YTL UK social value impact report

2025-2026

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YTL UK
YTL GROUP



YTL UK Social value impact report 2025-2026

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Cover photo: Frome Valley Growing Project

Social impact at YTL Group UK

Our commitment to communities

At YTL UK we are always looking for new ways to help our communities thrive. Whether that's through investing in communities by awarding grants to charities, lending a helping hand to local community groups, supporting schools or offering financial support to customers.

We recognise that we have a very important role to play in the lives of our customers, so our companies work hard to build strong, relationships with them. This allows us to respond effectively and create long-term value for the communities we serve.

We work in partnership with a wide range of local organisations and charities and acknowledge how important it is to work at grassroots level to address social and environmental challenges. By combining resources, we can help groups to expand the reach of projects and work on shared goals to improve our local communities and environments.

We are proud to be a founding partner with VOSCUR in Bristol of the Social Value Pioneers, providing best practice for social value in our region.



"The YTL UK Group of companies provides essential services to millions of customers, water and environmental, housing, energy and construction all with a focus on sustainability and all requiring long term investment. But just as important is the work we do with the communities we serve. By working together with communities and using resources creatively we go beyond just building and delivering services, to leave a lasting, positive mark on our communities.

How we work should be a vehicle for positive change through local employment, partnership work and our supply chain. Creating positive, lasting, sustainable outcomes for communities and the environment is just one of the ways we achieve this across YTL UK."

Colin Skellett
YTL Group Chief Executive

By working together with communities we go beyond just building and delivering services

For more information on our wider sustainability and employment data, read our most recent report here **ytlgroup.co.uk/sustainability**

Community engagement dashboard

YTL UK Foundation

£731,823 awarded

171 groups

25 community panel members

Water Force and Task Force

5,423 volunteer hours

781kg of rubbish collected on 27 beaches - the weight of a dairy cow

977 volunteers

Watermark Town awards

300 water butts delivered

5 towns in 2025

10 projects underway

Education service

31 community events attended

93 school groups visited our sites

100% rated us good or excellent

18,074 young people educated

Community Drop-Ins

304 community drop-in sessions

1,906 individual enquiries answered

Community champions

£5,300 of match funding awarded

28 community events

Water refill points

343,060 single use plastic bottles saved from landfill

24 public refill points maintained

YTL UK Foundation



YTL UK Foundation

What is the YTL UK Foundation

The YTL UK Foundation provides funding to projects that strengthen communities and benefit the environment where we work.

The Foundation was launched in 2020 in partnership with the Somerset, Wiltshire, Dorset and Quartet Community Foundations who help to ensure our funding goes towards the communities that are in most need of support.

Grants totalling at least £700,000 are distributed through the Foundation every year to support core debt advice services, long term Partner Programmes to support environmental projects and through our Wessex Water Community Fund and Wessex Water Environment Fund. This year was also the second year of the YTL Avonmouth Area Community Fund opening for applications. The Fund was launched in conjunction with the expansion of the water recycling centre at Avonmouth.

Funding for the Environment Fund and Community Fund is awarded at decision making panels made up of volunteers from Wessex Water and representatives from the local community, who bring a wealth of experience and local knowledge to help us make the best decisions. We are very grateful to community foundation volunteers who give their time to review and support decision making at these panels.

Acknowledgements

We are proud to work with all our partners across the region and especially the local community foundations and their volunteers who enable us to reach and fund such a wide range of community projects across the region.

Dorset Community Foundation

Quartet Community Foundation

Somerset Community Foundation

Since 1975 Wiltshire & Swindon Community Foundation

Funding overview 2025-26

Programme	Number of grants	People supported	Amount awarded
Wessex Water Community Fund	71	19,086	£243,099
Wessex Water Environment Fund	50	Not applicable	£70,521
Avonmouth Area Community Fund	8	7,620	£35,000
Partner Grants - Environment	4	Not applicable	£100,000
Partner Grants - Debt Advice	37	3,614	£283,203
Total	**170**	**30,320**	**£731,823**

The Wessex Water Community Fund

The Community Fund supports charitable activities that aim to build stronger communities and improve the lives of local people. Funding supports community-based activities or projects that meet a local need and improve the lives of local people who are in most need of support. These activities or projects should be informed by the people or community they seek to serve and have considerable reach.

Priority has been given to activities that fulfil one or more of the following criteria:

- take place in areas of multiple deprivation or rural isolation, where people lack access to local services
- help build stronger communities, enabling people to work together and create solutions to local challenges
- help people take steps to manage or avoid debt and build their financial capability. This can include activities that raise awareness and increase the take-up of utility affordability support, such as our help-to-pay schemes.

Top issues addressed by the Community Fund	
Poverty & disadvantage (including food poverty)	15%
Isolation and loneliness	11%
Mental health	18%
Other issues including anti-social behaviour and community support and development	56%
Total	**100%**

Top beneficiaries of the Community Fund	
Families/parents	15%
People experiencing poverty or living on low income	14%
People experiencing poor mental health	11%
People living with a long-term health or life-limiting condition	6%
Refugees/asylum seekers/vulnerable migrants	6%
Other beneficiaries	48%
Total	**100%**

CASE STUDY

Spear Bournemouth, Dorset

A grant of £4,000 for Spear Bournemouth was awarded by the Wessex Water Community Fund.

The Spear Programme Bournemouth helps young people overcome the challenges holding them back and equips them with the confidence, skills and mindset needed for work or further education. It provides intensive coaching for unemployed 16-24-year-olds, helping them overcome barriers, build workplace skills and commit to long-term employment. It begins with a Foundation phase of group and 1-1 coaching, followed by 12 months of career support.

Ben Torrens, centre manager at Spear Bournemouth explains: "We support the young people with both the practical tools they need to access employment, such as CV writing, cover letters, mock interviews which you can see in the photos, as well as coaching around mindsets and mentalities. The young people progress into a wide range of entry level positions in sectors such as hospitality, retail and warehousing as well as into areas such as IT, administration, construction and apprenticeships. Spear also support young people to re-enter education, providing tailored guidance for returning to college or progressing to university."



Spear Bournemouth

The Wessex Water Community Fund around the region

Working with local community foundations in each area, we track and monitor feedback on funding from previous years. Here are some examples of work funded over 2024/25.

Dorset - Gillingham Youth Club (part of Three Rivers Partnership)

Awarded a grant of £4,000 in December 2024, to support the continuation of weekly youth sessions.

The grant supported wellness activities, Christmas and Halloween parties, arts and crafts, cooking and sports activities with 50 young people. Listening to young people and responding to their interests helped increase engagement and ownership of the sessions. Participation in youth club activities has increased over time.

The youth club has also had a positive impact on young people's mental health. Having access to a safe space, trusted youth workers, and peer support helped young people feel listened to and supported, contributing to improved mood, reduced stress, and increased self-esteem. Young people developed healthier coping strategies and felt more able to manage everyday challenges.

Wiltshire - St Peter's Foodbox

Awarded a grant of £1,000 in December 2024. St Peter's Foodbox aims to alleviate food waste and food poverty within Chippenham and the surrounding villages by collecting surplus food from supermarkets and redistributing them as food bags to families in need.

The grant enabled them to purchase additional food and top the bags up with ingredients to ensure that the parcels can provide fresh, balanced, and nutritious meals.

Foodbox runs for five days a week and is supported by 50-60 volunteers and is currently working at capacity, delivering 25 food bags every day and supporting 125 households per week. Iain Craig, volunteer and part of the leadership team at St Peter's Foodbox, explains the difference that the organisation makes to families struggling within Chippenham: "It is really difficult to put into words the impact that these deliveries have on the people receiving them unless you experience it yourself. We have delivered to places where they haven't got a crumb in the cupboard, and it's sad, it's heart-breaking.

