



Funding Meaningful Change

ANNUAL REVIEW 2025/26



Lincolnshire
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Staff and Trustees at Lincolnshire Community Foundation (LCF) remain committed to supporting community organisations that deliver meaningful, practical and lasting change, as well as individuals experiencing hardship or striving to move forward with their lives. As Greater Lincolnshire's independent grantmaker, we use our local knowledge, trusted partnerships and community insight to direct funding where it can make the greatest difference. We believe that when people live, work and give together, communities become stronger and lives improve.

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“ We have supported LCF for over 10 years, reflecting our belief in its grassroots work. Its unrivalled local knowledge and strong community connections ensure our funding reaches some of Lincolnshire's hardest-to-reach people. ”
Evan Cornish Foundation.



“RWE Renewables has worked with LCF since 2018 to manage community funds linked to our offshore wind farms. The team is professional, approachable and brings detailed knowledge of Lincolnshire’s community sector. They listened to our aims, helped refine our plans, met agreed timescales and provided a comprehensive service at a fair cost. I wouldn’t hesitate to recommend them.”

Kathryn Harries, UK Community Investment Manager, RWE Renewables UK Ltd

Welcome from our Chair & CEO

As I look back on the past year, what stands out most is the strength, determination and generosity we see every day across Lincolnshire’s communities.

At Lincolnshire Community Foundation, our purpose is to improve lives by connecting resources with the people and places where they can make the greatest difference. We listen to communities, understand local need and work with partners, donors and organisations to turn local ambition into action.

This year also marks the beginning of our new **2025–30 Strategy**, with an ambitious vision to create a county where every community flourishes, where people are healthy, hopeful and resilient. Through **place-based giving, grant-making excellence and being changemakers for good**, we will grow philanthropy, strengthen partnerships and unlock more resources for Lincolnshire.

During 2025/26, we distributed £3.5 million, supporting 368 projects and helping 7,794 households. Behind every figure are individuals, volunteers and organisations working tirelessly to make their communities stronger.

I’m incredibly proud of our team and grateful to our Trustees, donors, fundholders and partners for their continued support. Most importantly, thank you to the community organisations and volunteers whose commitment turns funding into meaningful change.

As we look ahead, we will continue to **listen, convene, collaborate, co-create and fund**, working together towards a Lincolnshire where every community has the opportunity to flourish.



Sue Fortune
CEO



Paul Scott
Chair

Why Our Work Matters

Behind every grant is a person, a family or a community whose life has been changed for the better. As local needs continue to evolve, so too does the importance of investing in grassroots organisations that understand their communities best. By bringing together donors, partners and charities, Lincolnshire Community Foundation ensures that local generosity creates lasting impact where it is needed most.

Our Vision

Lincolnshire Community Foundation's aim is to create a county of thriving places where people are healthy, happy, resilient and empowered. We want to promote cohesive communities, leading to a better quality of life and equality of opportunity for all, so that people are encouraged to contribute to society and fulfil their potential.

Our Mission

Lincolnshire Community Foundation is passionate about improving the lives and wellbeing of people throughout Greater Lincolnshire. We achieve our mission by building long-term endowment, grant making, social investment, advice and practical support: we listen, convene, collaborate, co-create and fund.

