foundation, was established in 2017 with a value of £3.1 million allocated over a ten-year period. The Fund supports charities and voluntary groups working to improve the lives of Sussex residents within an area spanning from Littlehampton Harbour in the west, to Beachy Head in the east, and up to the A272 near Twineham in the north.

The fund aims to support charities and community organisations during the energy crisis and beyond, all while addressing carbon emissions and climate change.

Rampion Offshore Wind Community Benefit Fund

Sussex COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Rampion Community Benefit Fund

The Rampion Community Benefit Fund focuses on supporting projects related to energy conservation, renewable energy, environmental improvements, nature conservation and marine ecology. In the next section of this report, we explore some of these amazing projects.

Martin Roberts, Chair, Rampion Community Benefit Fund

"As I come to the end of my time as Chair of the Rampion Grants panel, I have been reflecting on the contribution which the Rampion Fund has given to Sussex over the eight years since it was established.

So far, over £2.3m has been awarded to charities, community groups and organisations throughout Sussex, covering a diverse range of issues and activities from food banks to recycled clothes and from insulation and heat pumps to community buildings to marine conservation.

This year the Rampion Fund has awarded grants towards 18 hugely varied projects and causes including:

- Photo voltaic panels and batteries for a community hub in Newhaven
- Energy efficiency improvements to a community cafe space in Littlehampton
- Battery storage for an off-grid community project in Brighton
- Insulated walls for a youth project in Shoreham by Sea
- Mechanic and cycle parts for an electric cycle programme supporting older residents in Brighton & Hove
- Core running costs for a textile reuse project that provides low-cost school uniforms to hundreds of families across Brighton & Hove

Thanks go as always to Rampion Offshore Wind, my fellow panel members, our hugely knowledgeable and dedicated grants team at the Foundation and, in particular, our Grants Manager, Pete Jones.

I very much hope that the Rampion Fund will continue to provide vital and much needed support for many years to come".

Katie Scanlan, Stakeholder & Visitor Centre Manager
Rampion Offshore Windfarm

"In the eighth year of the Rampion Community Benefit Fund, we are delighted to be able to continue to support such an amazing array of projects.

This year the Fund has supported a total of 18 projects, amounting to £158,159 and ranging from projects reducing food waste, upcycling clothing, reusing and redistributing toys, books and children's clothing, as well as larger capital projects to improve the energy efficiency and long-term sustainability of community buildings.

As an organisation, we are incredibly proud of the work the Rampion Fund is able to support and the impact this has on our local community".

Find out more about Sussex Community Foundation's Acting on Climate funding priority.

Making an *impact* in 2025.