Somerset - SENshine Support



SENshine Support

Awarded a grant of £1,000 in December 2024, SENshine supports children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and their parents and carers in Yeovil and the surrounding areas.

They provide safe, inclusive, and understanding spaces where families can come together to play, learn, and connect and the grant helped with running costs for the weekly sessions for 30 SEN children and their parent/carers at two locations in Yeovil over ten months.

Hollie, SENshine Support's lead explains: "this grant has enabled us to run sessions that have helped to reduce social isolation for SEN families, by giving them somewhere to belong. It also helped to improve mental health and wellbeing as our sessions give families a place to be themselves, meet others in the same situation and make connections that would not otherwise have been possible."

Bristol and BaNES - Time Bank Plus

Awarded a grant of £4,000 from the Community Fund in December 2024 towards their 'Community Sharing Space'. This is a vibrant hub and resource centre based in Twerton, Bath for the local community.

With the help of local volunteers, the shopfront premises were redecorated and redesigned, to create more space for groups. Display shelving was created for some of the 'Borrow It' items, together with a changing window display highlighting some of the most popular items.

New peer-led groups were consulted, and an online survey of local people was undertaken, which indicated a wide range of subjects were of particular interest to the local community including art and crafts, herbs and foraging and computing and smartphones.

The Wessex Water Environment Fund

The Environment Fund supports charitable and community activities that improve local biodiversity or have a positive impact on the environment for local people.

To receive funding, projects must demonstrate one or more of the following outcomes:

- involve communities in environmental activities that benefit their local area
- restore, maintain or enhance the local natural environment
- engage people in supporting the local natural environment.

Priority will be given to projects that:

- reduce water usage
- improve environmental sustainability
- improve local biodiversity.

The main focus of this programme is to achieve positive outcomes for the environment through activities that have a direct environmental impact.

Top issues addressed by the Environment Fund	
Biodiversity	32%
Environmental improvements	32%
Environmental conservation	18%
Other	18%
Total	**100%**

CASE STUDY

Frome Valley Growing Project

This group received a grant of £1,989 from the Wessex Water Environment Fund

Based in Winterbourne, South Gloucestershire, the Frome Valley Growing Project promotes sustainable food production on its 3.5 acre site. With a wide range of habitats and employing chemical free cultivation, rain-water harvesting and locally sourced plants and compost, the project produces vegetable boxes for its members as well as produce for local foodbanks and community cafes. Kate Macdonald, who founded the project, explains why she applied to the Environment Fund:

"With no access to mains water we were seeking funding for biodiversity and rain-water sustainability improvements including new IBCS, an additional water storage tank, improvements to our solar powered irrigation system across our growing beds.

"We also wanted to create a second pond. We had an ecological report prepared in 2024 by Avon Wildlife Trust that highlighted the need to create a stable pond environment for amphibians such as frogs and insects which control pests."

The project welcomes school groups and offers volunteering opportunities to local people and families who are interested in learning more about their local ecology and growing sustainably.



Frome Valley Growing Project

The Wessex Water Environment Fund around the region

Working with local community foundations for each area, we track and monitor feedback on funding from previous years. Here are some examples of work funded over 2024/25

Dorset - Buckland Newton Youth Club (NBNYC)

Received a grant of £1,693 in June 2024 to develop an allotment at the Buckland Newton Allotments.

The young people and adult volunteers worked to clear the site, dig a pond and ditches to improve the drainage. They put up a shed and a polytunnel, have planted potatoes, sweetcorn, courgettes, runner beans, pumpkins, aubergines, tomatoes, cucumbers and melons. Donated windows were used for cold frames, and BNYC then even built its own greenhouse, which gave them a huge sense of achievement.



NBNYC

It has provided a space where local children and young people can come together, supported to learn new skills and try new activities including digging, sowing, planting and harvesting - learning where their food comes from.

Somerset - Brendon Orchards Cooperative

Awarded a grant of £975 from the Environment Fund, Brendon Orchards Cooperative is a cooperative aiming to sustainably protect the West Country's unique and beautiful local orchards.

The grant helped develop a new green space in the heart of Wiveliscombe, Somerset. Jon Burgess from Brendan Orchards Cooperative said: "We have sought advice about the best trees and fruit to grow at the site so the species and varieties selected will be well-suited to thrive today given the impacts of climate change and the potential for drought."

The new green space will actively encourage wildlife with an orchard, trees and wildflowers providing invaluable habitats. Volunteers from across the community have been busy making it happen – and Jon says this is an all-important part of the project.



Rainwater storage at the Devenish Bradshaw Charitable Trust

Wiltshire - Devenish Bradshaw Charitable Trust

Awarded a £1,000 grant towards restoring chalk stream habitats through sustainable land management practices.

The Devenish Bradshaw Charitable Trust owns and manages floodplain meadows, chalk streams, and wet woodland on the River Bourne on the east-side of Salisbury, as well as a community orchard.

Trustee David Burton explains that: "the grant has enabled us to do a number of really important things. The rainwater harvesting system that we were able to create has meant that we can reduce water usage but still have access to water during dry periods, such as last summer."

Bath/Bristol - Friends of the Park (Oldbury Court / Vassalls Park)

Awarded a grant of £2,000 in July 2024 to improve the biodiversity at Oldbury Court Park in Bristol by creating and maintaining a wildflower meadow.

The group bought wildflower seed, wildflower plug plants, fence posts, barrier tape, rope, and paid for printing and laminating posters and paid contractors to turf cut the meadow area. This has bought dozens of species of wildflower with lots of colour and interest to a section of amenity grassland that previously showed only grass and a few other species. The meadow is a focal point for local people. The children who helped with the planting feel a sense of connection and pride as well as the adults involved. Walking groups, dog walkers and general park users love the beauty of the wildflowers, posting pictures online and stopping to talk and help with the spring sowing

YTL Avonmouth Area Community Fund

Alongside the expansion of our water recycling centre in Avonmouth, the YTL UK Foundation is supporting projects that aim to improve the lives of people in the local area.

This fund is designed to support activities that benefit communities in the Avonmouth and Lawrence Weston Ward, including Shirehampton.

Priority is given to projects that fulfill one or more of the following criteria:

- improve the availability of activities and support for young people aged 11+
- improve access to job related skills and training
- improve the health and wellbeing of residents.



Oasis Community Hub North Bristol

Organisation	Summary of award	Amount
Community Church @ Lawrence Weston	Toward the staffing of 'Boing! Lawrence Weston'.	**£5,000**
Avonmouth Community Centre Association	To maintain an afterschool youth and play club.	**£2,750**
Oasis Community Hub North Bristol	To develop weekly play sessions for local children and young people living in Avonmouth.	**£6,750**
Bristol North West Foodbank	Toward the cost of a Woodworking Workshop Administrator.	**£3,500**
Bristol After Stroke	For a Stroke Coordinator who manages a Stroke Support Group in Avonmouth.	**£5,000**
Shirehampton Methodist Church	Toward the core running costs of the Wellbeing, Jobs, Training & Enterprise Hub.	**£5,000**
St Mary's Church, Shirehampton	For an innovative boxing club offering boxing and fitness lessons to support young people aged 11+.	**£2,000**
Bristol Dementia Action Alliance	To support the activity groups and events the organisation provides in Lawrence Weston and Shirehampton that benefit people affected by dementia.	**£5,000**
	Total	**£35,000**

Wessex Water: Direct Grants: Partners Programme

Our Partners Programme provides five-year funding to projects carried out by environmental organisations which conserve and enhance biodiversity and the aquatic environment across our region.