£3.5m

Distributed

368

Projects supported

7,794

Individuals helped

£3.1k

Endowment

£415k

Programmes



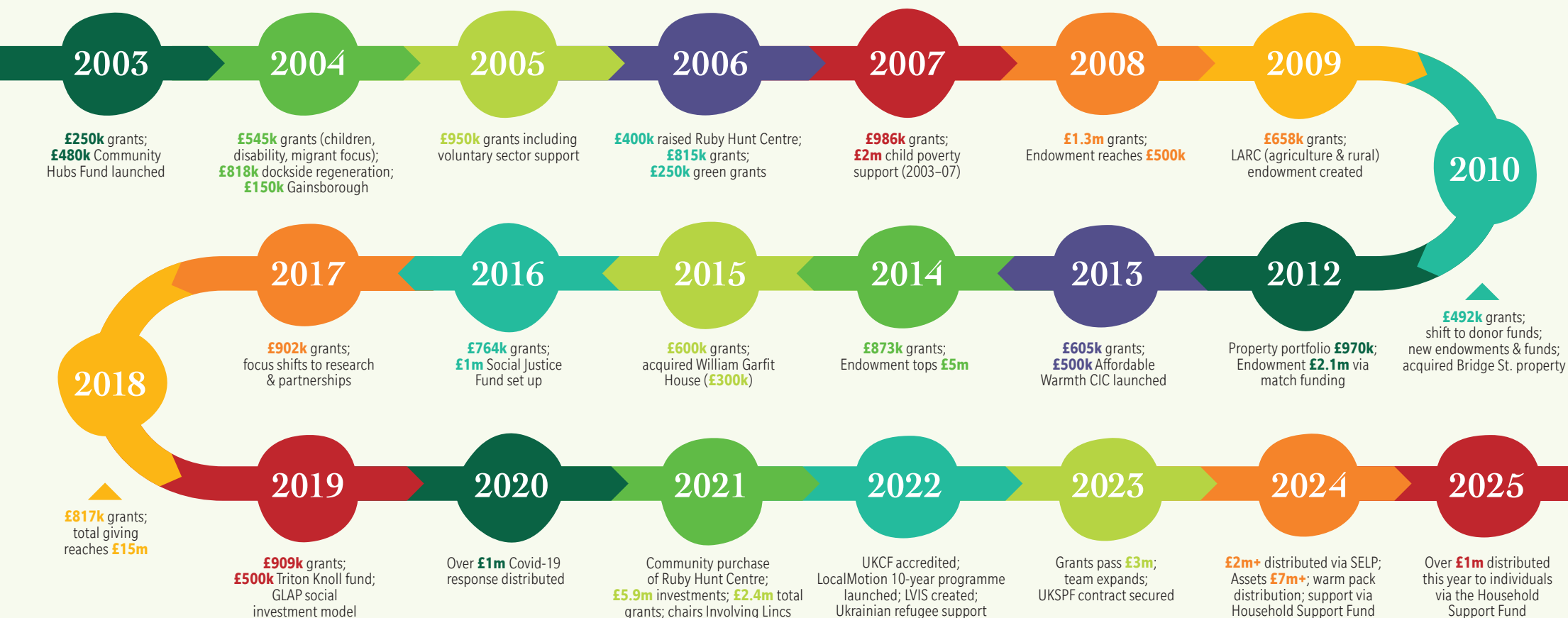
Our Journey so Far

Our story began in 2002. Since then, the Foundation has continued to develop, responding to changing circumstances and finding new ways to connect generosity with local need. This timeline highlights the funds, partnerships, programmes and defining moments that have shaped our work across Greater Lincolnshire.

“Lincolnshire Community Foundation has been a brilliant partner over the last few years. They are easy to work with and we have found them to be efficient and proactive when implementing the SWEF programme in Lincolnshire.”

Nick Robinson, Grants Manager, SWEF

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An Overview of Lincolnshire

Lincolnshire comprises a mix of rural, coastal and urban areas, offering a great environment for living and working. However, some people face significant challenges and barriers in accessing local services and opportunities, affecting their quality of life.



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Emerging needs

The needs facing communities across Lincolnshire are becoming increasingly complex and interconnected. Rising heating oil, food, energy, housing and transport costs are leaving many households with little or no financial resilience, with some forced to ration heating and hot water, borrow money or choose between essential expenses.

These pressures are particularly acute for rural households, families with children, older people, disabled residents, carers and those living on low or fixed incomes. Alongside immediate financial support, there is a growing need for accessible advice, food and utility assistance, transport support and longer-term measures such as home insulation, improved heating systems and energy-efficiency improvements.

Why data matters

Understanding emerging need is only the first step. Data and local insight are at the heart of our grantmaking, helping us ensure that funding reaches the communities where it can make the greatest difference. Through analysing trends, listening to local organisations and learning from grant applications, we identify gaps in provision, respond to changing needs and shape our funding to reflect what communities need most.

This enables us to develop funding programmes that are targeted, evidence based and responsive, while working proactively with donors and partners to direct resources effectively and ensure every pound invested creates meaningful and lasting impact across Greater Lincolnshire.

LVIS

Originally launched as the Lincolnshire Visual Intelligence System in 2023, LVIS has now become the Localised Visual Intelligence System. The change reflects growing recognition of the platform across the Community Foundation network and its potential to be replicated elsewhere in the country.

LVIS is a free, interactive platform that brings together trusted datasets and presents them visually, helping users identify potential hotspots of deprivation and need down to street level. Voluntary, statutory and public health organisations, as well as grassroots groups, use it to understand communities, evidence local need and strengthen funding applications.

This recognition has led to the Community Foundation for Surrey commissioning LCF to create a suite of neighbourhood needs maps using processes developed in Lincolnshire.

The new name marks the next stage in LVIS's development: taking an approach created in Lincolnshire and demonstrating how locally focused data and insight can support communities across the country.

An Overview of Lincolnshire

Our Place



More than **95%** of the county is classified as rural



48% of residents live rurally, compared with 18% across England



Greater Lincolnshire is England's **second-largest** county area



Lincolnshire has over **50** miles of coastline

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Our Economy

30,000



Lincolnshire has more than **30,000** businesses



24% of employment is connected to the food chain



Around **25%** of England's vegetables are grown here



More than **70%** of the UK's seafood is processed here

Social Isolation & Loneliness

Creating connections and a sense of belonging

Feeling connected to others is an important part of individual and community wellbeing. This year, we supported local organisations creating welcoming places and opportunities for people to meet, participate and feel part of their community.

Understanding the Need

Rurality, limited transport, health, age and personal circumstances can all increase the risk of isolation, making accessible opportunities to connect particularly important across Lincolnshire.

Our Response

We invested in community hubs, village halls, community buildings and activities that bring people together, strengthening the local places and organisations that help reduce loneliness and isolation.

The Difference We Made

We supported **98 projects with over £600,000**, helping sustain community spaces, improve accessibility and create more opportunities for people to connect close to home.

Looking Ahead

We will continue to invest in local organisations and spaces that strengthen connections, create a sense of belonging and reach those most at risk of isolation.

“ This project represents a true milestone in restoring a place originally built by the local community. It has always been more than just a building, it is part of Spalding’s shared history and identity. This funding has not only improved the facilities; it has reconnected the community with its heritage and restored pride in a place that truly belongs to them. ”

Justyna Lukaszuk, Committee Member, Spalding Common Community Hall

2041  +38%

The number of residents aged over 65 is expected to increase by **38%** by 2041

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Social Isolation & Loneliness

Creating connections and a sense of belonging

Our impact in action...

Friendship that makes a difference

Metheringham Friendship Group / £500 awarded

Metheringham Friendship Group provides regular social activities for older people, offering companionship, entertainment and opportunities to remain connected with their community.