Over

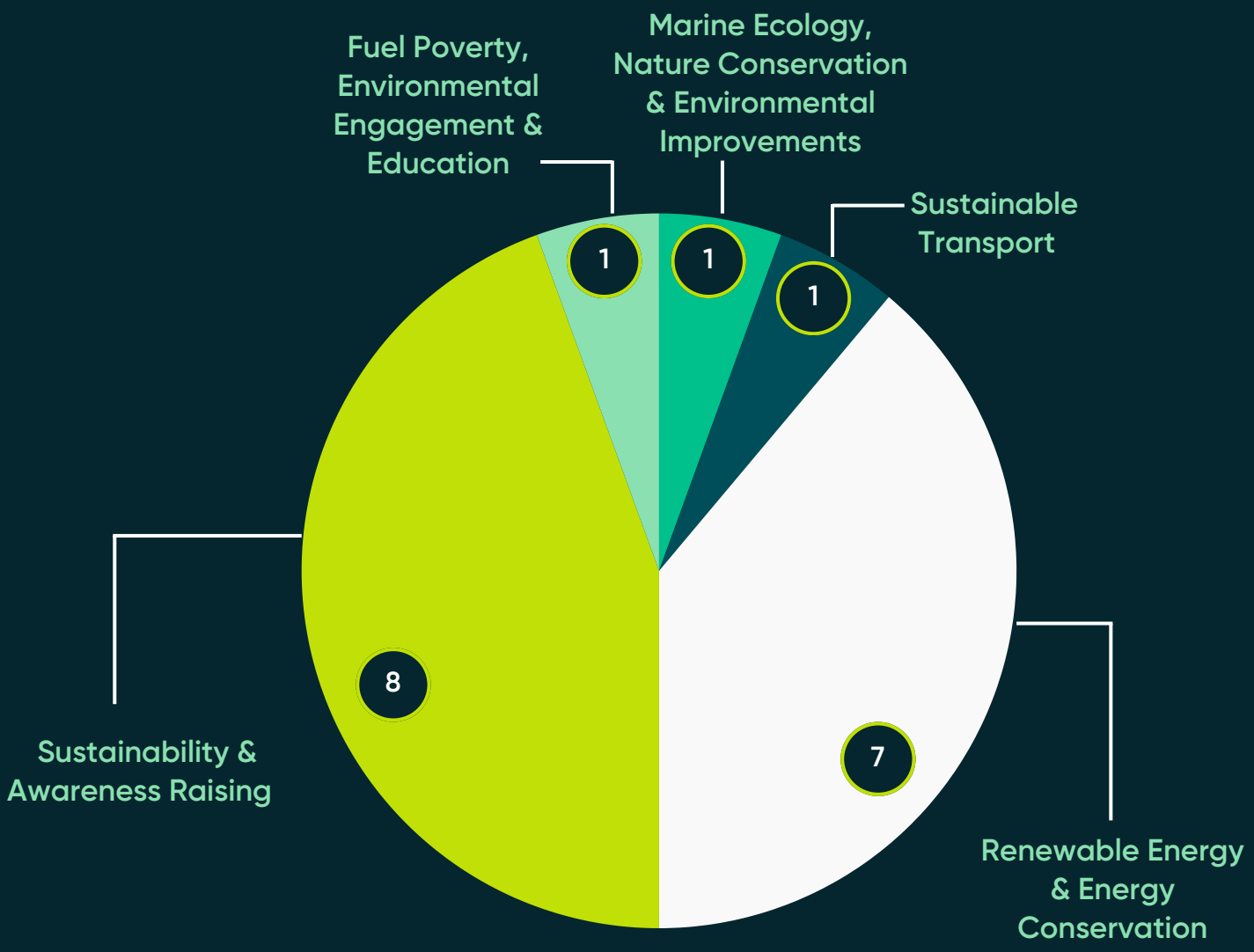
£159,000

The fund awarded £159,158 to projects in 2025.
Since 2017, it has awarded over £2.3m to 255 projects.

18

18 projects were supported in 2025.

Projects supported by *theme.*



The Real Junk Food Project, Brighton - £5,000

The Real Junk Food Project Brighton is part of The Real Junk Food Project (TRJFP) network. A movement of cafes, projects and pop-ups with one objective - to intercept food waste destined for landfill and feed people who need it, on a 'pay as you feel' basis.

TRJFP rescues food directly from supermarkets, local shops, wholesalers and from the field.

A grant from the Rampion Community Benefit Fund was used to support the collection of surplus food from supermarkets - costs included drivers, power for electric vehicles, rent and insurance.

This grant helped alleviate malnutrition and food poverty which have documented links to visits to a GP, hospital admissions and mental health referrals.

Real lives

"Real Junk Food Project has been an absolute godsend for me. Since becoming disabled, I have been under huge financial pressure, and getting regular food supplies from this project has made a massive difference.

They are so kind, friendly and helpful. It is a real pleasure to visit and I look forward to it with a smile"
- beneficiary

Voted Sustainable Champions in the Bravos 2026.

In 2025, TRJFP rescued over 100 tonnes of food which equates to £22,700 using WRAP's current carbon value for food diverted from landfill.

Creative Heart, Littlehampton -£20,000

Creative Heart is a not for profit community hub and arts cafe in Littlehampton. They offer a warm and inclusive space to tackle loneliness, inspire creativity, and improve emotional, physical and mental wellbeing.