We were pleased to welcome four new or continuing projects to the Programme in spring 2025 who will be funded and supported to help deliver their projects up to 2030.

Organisation	Project	Amount
Wessex Rivers Trust	Healthy Headwaters - Revitalising the Hampshire Avon	**£25,000**
Dorset Wildlife Trust	Dorset Wild Rivers	**£25,000**
Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group SW	Upper Tone 360	**£25,000**
Cotswolds National Landscape	Glorious Cotswold Grasslands	**£25,000**
	Total	**£100,000**

- **Upper Tone 360** (delivered by Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group, FWAG SW). Building on work delivered over the last 15+ years in the River Tone catchment in Somerset, the project will focus on the river and its tributaries, using watercourses as the starting point to engage with farmers, landowners and communities with the aim of reconnecting the river with its catchment and its communities to improve water quality and nature.
- **Dorset Wild Rivers** (delivered by Dorset Wildlife Trust, with Dorset National Landscape, FWAG SW and National Trust Purbeck Estate). The project will work in partnership at landscape scale across Dorset to increase biodiversity by delivering catchment nature-based solutions. Work will aim to recover wildlife diversity and abundance, particularly in protected and priority habitats and species (including chalk streams) and a focus on establishing the conditions for nature recovery at scale in wetland habitats.
- **Glorious Cotswold Grassland**s (delivered by Cotswolds National Landscape). This long-term project aims to create and restore wildflower grasslands throughout the Cotswolds National Landscape (formerly known as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, AONB). The project will restore or create a further 40ha of species-rich grassland within the portion of the Cotswolds National Landscape in Wessex Water's region.
- **Healthy Headwaters - Revitalising the Hampshire Avon** (delivered by Wessex Rivers Trust). The project will create an innovative community scale engagement project focusing on the people that live in and around the headwaters of the Hampshire Avon (such as the Rivers Wylye, Till, Nadder, Ebble and Bourne). Communities will be engaged and educated about domestic sources of pollution (e.g. septic tanks, pet medication such as flea killers and domestic chemicals), household water consumption, and the impact this has on the health of the headwaters and catchment as a whole.



Glorious Grassland Project with Water Force volunteers in August 2025

Wessex Water: Direct Grants: Debt advice

Wessex Water funds organisations who provide debt advice or budgeting and apply for affordability schemes on behalf of their clients.

Organisation	Area	Amount
Citizens Advice Somerset	South Somerset	£31,078
Citizens Advice in East Dorset and Purbeck	Dorset	£23,650
Bath & District Citizens Advice	Bath and North East Somerset	£46,068
Citizens Advice Bournemouth Christchurch & Poole	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£25,350
1625 Independent People	Bristol	£550
Brigstowe Project	Bristol	£500
Bristol Citizens Advice Bureau	Bristol	£9,300
Bristol Citizens Advice Bureau	Bristol	£1,800
Bristol Somali Resource Centre	Bristol	£4,500
Bristol North West Foodbank	Bristol	£5,700
Faithworks Wessex	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£1,800
Ignite Food Bank	South Gloucestershire	£450
Citizens Advice Bridport and District	Dorset	£3,000
Citizens Advice Central Dorset	Dorset	£11,050
Citizens Advice West Somerset	Somerset West and Taunton	£4,200
Grace Advocacy	Sedgemoor	£1,000
Hope Debt Advice Service	Wiltshire	£900
Citizens Advice Wiltshire	Wiltshire	£17,550
StepChange	Region wide	£15,225
Money Advice Trust	Region wide	£3,000
Trowbridge Debt Advice Service	Wiltshire	£3,000
Scope	Wiltshire	£3,000
Navigate CIO	Bristol	£975

Organisation	Area	Amount
South and East Bristol Foodbank	Bristol	£3,900
Talking Money	Bristol	£4,225
Centre For Sustainable Energy	Bristol	£10,500
Christians Against Poverty (CAP)	Bristol	£2,625
Filwood Hope	Bristol	£500
North Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau	North Somerset	£14,625
North Bristol Advice Centre	Bristol	£500
South Bristol Advice Services	Bristol	£6,175
St Pauls Advice Centre Association	Bristol	£2,475
South Gloucestershire Citizens Advice Bureau	South Gloucestershire	£6,300
Sovereign Housing Association	Region wide	£1,500
Curo	Bath and North East Somerset	£8,431
Magna	Region wide	£3,800
Abri Housing Association	Region wide	£2,000
Selwood Housing	Region wide	£2,000
	Total	£283,203

Funding grants are determined by the volume of applications to our schemes in each year. We currently fund 37 organisations in our region and expect a rise in applications from our partners for debt advice that reflects the continuing difficult financial position many customers are experiencing.

Volunteering



Volunteering

Water Force and YTL UK Task Force Volunteers

This year has seen some exciting changes take place, expanding the existing Water Force volunteering programme. Not only have we continued to see a growth in the number of colleagues taking part in a Water Force volunteer day but we have also launched the Task Force Volunteering for all YTL UK colleagues. With its own new identity and bright red volunteer t-shirt, Task Force volunteering is a great addition to our popular Water Force volunteering.

The Community Engagement team now support every colleague, from every business to get involved in a team volunteering day.

Volunteering in 2025-26

- **119 volunteering days** took place in the community
- **977 colleagues** engaged in a volunteer day
- **37 charities/community groups** welcomed our volunteer teams
- **5,423 hours** given by our volunteers to support charities and community groups
- **23% engagement** in volunteering across YTL UK.
- **781kg of litter** was collected on 27 beach cleans.

Task Force YTL UK volunteering

This exciting new addition, launched in autumn 2025, enables colleagues from across the YTL UK group to benefit from the existing contacts, expertise and experience of the community engagement team to provide high quality volunteering days.

The team have strong relationships with charity partners and groups across the area enabling a smooth transition from providing volunteering for just Wessex Water to the entire YTL UK Group.



"It's great to be able to give back to the community, raising our profile with the public and strengthening the bonds and relationships within the team."

Volunteering across our region

Our volunteers have access to a wide range of volunteering opportunities, both inside and outside, for small or large teams on the themes of community and environment. From foodbanks and food pantries to community care farms and food growing projects or land management tasks on nature reserves and beach cleans, teams can choose an area or activity that interests them most. We are always on the lookout for new places for our teams to support, this year St Werburghs City Farm in Bristol and Weston Super Mare Foodbank were popular new additions.

During the year our teams volunteered at:

- Beach cleans in Dorset and Somerset
- Bath City Farm
- Weston-Super-Mare Foodbank
- Secret World Wildlife Rescue Centre
- Southdown Methodist Church Community Centre
- Larkrise Community Farm
- Harnham Water Meadow Trust
- Wildfowl and Wetland Trust
- Lawrence Weston Community Farm
- Wiltshire Wildlife Trust
- High Mead Community Farm
- National Trust – Montacute House and Tintinhull Gardens
- Diverse Abilities
- Oasis Hub
- St Werburghs City Farm
- Avon Wildlife Trust
- Nailsea Community Larder
- Future Roots, Unique Voice
- Alabare, Genesis Trust, Dorset Wildlife Trust
- Dorothy House Hospice
- Taunton Foodbank
- Chapmanslade Village Hall
- St Peters Hospice
- Cotswold National Landscape
- Oasis Academy John Williams
- St Michaels C of E Primary School
- St Margarets Hospice
- High Mead Community Farm
- Combe St Nicholas Parochial Trust
- The Salvation Army
- Stalbridge Nature Reserve
- Inhope, Bristol.