The Challenge

The group needed help meeting essential running costs, including venue hire, insurance, printing and stationery. Its church hall also had limited capacity, requiring larger community events to be held at the village hall.

How the Funding Helped

The grant helped cover these essential costs, allowing the group to continue meeting fortnightly and provide guest speakers and entertainment. It also supported larger events that could welcome more people from the local community.

The Difference It Made

Older people have continued to enjoy regular social contact and activities that support their wellbeing. The group provides a friendly place to meet others, helping reduce loneliness and isolation while strengthening connections within the village.

In Their Words

“The funding has made a massive difference to a small club that strives to provide something on a fortnightly basis. Thank you for helping us continue.”



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Physical Health & Wellbeing

Supporting healthier, more active lives

Being active and looking after physical health can improve confidence, independence and overall wellbeing. We supported community-led opportunities that made healthier lifestyles more accessible to people across Lincolnshire.

Understanding the Need

Cost, transport, disability, health conditions and access to suitable local facilities can prevent people from taking part in activities that support their physical health.

Our Response

Our funding supported physical activity, community health, disability support, community gardens and food-growing projects, helping people find accessible ways to improve their health and wellbeing.

The Difference We Made

We invested almost **£340,000 across 56 projects**, with the majority focused on increasing opportunities for physical activity alongside projects supporting healthier and more independent lives.

Looking Ahead

We will continue to support inclusive, affordable opportunities that remove barriers and help more people maintain and improve their physical wellbeing.

“Big thumbs up with the new machines! The prone leg curl is sooo good but I’m a typical guy so I love the multi-press. Such good upgrades.”

Crowland Community Leisure Centre gym user

2035



+33%

Demand for GP, hospital and adult social care consultations is projected to rise by approximately **33%** by **2035**



1 in 5 adults lives with a long-term illness or disability



Physical Health & Wellbeing

Supporting healthier, more active lives

Our impact in action...

Keeping survivors informed & connected

Polio Survivors Network / £725 awarded

Polio Survivors Network provides information, advice and community support to people affected by polio. The grant funded the editing, printing and distribution of the organisation's newsletter.

The Challenge

Many members are older or digitally excluded and rely on printed information to remain informed and connected. Producing the newsletter also involved last-minute additions and editing, requiring additional time to ensure it was published as planned.

How the Funding Helped

Funding enabled the Network to produce and distribute Edition 131 of its newsletter. This ensured members could continue accessing relevant advice, shared experiences and updates, regardless of whether they could use online services.

The Difference It Made

The newsletter helped polio survivors feel part of a supportive community. Regular communication reduced feelings of loneliness and isolation while giving members access to information directly relevant to their experiences and needs.

In Their Words

“ This funding made a meaningful difference in helping us continue to support our community. Polio Survivors Network is a charity firmly rooted in Lincoln and Lincolnshire. ”



Only **55%** of rural households are within **8 km** of a hospital, compared with 97% in urban areas



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Mental Health & Wellbeing

Building resilience through community support

Good mental health is fundamental to living well, yet people can experience challenges at any stage of life. We supported trusted local organisations providing spaces, relationships and specialist help that strengthen emotional wellbeing.

Understanding the Need

Loneliness, financial pressures, trauma, bereavement and difficult life circumstances can all affect mental health, while accessing the right support at the right time can be challenging.

Our Response

Our funding recognised that wellbeing support takes many forms, investing in counselling and trauma recovery alongside creative activities, peer support, support groups and opportunities for connection.

The Difference We Made

We invested over **£225,000 across 49 projects**, supporting a broad range of community-based approaches designed to improve wellbeing, build resilience and help people feel supported.

Looking Ahead

Continued investment in accessible, preventative and community-based support will be important in helping people receive help before difficulties become more complex.

“ I honestly don't know where I'd be without the support. Having someone local who listened without judgement gave me the confidence to leave the abuse and start rebuilding my life. ”

Anonymous user of Haven Domestic Abuse Service

£ ———— +10

More than **10 years'** difference in healthy life expectancy between the most and least deprived communities

10



Mental Health & Wellbeing

Building resilience through community support

Our impact in action...

Helping the music play on

Boston Orchestra / £3,140 awarded

Boston Orchestra provides local musicians with opportunities to rehearse, perform and share their enjoyment of music. Funding helped the organisation strengthen its sustainability following a decline in membership.

The Challenge

Several long-standing players did not return following the pandemic, significantly reducing income from membership subscriptions. Without attracting new members and improving its organisation, the orchestra faced the possibility of closing within 12 months.

How the Funding Helped

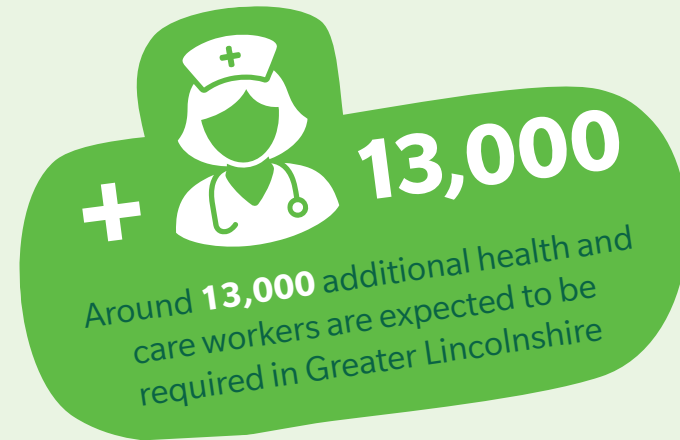
The grant enabled the orchestra to develop a marketing plan and invest in a new music library, storage cupboard and filing system. These improvements made its resources easier to manage while supporting efforts to attract new members.