Thanks to a grant of £20,000, new bespoke double glazed replacement windows were installed following damage to the old single pane glazed units. The new windows provide immense energy savings whilst reducing noise from the main road that the building sits on.

Real lives

"The ground floor of our community centre now retains heat much more effectively, significantly reducing the amount of gas we need to buy for heating. In addition, the reduction in noise from passing traffic means that those who are deaf/have reduced hearing can hear conversations around them"

- Mary, Director

Smarter Uniforms, Brighton & Hove - £10,000

Smarter Uniforms CIC are on a mission to enable families and communities to participate in school uniform re-use so that all children can dress appropriately for school and textile waste can be reduced.

Thanks to this grant, Smarter Uniforms raised the profile of their service and covered salary costs of the Service Manager as well as a temporary post to support implementation of a marketing campaign. As a result, they secured over 85,000 content views and an increase of marketplace users by 29%

400

families accessed free uniforms

11

rails of free uniform rehomed

"It's saved us so much money on school clothes over the last six years but more importantly, it's stopped clothes being thrown away"

Brighton Earthship (Low Carbon Trust) - £6,800

Low Carbon Trust deliver environmental projects with the objective of tackling climate change. This grant enabled them to replace their 20 year old battery bank with LiFePO4 batteries and install a new inverter.

Earthship Brighton is an off-grid community centre that generates its electricity from renewable sources which is stored in batteries. The existing 20 year old battery system no longer held charge so this grant enabled the group to update with LiFePO4 batteries and an inverter.

A small wind turbine, also funded by a Rampion grant, enables power to be generated in the winter months when the solar does not perform effectively enough. These upgrades enable them to continue to provide low cost community space to groups in Brighton & Hove.

13k

The Earthship has around 13,000 visitors every year

Sew Fabulous CIC - £9,858

Sew Fabulous are a sustainable sewing and texiles studio based at the Open Market in Brighton. Their vision is to increase sewing skills and knowledge of sustainability and textile waste through creative, affordable and accessible classes for all ages.

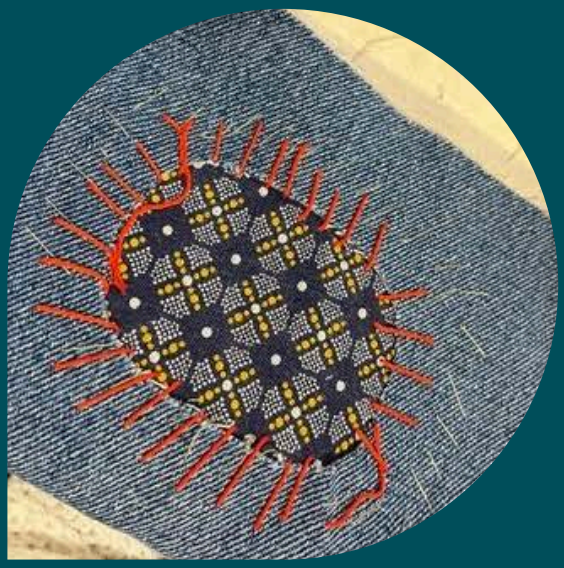
Thanks to this grant, Sew Fabulous were able to offer a series of 'Wear and Repair' classes that teach practical mending skills, empowering participants to repair and upcycle their own and their families' clothing

Sew Fabulous hosted 5 six week beginners courses, 1 six week course at a local primary school and 6 one off drop-in sessions for people in the local community. Workshops provided hands-on sessions covering essential techniques like hand and machine sewing, patching and darning, replacing buttons and zips, fastenings, and simple up-cycling projects.

Real lives

"I now know more about how to work with the clothing I have to mend or adapt them into a different item. I will in future avoid buying new clothes as much as possible"

"I have learnt how to darn, how to sew a patch and how to use a sewing machine"



Fareshare Sussex & Surrey - £9,500

Fareshare Sussex & Surrey rescues good food from the food supply industries that would otherwise be wasted, using it to feed 12,752 hungry and vulnerable people of all demographics each week.