Task Force volunteer team at the Oasis Pantry in Bath



Water Force team at Montacute House with the National Trust

YTL Community Champions



YTL Community Champions

Speaker Service

Throughout the year, many colleagues have delivered talks across our region, representing departments including:

- Environment Solutions
- Estates
- Water Recycling
- Infrastructure Development
- Education Advisers
- Community Drop-In team

These talks help strengthen community understanding of our work and provide opportunities for meaningful engagement. We also received 28 external requests for our Speaker Service talks from a wide range of groups and organisations, including:

- Women's Institute
- Tangent Club
- Mothers' Union
- Rotary Clubs
- Community Groups
- U3A
- Bournemouth & Poole College
- Tuesday & Friday Groups
- Parkinson's Support Groups
- Wedmore Probus Club
- ICE City Club
- McCarthy Stone
- Gardening Clubs

"Please could we ask you to pass on our many thanks for a wonderful talk and very interesting tour at Westbury Water Recycling Centre yesterday. We came away feeling better informed about the whole water recycling process, and wiser about what to believe when we read about river pollution by water companies in the media."

Amesbury Evening WI



Sam Vince, Head of Supply Compliance, Wessex Water talking to Saltford Afternoon WI

Community PlusFund

For every £1 raised by colleagues for a local charity, the Community PlusFund will match it – up to a maximum of £250.

From April 2025 to March 2026 we match funded £5,300 for a variety of sponsored runs, a Three Peaks Challenge, colleagues who helped at local school fayres, abseiled, completed a 100km walk, did bike rides and even decorated their house with Christmas lights to raise funds for a local charity.

CASE STUDY

Group Services colleague, Chris Carling, secured a donation of £195 to help raise £3,628 for a local Bath school

To celebrate the 75th anniversary of Moorlands Primary School in Bath, Chris joined a group of parents and teachers from the Moorlands Parent Teacher Association (PTA) to take on the 75-mile bike ride. Chris explained that this was "well outside our comfort zone – but we did it to support the school and the amazing children who learn there every day."

The PTA support and enhance the educational experience for all students through projects such as restoring a derelict pond near the junior's school entrance to boost biodiversity and helping create a brilliant outdoor learning resource.

Community Champions

Our Community Champions programme is open to all colleagues who wish to represent the organisation within their local area.

Community Champions act as ambassadors, helping us stay connected to local events, initiatives, and opportunities. The role also provides a valuable channel for sharing the great work taking place within communities, enabling the Community Engagement team to enhance the support we offer to customers through funding, volunteering, and other resources.

We currently have 61 Community Champions across our region. To keep everyone informed, we issue a quarterly newsletter featuring updates on the Community PlusFund, YTL UK Foundation funding, events, our speaker service, and updates on the new Watermark Towns programme.



Ruth Barden, Envionmental Solutions Director, Wessex Water

CASE STUDY

Nicky Brennan, Community Champion in Calne, Wiltshire

What have you enjoyed about being a community champion?

Having the opportunity to engage with the community to understand the issues they have and start to change their perceptions of the water industry.

What is something you wish everyone knew about being a community champion?

It does not take up a lot of time and is not as daunting as you may think. I was worried that I would face a lot of angry people when I attended my first event in my WW polo shirt – but ended up having rich and valuable conversations.

What are you looking forward to doing as a community champion in the future?

Calne has an amazing community spirit and active volunteer groups such as Calne Clean Up Crew and River Warriors, I am looking forward to building relationships with these groups and the more active local councillors.



Nicky with the Wessex Water duck that took part in the annual Calne Duck Race

YTL at Brabazon



YTL at Brabazon

A new community hub in Bristol

At Brabazon we want to create a real sense of community. One of the ways we are doing this is through the Spitfire Hangar which opened in January 2026 and is run by Brabazon Community Trust, a registered charity.

Once a historic aircraft hangar, this space has been transformed into a vibrant community hub for local people to enjoy.

Its cafe and fitness station will make it into the ultimate destination to eat, drink, work out and unwind. It will also bring people together through youth and community activities, live music, comedy shows and meetings.

We have also been working on community development and partnerships in the local area including:

- Working with Southern Brooks local development organisation.
- FACE community youth consultation.
- Brabazon Community Fund and new youth group sessions launched.
- Working with South Glos Youth Service and developing youth partnerships.



Opening day at the Spitfire Hangar



Trustees of the Brabazon Community Trust

Wessex Water Education Service



Wessex Water Education Service

Our free education service reached a total of 18,074 young people through high quality classroom sessions, assemblies and site visits, with 100% rating the service as excellent or good, of which 99.32% ratings were excellent. The team also worked with 3,822 adults as part of the education outreach service across the region. From school classrooms to outdoor festivals, we've been inspiring curiosity about water, the environment, and STEM.



The education team

School workshops

School visits are always a highlight for us. This year, we delivered workshops to over 7,000 children, bringing science and engineering to life through fun, practical activities. Pupils learned how clean water reaches their taps and how wastewater is carefully treated before returning safely to the natural environment.

We're thrilled by the brilliant feedback we receive from teachers. Many schools now invite us back every year, especially where our sessions link strongly to the curriculum. It's lovely to be part of their annual learning plans!

Site visits by schools

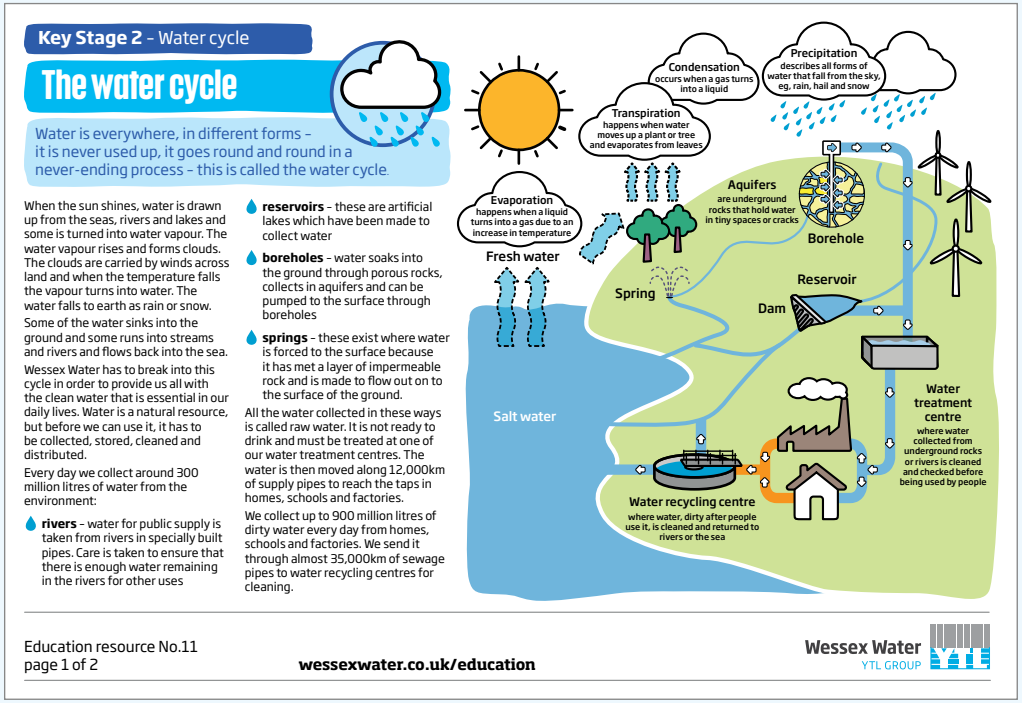
One of the most memorable experiences for pupils is stepping onto one of our operational sites. This year, 93 groups, more than 2,200 children and students, visited our water treatment centres at Ashford, Sutton Bingham and Sutton Poyntz, as well as our water recycling centres at Holdenhurst, Saltford and Weston-super-Mare.