The Difference It Made

The orchestra is now better placed to continue rehearsing and performing. It offers members a sense of belonging, social connection and respite from everyday pressures, while its concerts allow the wider community to enjoy live music.

In Their Words

“This orchestra has proved a real positive in my life. I now have a purpose to continue playing my violin and socialise with like-minded people.”



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Employment & Skills

Creating pathways to opportunity

Skills, training and employment can create lasting change, building confidence, independence and financial resilience. We supported organisations helping people develop their abilities and take positive steps towards their future.

Understanding the Need

People can face many barriers to employment, from a lack of experience or qualifications to low confidence and limited access to suitable training and opportunities.

Our Response

We invested in skills development, training, employability and employment opportunities, including projects supporting job searches, qualifications, apprenticeships and volunteering as a pathway into work.

The Difference We Made

Through **17 projects**, we invested over **£81,000** in opportunities designed to help people develop practical skills, increase their employability and move closer to education, training or employment. Funding to individuals in our SWEF and MAST programmes supported young entrepreneurs with start up grants and to return to work following unemployment.

Looking Ahead

We will continue to support accessible routes into skills and employment, particularly for people who face additional barriers to opportunity.

“What a wonderful email to receive!!! Thank you so much for this, and for all your support. I have no doubt that your visit and experience with us helped, so thank you for supporting us... We can't wait to get started on this next phase of your development. A huge thank you to the LCF and Michael Cornish for your support in making this next step possible.”

David Plumtree, Founder of Café Independent



Food and farming support
almost **1 in 4** local jobs

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UK
75.5
Employment rate of
71.5%, compared with
75.5% across Great Britain



Employment & Skills

Creating pathways to opportunity

Our impact in action...

Coffee, conversation and community

Honey & Thyme / £500 awarded

When Heledd Roberts prepared to open Honey & Thyme in North Hykeham, a £500 SWEF Start Up Grant helped her buy a Quattro Titanium oven. The equipment enabled her to bake fresh goods every day and bring her vision for a welcoming community café to life.

The Challenge

Heledd wanted Honey & Thyme to be more than somewhere to grab a coffee: a cosy, independent space where local people could meet, relax and connect. However, buying the essential equipment needed to open risked delaying her plans or requiring a business loan.

How the Funding Helped

The grant contributed towards a Quattro Titanium oven, which quickly became central to the business and enabled Heledd to bake fresh goods every day. This practical support reduced her start-up costs, helped her avoid further borrowing and allowed her to open the doors and begin building the business she had always wanted.

The Difference It Made

Honey & Thyme now serves fresh, homemade food in a warm and welcoming setting. Regular workshops and book clubs give people opportunities to meet, share interests and form new connections, helping the café become a valued part of the local community.

In Their Words

“I wanted Honey & Thyme to be more than somewhere to grab a coffee - a cosy, independent space where people could meet friends, relax and connect.”



Around **1 in 11** workers are self-employed



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Poverty & Food Need

Responding to hardship with dignity

Financial hardship continues to affect households across Lincolnshire, with many people struggling to meet the cost of food and other essentials. We supported organisations providing practical, compassionate help when it was needed most.

Understanding the Need

Pressure on household budgets can quickly leave people vulnerable, with food insecurity, homelessness and unexpected costs placing additional strain on individuals and families.

Our Response

We supported food provision alongside homelessness services, household support and advice, investing in trusted organisations that provide both immediate help and wider support.

The Difference We Made

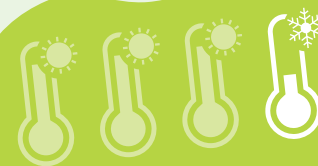
We invested almost **£96,000 across 30 projects**, with the majority directly addressing food need while others supported people experiencing poverty, homelessness and financial hardship. We have distributed £1.5m in household support funding this year alone helping individuals who are struggling with the rising cost of living with food vouchers.

Looking Ahead

We will continue to respond to immediate hardship while supporting approaches that help people build greater stability and financial resilience.

“It has been a great experience working with Lincolnshire Community Foundation. They are positive, supportive, knowledgeable and we always feel the relationship is trusting and allows us to do the best we can, without spending too much time on onerous reporting and data collection. We wish all funders were more like the LCF!”

Rob Hewis – GoGro CIC (Evan Cornish Grassroots Fund)



25%+ of households face fuel poverty

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Poverty & Food Need

Responding to hardship with dignity

Our impact in action...

Chopping, chatting and creating change

GoGro CIC / £5,755 awarded

GoGro CIC brings people together to prepare fresh vegetables for distribution through community partners. Funding established a new Chop, Chat & Change group in Gainsborough and strengthened its existing group in Lincoln.

The Challenge

While the groups themselves were successfully delivered, developing the contracts, guidance and tools needed to support their long-term growth required considerable time and resources. Funding this behind-the-scenes development work had previously proved difficult.

How the Funding Helped

The grant provided the staff time, equipment and resources needed to establish the groups and train volunteers. Both became self-sustaining, creating a model that could be used to develop similar groups elsewhere in Lincolnshire.

The Difference It Made

Volunteers prepared and distributed more than 600 bags of vegetables, reducing food waste and improving access to healthy, affordable food. Working together also helped volunteers build friendships, reduce isolation and improve their wellbeing.