Thanks to this grant, a new 23 kWh battery system was installed to support the solar array funded by the Rampion Fund and installed in 2024/25. This battery system will provide an estimated annual battery usage of 4120 kWh. It will achieve savings of nearly £1,000 per year over a ten-year period.

An army of volunteers deliver just over 800 tonnes of surplus food each year to 118 community groups who feed 12,752 beneficiaries each week

"We are and we will always be a high energy consumer because of the nature of our project. We operate industrial sized chillers and freezers. Our EV van, also funded by the Rampion fund needs charging and our energy costs have risen by £16,000 a year. Our strategy is to operate a multi-faceted approach to reducing our energy costs. Your generous grant makes that possible".

Mark Richardson, FareShare Sussex & Surrey

Pedal People, Brighton - £5,000

Pedal People offer accessible cycling opportunities for disabled and older people, and children with special educational needs. They run an accessible cycling hub and train carers to co-pilot.

Thanks to this grant, Pedal People are able to continue to support a specialist mechanic for their fleet of sustainable, electric, specialist adaptable trikes, as well as source spare parts to keep them maintained. The mechanic provides 350 hours a year of specialist support to enable the trikes to function.

Real lives

"Rides are the only accessible outdoor activity for 82% of participants"

"Wayne (58) hasn't stopped talking about it since starting. Carers really benefit too, from supporting him in an activity he enjoys so much and has such a positive impact on him"

"My Dad William aged 87 with Alzheimer's, really enjoys the rides and was able to be a part of the local community with dignity and people smiling at him"

"This is the first outdoor activity that our disabled son has been able to access in the last 12 years"

"Our residents with Dementia enjoy seafront rides, breathing in sea air and coastal views. These trips recall seaside memories and the photos shared bring families joy"

"Pedal People are a highlight of the week at our home. They absolutely love it. The team are so kind and considerate, treating each rider with dignity and respect. We simply cannot thank them enough"

"Residents absolutely love their weekly bike rides. Seeing them getting ready, and chatting on return about their activity is heart warming. The pilots chat to our residents throughout the ride. It is our best activity of the week"

28

rides per week for older people in care

44

volunteer cycle pilots

3k

volunteer hours per year

Rampion Community Benefit Fund

Grants awarded in 2025

Organisation	What did the grant fund?	Grant amount
Brighton Unemployed Centre Families Project	Building energy audit	£3,200
Haven's Community Hub	Support for community cafe reducing food waste	£5,000
Sew Fabulous	Mending & sustainable fashion workshops	£9,858
Pedal People	Cycle mechanic & adaptive cycle parts	£5,000
Smarter Uniforms	Supporting the redistribution of school uniforms and online marketplace	£10,000
Brighton Library of Things	Supporting set up costs for new 'Library of Things'	£5,000
Fareshare Sussex & Surrey	Battery system for existing solar panel system	£9,500
The Henfield Hall	Additional solar panels for existing solar system	£5,000
Creative Heart Littlehampton	Replacement double glazed windows for community hub and cafe	£20,000
Shoreham Beach Scouts	Energy audit and insulation of refurbished Scout building	£17,000
Hillcrest Community Centre	Support towards Solar and battery storage system	£20,000

Organisation	What did the grant fund?	Grant amount
Low Carbon Trust	Replacement battery and invertor for existing solar system	£6,800
Sussex Emmaus	Solar and battery system	£10,000
Fare Divide	Community freezer and food waste project	£3,800
Pelican Parcels	Contribution to energy bills	£5,000
Friends of Newhaven Foodbank	Community Food Logistics Coordinator post	£10,000
Real Junk Food Project	Contribution to core costs	£5,000
Ghost Fishing	Volunteer divers around base of Rampion windfarm	£4,000

01273 409440
grants@sussexcommunityfoundation.org
www.sussexcommunityfoundation.org
15 Western Road, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 1RL

A company limited by guarantee No 5670692
Registered in England and Wales. Registered charity No 1113226