Seeing the real machinery, processes and people behind clean water makes a huge impact. These visits help shape long-lasting behaviour changes, like using water wisely and avoiding flushing wet wipes.

CASE STUDY

Visit to Longspee Primary Academy, Poole

We delivered two workshops at this special needs school with twenty three Key Stage 2 pupils aged between 7-11years old. The older pupils discovered how Wessex Water collects and treats water, stores it in a water tower, and distributes it to their school and homes. They engaged in a hands-on STEM activity, replicating the treatment process, using screens, sand filters and activated carbon to clean water. The younger pupils helped create a 'sewage soup' and carried out an investigation to test the outcomes of flushing tissue paper, toilet paper and wet-wipes, helping discover why wet-wipes and other items, should not be disposed of down toilets! The lead teacher, Lisa, commented that the sessions were 'Brilliant, engaging, adapted to meet pupils needs'.



Key Stage 2 - Water cycle

The water cycle

Water is everywhere, in different forms – it is never used up, it goes round and round in a never-ending process – this is called the water cycle.

When the sun shines, water is drawn up from the seas, rivers and lakes and some is turned into water vapour. The water vapour rises and forms clouds. The clouds are carried by winds across land and when the temperature falls the vapour turns into water. The water falls to earth as rain or snow.

Some of the water sinks into the ground and some runs into streams and rivers and flows back into the sea.

Wessex Water has to break into this cycle in order to provide us all with the clean water that is essential in our daily lives. Water is a natural resource, but before we can use it, it has to be collected, stored, cleaned and distributed.

Every day we collect around 300 million litres of water from the environment:

- **rivers** - water for public supply is taken from rivers in specially built pipes. Care is taken to ensure that there is enough water remaining in the rivers for other uses
- **reservoirs** - these are artificial lakes which have been made to collect water
- **boreholes** - water soaks into the ground through porous rocks, collects in aquifers and can be pumped to the surface through boreholes
- **springs** - these exist where water is forced to the surface because it has met a layer of impermeable rock and is made to flow out on to the surface of the ground.

All the water collected in these ways is called raw water. It is not ready to drink and must be treated at one of our water treatment centres. The water is then moved along 12,000km of supply pipes to reach the taps in homes, schools and factories.

We collect up to 900 million litres of dirty water every day from homes, schools and factories. We send it through almost 35,000km of sewage pipes to water recycling centres for cleaning.

Youth groups and community learning

Beyond schools, we've also spent time with youth organisations such as cubs, scouts and guides, in fact the team met 17 scout and guide groups. These sessions give young people the chance to explore water and the environment in a relaxed, hands-on setting.

Community events and public engagement

Our team also had a great time meeting families and young people at 31 different community events over the year which included:

- Dorchester Science Festival at Dorchester Museum
- Field to Food event at the Bath and West Showground
- Somerscience Festival at Haynes Motor Museum
- Festival of Nature in Bath and Bristol
- Melplash Show – Discover Farming section
- Weymouth Science Festival at the Nothe Fort
- Bath Taps into Science festival
- Around The Bend tours, where we supported most events throughout the year

These events are a brilliant chance for families to enjoy hands-on activities, ask questions about the water industry, and discover more about the natural world.





The education team at community events

Wessex Water Community Drop-ins



Wessex Water Community Drop-ins



The Community Drop-In team

The Community Outreach team has had an incredibly active year supporting customers across both our water supply and wastewater areas.

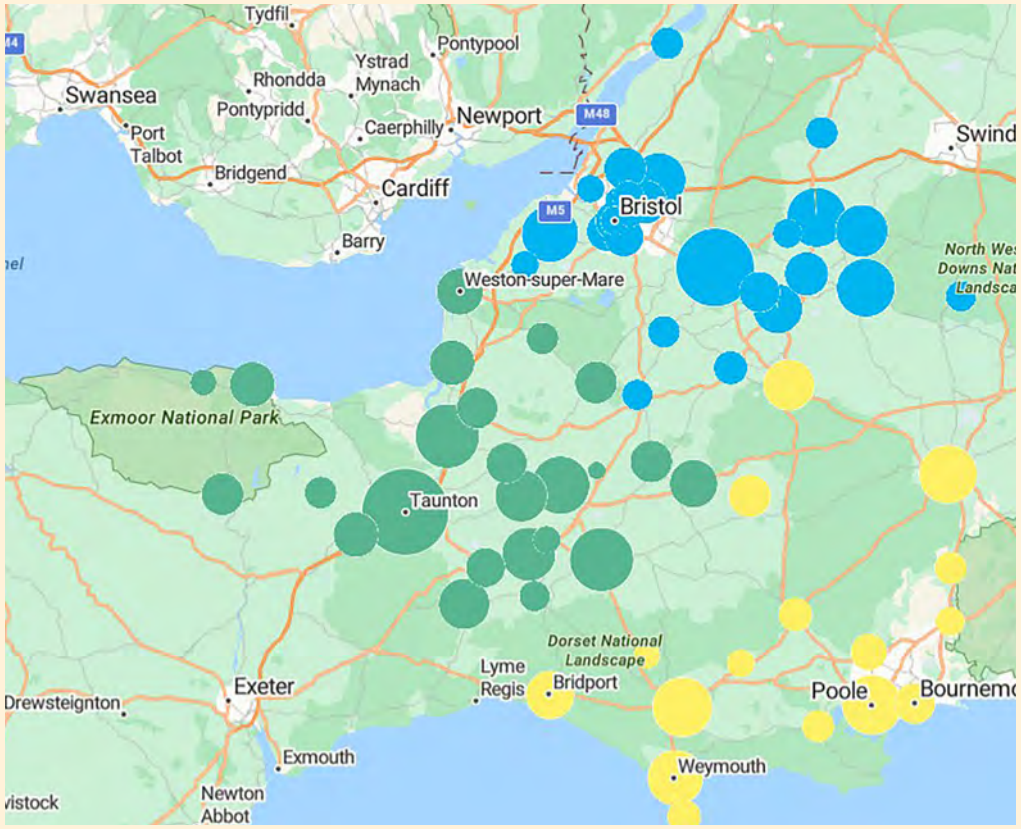
In 2025 we expanded the Community Drop-ins across the whole waste and water supply region, offering face to face support to customers at 304 sessions in locations such as public libraries, handling 1,906 individual enquiries.

The team have been making it easier than ever for people to get help with:

- water supply queries
- wastewater concerns
- billing questions
- affordability schemes
- Priority Services Register support.

Bringing support into local spaces

Most of our drop-ins take place in libraries, community hubs and other familiar, easy-to-reach places. Sessions run for around three hours, giving customers plenty of time to drop in. The team also attends ad-hoc sessions to meet emerging community needs.



Map showing community drop-in locations and volume of enquiries.

Strengthening partnerships across the region

Throughout the year, we've strengthened relationships with organisations and groups across the region, working closely with:

- Community groups and charities
- Local councils
- Warm spaces
- Talking Cafés with Village Agents at Thrive Somerset
- Community coffee mornings
- Health & Wellbeing forums in Warminster and Bridport
- Networking events in Dorchester and Weymouth

Why Community Drop-ins matter

For many customers, travelling or navigating online systems can be challenging. Our drop-ins offer accessible, face-to-face support through:

- A relaxed, local environment
- Personal conversations
- Clear guidance
- Practical problem-solving
- Faster access to support

CUSTOMER CASE STUDY

Helping a customer save over £800

A customer, living alone in a large bungalow, was paying £1,400 per year on a rateable value bill. After discussing her options, we supported her in switching to a water meter – helping her save over £800 in just one year.