In Their Words

“The social outcomes are as important for those who volunteer as the health outcomes for people who eat more vegetables as a consequence of our work.”



85%

Poorest families with children need to spend 85% of their disposable income to afford a healthy diet



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Children & Young People

Creating opportunities to thrive

Every child and young person should have opportunities to feel safe, supported and able to fulfil their potential. We invested in projects providing positive experiences, trusted support and places where young people can learn, play and grow.

Understanding the Need

Financial hardship, poor mental wellbeing and unequal access to activities and opportunities can all affect children and young people, shaping their experiences now and their prospects for the future.

Our Response

Our funding supported play areas, activities, youth services, wellbeing, family support and skills development, creating opportunities for children and young people across Lincolnshire.

The Difference We Made

We invested over **£410,000 across 44 projects**, supporting everything from improved play spaces and youth provision to activities, wellbeing support and opportunities for young people to develop new skills.

Looking Ahead

We will continue to invest in early support and positive opportunities that help children and young people build confidence, resilience and brighter futures.

“It’s not always nice at home. I don’t really like playing video games, so I come here when it’s open. It’s nice to see people and just feel relaxed knowing there is someone there if I need them.” (Aged 11 years old)



More than **1 in 4**
five-year-olds in England has
tooth decay

16



Children & Young People

Creating opportunities to thrive

Our impact in action...

Helping young people find their voice

Debate Mate / £2,000 awarded

Debate Mate helps young people develop confidence, communication and critical-thinking skills. Funding supported its core programme across seven schools in Grimsby.

The Challenge

The participating schools serve communities where debating and other enrichment opportunities are not always freely available. Many have high numbers of pupils eligible for Pupil Premium and Free School Meals, making accessible activities particularly important.

How the Funding Helped

The grant provided 10 weeks of after-school debate clubs, supported by encouraging mentors. Pupils also took part in a practice debate and the Grimsby Debate Mate Cup at Blundell Park, ensuring that cost did not prevent participation.

The Difference It Made

Primary and secondary pupils reported improvements in their critical thinking, confidence, resilience, leadership and teamwork. Working with positive role models also encouraged them to express their ideas, recognise their abilities and speak more confidently.

In Their Words

“I think it has definitely changed my life. It's made me want to speak out more and helped me learn more about the things I'm capable of doing.”

“It's fun here – I can play games with the adults. It helps me feel better.”

Young person who attended sessions



Around **1 in 3** children lives in poverty in some parts of Greater Lincolnshire



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Environment & Place

Investing in places where communities thrive

The places around us shape how we feel about where we live and how connected we are to our communities. We invested in local spaces, heritage and environmental projects that make Lincolnshire's communities stronger and more sustainable.

Understanding the Need

Community buildings, green spaces and local heritage are important assets, but maintaining and improving them can be challenging as organisations face rising costs and limited resources.

Our Response

We supported community spaces, village halls, heritage, green spaces and local improvement projects, helping communities protect important assets and create places people can enjoy and take pride in. Funds such as UK Shared prosperity Fund and East Lindsey Investment Fund have helped numerous towns, villages and communities revamp community spaces.

The Difference We Made

We invested over **£364,000 across 35 projects**, supporting improvements to community spaces, local heritage and the environment and helping protect valued assets for future generations.

Looking Ahead

We will continue to invest in sustainable, accessible places that strengthen local identity, encourage community participation and help communities thrive.

“Lincolnshire Community Foundation is great to work with. They are local, understand the community and are friendly and helpful throughout the application process. Having a person to speak to, rather than an automated service, has helped us build a good relationship. We could not have achieved what we have without their help, advice and support.”

The Laceby Community Collective



More than **95%**
of Lincolnshire's land
area is rural

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Environment & Place

Investing in places where communities thrive

Our impact in action...

Bringing nature closer to the community

The Froglife Trust / £17,707 awarded

The Froglife Trust created a neighbourhood wildlife corridor in Boston, combining new habitats with practical conservation activities for schools, youth groups, volunteers and local residents.

The Challenge

Many young people were interested in wildlife but lacked the knowledge and confidence to take practical action. The project also needed to improve biodiversity within Boston's urban environment and overcome initially low attendance at public sessions.

How the Funding Helped

The grant funded two wildlife ponds, planting, bird boxes, log piles and places for wildlife to shelter. It also supported gardening workshops, school sessions, volunteer activities, staff time and training. Working with established schools and community groups helped increase participation.

The Difference It Made

Participants improved their understanding of local wildlife and learned practical ways to support nature at home. The new habitats provide lasting breeding and feeding spaces, while trained volunteers can help maintain them. Partnerships with local schools and youth groups will support the work's continuation.

In Their Words

“He didn't even have time to take his shoes and coat off before asking if we could make an amphibian pond and build a 'Hibernation Station'.”



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Social Justice & Inclusion

Helping create safer and fairer communities

Everyone should be able to feel safe, included and supported within their community. We invested in organisations working alongside people facing vulnerability, inequality and some of life's most difficult circumstances.

Understanding the Need

Domestic abuse, homelessness, crime, displacement and exclusion can create complex challenges, with specialist and trusted local organisations often providing an essential route to support.

Our Response

Our funding supported domestic abuse services, community safety, refugee support, inclusion and crime prevention, helping organisations provide safe spaces, practical assistance and specialist support. We have funds dedicated to supporting refugees fleeing Ukraine and integrate whilst they settle in Lincolnshire.

The Difference We Made

We invested almost **£150,000 across 18 projects**, with funding reaching organisations supporting people affected by domestic abuse, homelessness, displacement, exclusion and other safety concerns.