Through personalised support, strong partnerships and a caring approach, the Community Outreach team ensures people across our communities can access help easily, locally and confidently.





A Community Drop-In at a local library



Wessex Watermark Town Awards



Wessex Watermark Town Awards

The Watermark Towns Award was created to build a network of environmentally aware communities working alongside their Town and Parish Councils to save water, reduce surface-water run-off, and deepen public understanding of water supply and waste systems.

In 2025, five Town Councils joined the programme: Calne, Devizes, Dorchester, Taunton and Warminster. Each council formally resolved to undertake the Watermark Award.

Engagement and community workshops

The Watermark journey began with a workshop in each town, jointly facilitated by Town Council Officers and Wessex Water's Community team. These sessions brought together a wide range of local groups – from allotment associations and wildlife organisations to Toad Patrol volunteers – to explore issues around water, sustainability and the environment.

The workshops became the catalyst for new conversations, shared priorities and community-led ideas. Each council was encouraged to refine these ideas into at least three projects to deliver over the year.

Across all five towns, councils partnered with allotment groups and community gardens to distribute water butts and promote rainwater harvesting for food-growing spaces. In total, 300 water butts were delivered to the Town Councils for onward distribution.

Across all five towns, 300 water butts were delivered for allotment groups and community gardens





A Watermark Town workshop

Watermark Town Taunton

Taunton held a community workshop in March 2025 with Wessex Water to engage with residents and identify focus areas for projects around water based solutions. From this they generated the following projects:

- Tauntons Tiny Ponds – With a total of 44 sign ups, this is a community engagement initiative for families in underserved areas. Tiny pond packs will be delivered for families to set up a small pond in their back garden to help with blue corridors and local biodiversity.
- Slow The Flow Project 1: Sustainable Rainwater Harvesting – 60 water butts and funding delivered to various allotment groups, community groups and schools to help with sustainable rainwater harvesting to help during periods of drought.
- Slow The Flow Project 2: Rain Gardens and Swales - Working with West Country Rivers Trust to undertake feasibility studies across identified parks to generate designs for rain gardens and swales to help slow the flow.

Mapping and communications

The YTL Design team supported the programme by producing bespoke maps for each town. These maps were displayed at workshops to allow the groups present to identify important local places and water-related features. Each map will form the centrepiece of a town-specific leaflet explaining the Watermark Award and showcasing local projects.

Events and education

As part of the Watermark Award, the Community team attended community events within the towns and the Education team visited schools across the Watermark Towns, helping young people understand water use, wastewater systems and environmental protection.

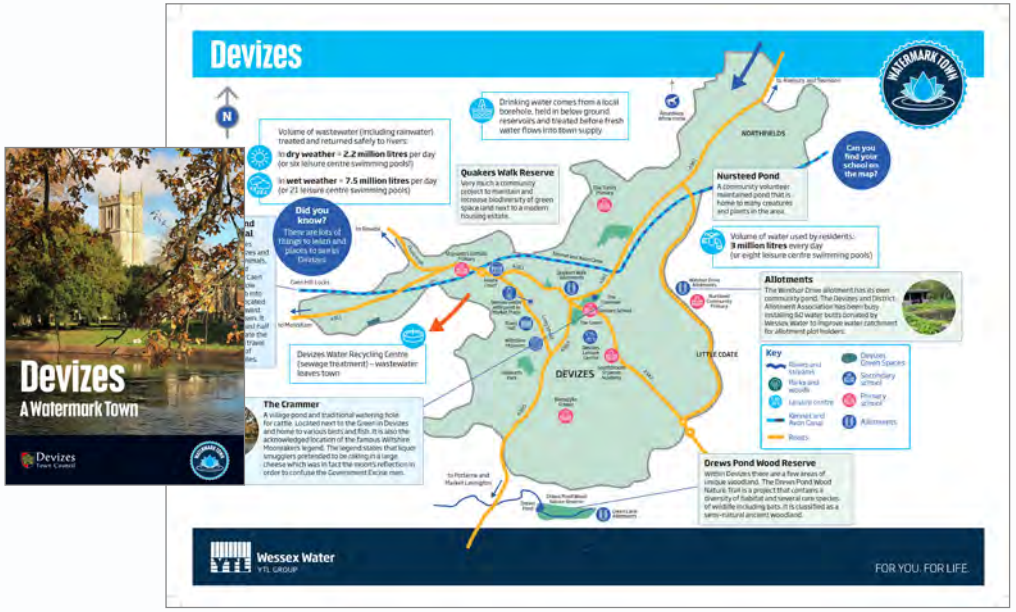
The future

The success of the 2025 cohort has driven significant growth, 12 Town Councils and three Parish Councils are confirmed to take part for 2026.

To support smaller councils, a new Watermark Community Award has been created, offering a lighter touch version of the programme while still enabling meaningful environmental action.



Awarding Taunton Town Council with their certificate



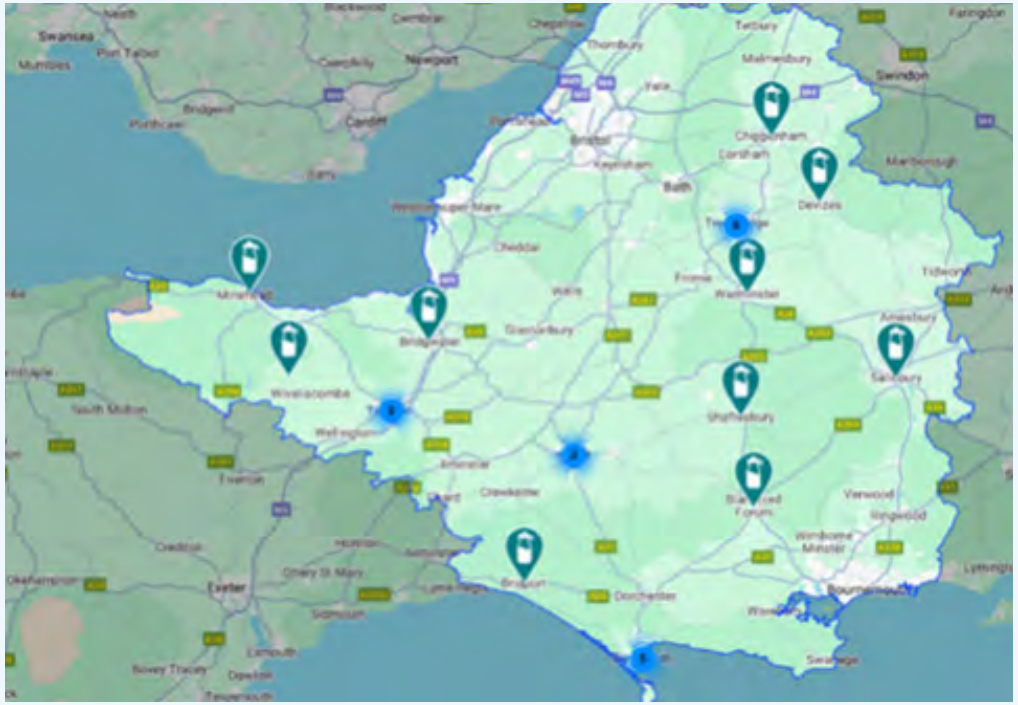
Leaflet created for Devizes Town Council

Wessex Water Refill Points



Wessex Water Refill Points

Wessex Water continues to support the fight against plastic pollution and promote access to clean drinking water through our network of 24 free public water refill units across the South West. These units help reduce single-use plastic by offering convenient refill points for residents and visitors.