Looking Ahead

We will continue to support organisations tackling inequality and vulnerability, helping ensure people can access trusted support and feel safe and included in their communities.

“In these difficult times, the Ukrainian Cultural Centre Lincoln gives us the opportunity to come together, speak our language, preserve our traditions and feel that we are not alone. The war took away our home and the life we knew, but here in Lincoln we have found comfort and hope. Thank you to everyone who gives their time, energy and heart to this important work.”

Tetiana, June 2025

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Social Justice & Inclusion

Helping create safer and fairer communities

Our impact in action...

A welcoming place in uncertain times

Jubilee Church Centre / £10,000 awarded

Jubilee Church Centre supports Ukrainian refugees living in Grantham and Sleaford. Funding helped improve wellbeing, provide learning opportunities and support people as they build new lives within their communities.

The Challenge

The continuing war, housing shortages and separation from loved ones have left many Ukrainian refugees facing uncertainty and emotional distress. Bereavement, mental health difficulties and the breakdown of housing arrangements have created a growing need for practical and personal support.

How the Funding Helped

Funding supported staff and volunteers providing help with housing, employment, benefits, training, health and bereavement. The Centre also delivered English lessons, children's activities, a Ukrainian library, choir sessions, community celebrations and awareness sessions covering mental health, domestic abuse and online safety.

The Difference It Made

The project created a safe and welcoming environment where people found friendship, practical assistance and a sense of belonging. Activities reduced loneliness and isolation, helped families remain connected to Ukrainian culture and supported greater confidence and independence. New partnerships with local organisations also strengthened the wider support available.

In Their Words

“Jubilee Church has truly become like a second home for our family. We have felt cared for and supported in so many ways. It makes us feel seen and connected to our culture.”



1 in 6 people lives in one of England's most deprived communities

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Household Support Fund

For households already managing on a low income, rising food, energy and everyday living costs can place significant pressure on already stretched budgets. This includes pensioners, people living with health conditions, single parent families and others experiencing financial hardship.

Through the Household Support Fund (HSF), we worked with Boston Borough Council, East Lindsey District Council, South Holland District Council, South Kesteven District Council and West Lindsey District Council to provide vital support towards food and essential household costs.

During the final round of HSF, which ended in March 2026, we also piloted a heating oil scheme in East Lindsey, responding to the additional challenges faced by rural households without access to mains gas.

The relationships, experience and local insight developed through this work have provided a strong foundation for our continued partnership with local authorities. Following the end of HSF, we are now helping to deliver the Crisis and Resilience Fund across Lincolnshire, providing immediate support to households in financial difficulty while helping to build greater resilience for the future.

14,616

Households supported since 2022

£2,358,584

Distributed since 2022

7684

Households supported 2025/26

£1,008,584

Distributed in 2025/26

“We really appreciate your helpful and prompt assistance, thank you for the fantastic level of support for our clients.”

Advisor, Citizens Advice Lincoln and Lindsey

Our impact in action...

As a full time carer for their elderly mother, one Lincolnshire resident knows how difficult it can be to manage rising household costs on a limited income.

Having lived in a residential park home for more than 20 years, they had also found themselves unable to access a number of schemes offering help with heating and energy costs because of the type of property they live in.

Receiving a heating voucher therefore came as a huge relief.

“Thank you to Lincolnshire Community Foundation for the voucher, which is not only appreciated but also a huge relief in present times.”

For them, the support was about more than its financial value:

“It's not the amount of help given, it's the fact that the help was offered and given in the first place that makes all the difference.”

Mr E – East Lindsey



Our Programmes

Alongside our grantmaking, we lead and support programmes that bring people, organisations and ideas together. From place-based collaboration to enterprise development and leadership, this work helps communities build confidence, strengthen local capacity and create lasting change.

Gainsborough Local Access Programme (GLAP)



Harry Ferguson

GLAP supports the growth of Gainsborough's social economy by combining enterprise development with access to blended finance. Support includes specialist advice, grants to explore new ideas or meet business development needs, and help developing new markets.

The programme has supported organisations with business planning, financial modelling, governance, new products, promotional tools and capital investment. A dedicated social investment product is also available through Key Fund.

GLAP is guided by local partners, with Lincolnshire Community Foundation acting as the accountable body and contract manager. Learning is shared with national funder Access to demonstrate the value of delivering enterprise support and investment at a local level.

Strength & Leadership programme



Dale Wooton

The Strength and Leadership Programme is a three-year initiative funded by The National Lottery Community Fund and delivered by Lincolnshire Community Foundation and Lincolnshire Voluntary Engagement Team.

It is helping to build a stronger, better-connected and more resilient voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise sector across Lincolnshire. Its four priorities are stronger leadership, greater influence, better understanding of impact and greater organisational resilience.

Through leadership development, peer learning, research, data tools and stronger partnerships, the programme helps organisations demonstrate their value, influence decision-making and explore new approaches to collaboration, income and sustainability. Evidence from the sector is used to identify issues, develop practical responses and influence wider change.

Lincoln LocalMotion



Charlotte Brooks

LocalMotion is a 12 year systems change programme working across six places in the UK, including Lincoln. It brings people, organisations and funders together to explore how communities can tackle the root causes of social, economic and environmental injustice and create lasting change.

In Lincoln, the programme puts local people at the heart of decision making, testing new ways of working together and sharing learning that can help influence change locally and nationally.

Lincolnshire Community Foundation is the fiscal host for Lincoln LocalMotion, holding and administering the funding devolved to Lincoln. We take responsibility for the financial processes and ensure funding is used in line with LocalMotion's objectives and the decisions made locally.

Find out more about LocalMotion and its work in Lincoln: localmotion.org.uk/lincoln/



Ways to Give

Every act of giving can make a difference. We help individuals, families, businesses and professional advisers find the right way to support the causes and communities they care about, ensuring local generosity creates meaningful and lasting impact across Greater Lincolnshire.



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Corporate Giving

Every company we work with benefits from our local knowledge and advice on structuring effective CSR programmes. Businesses can also support us by providing venues, sponsoring events, sharing expertise or recommending us to others. We offer a bespoke service shaped around each company's needs, allowing businesses to be as involved or hands-off as they choose.

Professional Advisors

We work with solicitors, accountants, financial advisors and wealth managers to make charitable giving straightforward and rewarding while supporting their clients' financial goals. Whether giving relates to selling a business, tax planning or an estate, we provide flexible options that reflect each client's wishes.

How Can We Help...

- A personalised service reflecting your clients' wishes and means
- Tax-efficient philanthropy and giving options
- Knowledge of local needs and effective organisations
- Expertise in fund management and charitable support

Personal Giving

Creating a Named Fund

A named fund is a cost-effective alternative to a charitable trust. We work with you to create a personalised fund supporting the causes and communities you care about while managing the administration and grantmaking.

Types of Named Funds

You can choose:

- The fund's name or whether it remains anonymous
- The area of Lincolnshire it benefits
- The causes it supports
- Your involvement in selecting projects

Leaving a Lasting Legacy

A gift in your Will can support Lincolnshire's communities for generations, whatever its size. We work with you and your professional advisors to ensure your fund reflects your wishes.

Ways to Leave a Legacy

- **Pecuniary** – a fixed sum of money
- **Specific** – an item, property or shares
- **Residuary** – all or part of your remaining estate
- **Reversionary** – the remaining estate after a surviving spouse's death

Ways to Give



We constantly strive to facilitate and deliver outcomes for people across Greater Lincolnshire. Since our inception, we have distributed over £24M and the positive impact would not be possible without the support of existing and future donors. We want to highlight the possible ways to give to the Foundation, that will ultimately be for the benefit of others.

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Tax-Efficient Giving Tips

Gift Aid

Gift Aid enables charities to claim an additional 25p for every £1 donated, at no extra cost to a UK taxpayer. A £10,000 donation would therefore be worth £12,500 to the charity.

Self Assessment

Higher-rate tax relief on charitable donations can be claimed through the charitable-giving section of a Self Assessment tax return.

Giving in Your Will

Charitable gifts are deducted from an estate before Inheritance Tax is calculated. You can leave a fixed sum, a specific item or part of your estate.

Donations by Limited Companies

Companies can generally deduct charitable donations from profits before calculating Corporation Tax. Corporate donations do not qualify for Gift Aid.

Tax Relief for Higher-Rate Taxpayers

Higher-rate taxpayers can claim the difference between their tax rate and the basic rate on the total donation. A 40% taxpayer donating £10,000 can claim £2,500, reducing their net cost to £7,500 while the charity receives £12,500.

Payroll Giving

Donations can be made directly from gross salary or pension before Income Tax is deducted, reducing the cost to the donor.

Gifts of Assets

Donations of qualifying shares, securities, land or property may receive Income Tax and Capital Gains Tax relief.

Gifts of Land Buildings or Shares

Companies may receive Corporation Tax relief when donating qualifying land, property or shares, or selling them to a charity below market value.

Transfer of Family Trusts

When a charitable trust faces succession difficulties, transferring it to LCF allows its original objectives to continue and adapt to changing needs. We manage the administration while family members and trustees remain involved in decisions as much as they wish.

How Can We Help

We can transfer funds tax-efficiently using cash, shares or property. Working with you, we can adapt the fund's focus while preserving its original aims.

We also manage administration, Charity Commission reporting, investments and grant distribution, removing the need to appoint successor trustees.

Funds We've Managed this Year

Throughout the year, we managed funding on behalf of generous individuals, businesses, charitable trusts and public-sector partners. This breakdown shows how those funds were distributed, the communities they reached and the breadth of local activity they supported.