Water refill point map (wessexwater.co.uk)

Our refill units are regularly cleaned, maintained and inspected to ensure the highest standards of hygiene and water quality. In addition:

- Monthly: The refill unit team records usage data for all units.
- Twice a year: We share personalised updates with town councils, including usage data for the units in their area. These updates also include links to our refill and hydration social media toolkit, with ready-made posts and images for Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.
- Annually: On World Refill Day (16 June), we share total water usage from all 24 refill points on our communication channels.

From April 2025 to March 2026, our public water refill points helped avoid the equivalent of 343,060 single use plastic bottles, reinforcing efforts to reduce plastic waste and promote sustainable behaviours.



Mayor Of Chippenham (2024-25) Councillor Conor Melvin officially opens the Chippenham water refill point.

Appendices

Somerset Community Foundation - Community Fund grants				
Programme	**Organisation**	**Summary of award**	**Location**	**Award**
Wessex Water Community Fund	The Workshop Project CIC	Costs to enable the improvement of facilities at an alternative education provision in Bridgwater.	Sedgemoor	**£3,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Stogursey Youth Club	Rural youth work provision for young people in Stogurse.	Somerset West and Taunton	**£3,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Watch CIO (formerly Chard WATCH)	Ongoing costs of providing support for isolated individuals in the Chard area.	South Somerset	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	FND Friends	Core costs for a charity supporting people with Functional Neurological Disorder across the south west.	South Somerset	**£3,500**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Chard Community Hub	Training volunteers to help people to access support services in Chard and surrounding areas.	South Somerset	**£1,400**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Mingle Bristol CIC	Launch of a food pantry from an existing community cafe in Bridgwater.	Sedgemoor	**£3,730**
Wessex Water Community Fund	SBA CIC	Support sessions helping residents to improve digital confidence and financial wellbeing across South Somerset and the Mendips.	South Somerset	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Songs for the Memory	Weekly singing and socialising sessions for people living with dementia in Frome and surrounding area.	Mendip	**£1,680**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Social Circles	Costs for a pilot volunteer befriending project across the Somerset Levels and Moors LCN.	South Somerset	**£3,900**
Wessex Water Community Fund	OpenStoryTellers	Part funding for a Creative Facilitator role to offer additional support to those with learning disabilities in the Mendip area.	Mendip	**£3,391**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Age UK Somerset	Information/advice outreach sessions and home visits to help older people across Somerset manage finances, maximise income, reduce isolation, and build financial confidence in rural and deprived areas.	Sedgemoor	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Growing Space	Running weekly social and therapeutic horticulture sessions for people in South Somerset affected by poor mental health.	South Somerset	**£4,000**
			Total awarded	**£39,601**

Bath and Bristol - Quartet Community Foundation - Community Fund grants				
Programme	**Organisation**	**Summary of award**	**Location**	**Award**
Wessex Water Community Fund	St Werburghs City Farm	For 'Space to Grow' to enable the farm to provide facilitated support and welcoming green space for grassroots groups working with people from minority groups who face mental ill health.	Bristol	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Redcatch Community Garden	Towards additional staff capacity for the winter period, a busy period for their foodbank, frozen meal and advice provision.	Bristol	**£2,534**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Creative Outbursts CIO	To support the continuation of the Boombox Youth Project delivering a programme of youth activities and support for young people in Weston-super-Mare.	North Somerset	**£3,940**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Housing Matters	Providing community drop-ins to help people build financial resilience and escape or avoid homelessness.	Bristol	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Helping Homeless Believe	To provide an additional five hours a week for people to drop in to use the facilities and get support.	South Gloucestershire	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Grand Friends	Towards the 'Sunday Socials', intergenerational tea parties hosted by the GrandFriends.	Bath and North East Somerset	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Resolve West	Towards the Conflict Resolution service for people in Bristol, aiming to improve community cohesion and build stronger communities.	Bristol	**£2,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Ignite Life	For core funding to continue the delivery of two community, youth-led services: food provision and youth 1:1 mentoring.	South Gloucestershire	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Young Carers Development Trust	Supporting disadvantaged young carers to progress in education, build financial capability, reducing household financial pressures and lowering the risk of future debt.	Bath and North East Somerset	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	The Hive Community Centre	Towards open access youth sessions for 11-19 year olds in Peasedown St John.	Bath and North East Somerset	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Concord Church	To provide English classes to migrants in the local area with the aim of improving chances of employment and education, and to help with integration and reduce loneliness.	South Gloucestershire	**£3,900**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Evolve Music	To deliver 10 Dads Rock sessions in North Somerset, supporting fathers with their mental health, to connect with their children and build community through the use of musical play.	North Somerset	**£2,500**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Coexist Community Kitchen CIC	To provide monthly open access cooking classes 'Cook and Connect'.	Bristol	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Golden-Oldies	To start five new Sing & Smile groups in B&NES, North Somerset, Bristol & South Gloucestershire and provide three county-wide Christmas BIG SINGs.	South Gloucestershire	**£2,000**

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Wessex Water Community Fund	Aid Box Community	Towards the running costs of ABC's Welcome Hub and free shop for refugees and people seeking asylum.	Bristol	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Portishead Youth Centre	To provide safe and supportive sessions with breakfast provision for parents and young children who are at risk of loneliness and isolation, or who are vulnerable to cost-of-living pressures.	North Somerset	**£3,992**
Wessex Water Community Fund	ACTA	For the Creative Wellbeing Café – a welcoming, creative space where adults can connect and enhance wellbeing through arts-based activities and social interaction.	Bristol	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Age UK Somerset	Providing free information, advice, and home visits to help older people across North Somerset manage finances, maximise income, reduce isolation, and build financial confidence.	North Somerset	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Easton Cowboys and Cowgirls Sports and Social Club	To run football training and a football team primarily for asylum seekers & refugees. To hold weekly after match community meals and signpost to relevant support services.	Bristol	**£2,534**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Sound Women	To deliver free workshops for young women in inner city Bristol on radio podcasts and music technology.	Bristol	**£2,600**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Hawkspring	Towards their recovery services for adults living with alcohol or substance addiction and issues around misuse.	Bristol	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	We Are BS15 CIC	For weekly nature-based wellbeing sessions in Kingswood supporting adults with low mood and anxiety to improve mental health, confidence, and community connection through outdoor activities.	South Gloucestershire	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	ABLAZE	Towards their Reading Partners Programme with a special emphasis on those children who have English as a second language.	Bristol	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Project Mama	Towards supporting displaced parents who face multiple disadvantages, to come together, enjoy mutual support, and access activities and advice.	Bristol	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Swan Advice Network	Towards the Volunteer Transport Service for residents in rural areas of B&NES, to enable improved access to social groups, community activities and local amenities.	Bath and North East Somerset	**£4,000**
			Total awarded	**£90,000**