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Name of Fund	Name of Funder	Location	Type	No. Supported	Distributed
Bicker Wind Farm Trust	EDF Renewables	10-mile radius of Bicker Fen	Group	11	£32,127.52
East Lindsey Investment Fund ELIF	East Lindsey District Council	East Lindsey	Group	74	£893,625.00
Evan Cornish Grassroots Fund	Evan Cornish Foundation	Greater Lincolnshire	Group	54	£144,246.48
Grange Wind Farm Community Fund	RES	10-mile radius of Tydd St Mary	Group	16	£40,221.12
High Sheriff Fund	High Sheriff of Lincolnshire	Greater Lincolnshire	Group	5	£8,962.40
Horncastle Health and Wellbeing Fund	—	Horncastle and within a 10-mile radius	Group	9	£9,385.98
Big Lincolnshire Welcome Fund	Lincolnshire County Council	Lincolnshire	Individual	63	£13,950.00
Social Justice Fund	Diocese of Lincoln	Greater Lincolnshire	Group	10	£21,322.00
Household Support Fund Boston	Boston Borough Council	Boston	Individual	1,025	£127,515.00
Household Support Fund East Lindsey	East Lindsey District Council	East Lindsey	Individual	3,530	£445,000.00
Oil Support Fund East Lindsey	East Lindsey District Council	East Lindsey	Individual	127	£39,319.20
Household Support Fund South Holland	South Holland District Council	South Holland	Individual	1,157	£148,750.00
Household Support Fund South Kesteven	South Kesteven District Council	South Kesteven	Individual	497	£78,000.00
Household Support Fund West Lindsey	West Lindsey District Council	West Lindsey	Individual	1,348	£170,000.00
Humber Gateway Community Fund	RWE	North East Lincolnshire	Group	23	£35,816.26
Laceby Solar Farm Community Fund	Sirius Renewable Energy	Laceby and surrounding areas	Group	12	£71,545.37
Make A Start MAST	Lincolnshire Community Foundation	Greater Lincolnshire	Individual	22	£3,562.29
North Kesteven Lottery	North Kesteven District Council	North Kesteven	Group	28	£13,321.00
Sutton Bridge Solar Farm Community Fund	EDF Renewables	Sutton Bridge and surrounding areas	Group	5	£20,540.00
SWEF Enterprise Grants	SWEF	Greater Lincolnshire	Individual	22	£22,217.00
Triton Knoll Offshore Community Wind Farm	RWE	Within 3 km of Anderby Creek or 5 km of Bicker Fen	Group	13	£34,734.44
Ukraine Refugee Integration Fund	Lincolnshire County Council	Lincolnshire	Group	9	£85,242.00
UK Shared Prosperity GRASSroots Fund Boston	SELCP* – Boston Borough Council	Boston	Group	18	£226,977.74
UK Shared Prosperity GRASSroots Fund East Lindsey	SELCP* – East Lindsey District Council	East Lindsey	Group	19	£282,960.64
UK Shared Prosperity GRASSroots Fund South Holland	SELCP* – South Holland District Council	South Holland	Group	27	£288,246.56
Other Discretionary Funding	Lincolnshire Community Foundation	Greater Lincolnshire	Individual	3	£450.00
Other Anonymous Funding	AN Fund	Greater Lincolnshire	Group	12	£59,866.98
Michael Cornish	—	Greater Lincolnshire	Group	16	£103,226.10
Foyle Foundation	—	Greater Lincolnshire	Group	12	£72,200.70

*SELCP = South and East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership

Our Finances at a Glance

Careful financial management allows us to direct funding effectively while protecting the Foundation's long-term sustainability. This summary provides an overview of our Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2026.

	Unrestricted funds (£)	Restricted funds (£)	Endowment funds (£)	Total (£) 2026	Total (£) 2025
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	663	4,143,653	298	4,144,614	4,855,101
Charitable activities	486,081	-	-	486,081	530,046
Investment income	197,672	-	-	197,672	207,240
Total income	684,416	4,143,653	298	4,828,367	5,592,387

Expenditure on:

Raising funds	(17,417)	-	-	(17,417)	(12,336)
Charitable activities	(565,431)	(3,873,040)	(103,869)	(4,542,340)	(4,854,744)
Total expenditure	(582,848)	(3,873,040)	(103,869)	(4,559,757)	(4,867,080)
Gains/losses on investment assets	39,194	12,463	(337,524)	(285,867)	(197,540)
Net income	140,762	283,076	(441,095)	(17,257)	527,767
Gross transfers between funds	6,721	35,486	(42,207)	-	-
Net movement in funds	147,483	318,562	(483,302)	(17,257)	527,767

Reconciliation of funds

Total funds brought forward	2,429,790	1,986,154	3,135,019	7,550,963	7,023,196
Total funds carried forward	2,577,273	2,304,716	2,651,717	7,533,706	7,550,963

Our Team



None of this could be possible without a committed Board of Trustees, and an effective team who have bags of empathy.

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Lincolnshire Community Foundation Team



Sue Fortune
CEO



Cara Elliott
Finance & Grantmaker



Aaron Bailey
Data researcher & Grantmaker



Helen Cater
Grantmaker



Hayley Crawford
Grantmaker



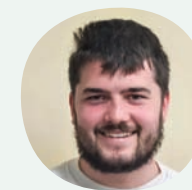
Helen Kearsley-Cree
Enterprise Lead



Charlotte Brooks
Lincoln LocalMotion Co-ordinator



Claire Edwards
Communications, Marketing & Grantmaker



Cavan Collins
Grantmaker



Katie Littlewood
Grantmaker

Trustees



Paul Scott
Chair



Lizzie Milligan-Manby
Vice Chair



Stephen Ryder
Trustee



Paula Baumber
Trustee



John Maitland
Trustee



Danielle Lowther
Trustee



Andrew Deeley
Trustee



Craig Cooksley
Trustee

Acknowledgement to Panel members:

Staff and Trustees would like to thank volunteer panellists across the County who ensure our grant processes are fair, transparent, and equitable. Their input ensures we deliver greater positive impact where it's needed most.

Auditors:

Forrester Boyd, 26 South Saint Mary's Gate, Grimsby, North East Lincolnshire DN31 1LW

Accountants:

Simon Moss & Co, 34A South Gate, Sleaford, Lincolnshire NG34 7RY

Financial Advisor:

Money Minder, The Old Ale House, 41 Boston Road, Sleaford NG34 7ER

Investment Managers:

CCLA, One Angel Lane, London EC4R 3A

Our Trusted Partners

Our work is strengthened by the organisations that share their knowledge, resources and trust with us. By working together across the public, private and voluntary sectors, we can respond more effectively to local need and achieve greater impact across Lincolnshire.

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Charity Number: 1196448