Wiltshire and Swindon Community Foundation - Community Fund grants				
Programme	**Organisation**	**Summary of award**	**Location**	**Award**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Chippenham Shed	Towards materials for members to convert an existing shed to create a woodstore for donated and purchased wood supplies for their community projects.	Wiltshire	£1,000
Wessex Water Community Fund	Home-Start South Wiltshire	Home-Start South Wiltshire trains and supports volunteers to work with families who have at least one child under the age of 5 facing a range of challenges. Funding is towards core costs.	Wiltshire	£3,900
Wessex Water Community Fund	Old Sarum and Longhedge Community Pantry	Towards the costs of purchasing additional food from supermarkets to supplement donations received.	Wiltshire	£3,900
Wessex Water Community Fund	West Lavington Youth Club	Towards general running costs of the organisation, specifically the salary costs of the managing youth leader.	Wiltshire	£3,900
Wessex Water Community Fund	Waste Not Want Not	Waste Not Want Not provides affordable furniture and household goods to people living on a low income, and also offer volunteer work placements for people with additional needs. Funding is towards core volunteer costs.	Wiltshire	£2,500
Wessex Water Community Fund	Calne Men's Shed	Towards improving the building interior and creating a tearoom area and meeting space for members who are predominantly older people.	Wiltshire	£2,000
Wessex Water Community Fund	Home-Start North Wiltshire	Towards core costs for an organisation that provides advice, and befriending for families with at least one child under 5 years of age.	Wiltshire	£3,900
Wessex Water Community Fund	Chippenham CAP Centre	Towards the costs of the drop-in centre, money management & life skills courses and a job club.	Wiltshire	£3,900
Wessex Water Community Fund	Community Money Advice South Wiltshire	Towards running costs of providing a debt advice and support service covering Salisbury and surrounding areas.	Wiltshire	£3,900
Wessex Water Community Fund	Silver Salisbury Group	Towards the design and printing of an annual directory of services and activities for older people in Salisbury.	Wiltshire	£3,900
Wessex Water Community Fund	Doorway Wiltshire	Towards the core costs of delivering a drop-in service for vulnerable adults experiencing homelessness or housing issues, providing food, washing & laundry facilities, activities, support and advice.	Wiltshire	£3,900
Wessex Water Community Fund	Seeds4Success	Towards staff and delivery costs for a monthly peer led junior youth club.	Wiltshire	£2,887
Wessex Water Community Fund	Trowbridge Future	A project partnering with several local agencies to improve skills around fraud prevention and support people who have been victims of scams.	Wiltshire	£3,911
			Total awarded	£43,498

Dorset Community Foundation - Community Fund grants				
Programme	**Organisation**	**Summary of award**	**Location**	**Award**
Wessex Water Community Fund	AGE UK NSWD	Supporting the Welfare Benefits and Income Maximisation service, helping older Dorset residents secure financial entitlements, reduce hardship and anxiety, and improve wellbeing through trusted one-to-one advice.	Dorset	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	ARTS FOR SURVIVAL C.I.C	Towards 16 creative writing workshops for 12 migrant women in BCP (80% Black women 20% other migrants), empowering them to develop and publish their unique stories of migration.	Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole	**£1,904**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Bee Mission 500 CIC	To feed the homeless, those in food crisis & the elderly with essential food, alleviating hardship and connecting people to community resources and each other.	Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Blandford Food Bank	Towards essential food supplies for the Community Larder and Foodbank in Blandford.	Dorset	**£3,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Bournemouth Spear Trust	A six-week Spear Programme for young people aged 16-24 who are not in employment or education with the skills and knowledge to build a career and support themselves independently.	Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Dorchester Arts	Therapeutic, specialist-led movement classes designed for Parkinson's–fun, safe, and stimulating–supporting balance, coordination, and flexibility in a welcoming environment.	Dorset	**£3,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	DorPIP	Little PIPs provides six-week parent-infant peer support groups in Family Hubs and community spaces, offering guidance, connection, and nurturing activities that build parenting confidence, reduce isolation, and strengthen infant wellbeing.	Dorset	**£3,220**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Escapeline	Helping to prevent child exploitation by county lines criminal gangs in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole through raising awareness, education and youth mentoring.	Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole	**£3,813**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Gambian Association of Dorset	Create quarterly family networking events. Yearly local BBQ in Bournemouth. African Storytelling sessions. Organise monthly sharing session about local services.	Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole	**£3,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Gillingham Community Church	Towards 4 hours per week Community Larder Manager's salary, enabling effective coordination, volunteer support, and delivery of affordable food and wrap-around help to local people in need.	Dorset	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Home start Blackmore Vale	Future-proofing peer support for families in Blandford Forum.	Dorset	**£3,364**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Home-Start Wessex	Recruiting and training new home-visiting volunteers to support families across Dorset, focusing on areas of multiple deprivation and rural isolation where people lack access to local services.	Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole	**£4,000**

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Wessex Water Community Fund	Island Community Action (ICA)	Portland Connectors is an ultra-local support initiative focused on identifying residents' needs and connecting them with suitable community and statutory support services, groups, and activities.	Dorset	**£3,441**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Mosaic - Supporting Bereaved Children	Bereavement Cafes in Dorset schools.	Dorset	**£4,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Overcomers Outreach	Facilitating, music work shops, cooking work shops, gaming station, pool and table tennis empowerment workshops, arts and craft.	Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole	**£1,500**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Pathways for All People	A six-month programme of weekly workshops combining recovery support with life skills, empowering participants and local residents to build resilience and financial stability together.	Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole	**£3,640**
Wessex Water Community Fund	PramaLife	Oakley Friends Dementia Carers Group - supporting carers of those living with Dementia or memory loss. Running a Coffee Morning and twice a year 10 week information course.	Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole	**£2,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Refresh	Funding for core cost such as electricity and internet costs.	Dorset	**£3,200**
Wessex Water Community Fund	St Peter's Church Development Project	To strengthen community café and recitals, combating loneliness, supporting deprived residents with affordable meals, cultural engagement, volunteer training, promotion, equipment, and expenses.	Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole	**£3,000**
Wessex Water Community Fund	The Power House (Poole)	The Power House Upcycling Café Sessions and Community Woodwork Project	Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole	**£3,918**
Wessex Water Community Fund	Townsend Youth Partnership	Vital youth work to support vulnerable young people in an area of multiple deprivation improving social inclusion and community cohesion.	Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole	**£4,000**
			Total awarded	**£70,000**

Somerset Community Foundation - Environment Fund grants				
Programme	Organisation	Summary of award	Location	Award
Wessex Water Environment Fund	One Planet Wincanton	Planting wild flowers and producing leaflets promoting green spaces in Wincanton.	South Somerset	£422
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Long Sutton Parish Council	Creating wildlife ponds at a newly-established community nature reserve.	South Somerset	£1,000
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Pitminster & Angersleigh Playing Field Association	Improving a local pond to encourage more wildlife and community use.	Somerset West and Taunton	£1,000
Wessex Water Environment Fund	St Andrew's Church, Wiveliscombe	Contribution towards biodiversity works in a Wiveliscombe churchyard.	Somerset West and Taunton	£950
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Friends of Yeovil Country Park	Protecting specimen tree species and producing an educational tree trail.	South Somerset	£1,000
Wessex Water Environment Fund	West Monkton Parish Council	Maintaining and developing a wildlife pond and outflow area.	Somerset West and Taunton	£1,433
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Seed of Hope	Installing a compost toilet with roof-top water collection at a rewilding site near Street.	Mendip	£2,000
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Coleford Climate Action	Distributing water butts around the community to harvest rainwater.	Mendip	£1,810
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Stowey Green Spaces Group	Surveying four woodland ponds near Nether Stowey to assess restoration options.	Sedgemoor	£1,542
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Ash and Martock Nature	Establishing a community orchard and wildlife corridor in Martock.	South Somerset	£2,000
Wessex Water Environment Fund	BrueCREW	Setting up new river-fly citizen science project on the river Brue.	South Somerset	£2,000
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Eco Centre CBS Limited	Delivering water use reduction workshops.	Somerset West and Taunton	£1,000
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Forest of Selwood	Volunteer-led river and water meadow restoration at Long Ham Meadow near Witham Friary.	Mendip	£1,952
			Total awarded	**£18,109**

Quartet Community Foundation - Environment Fund grants				
Programme	**Organisation**	**Summary of award**	**Location**	**Award**
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Winscombe Community Association	Environmental improvements to improve connectivity of habitat between the Strawberry Line and gardens, also improving peoples' connection with nature through a path linking the Community centre to the Nature Reserve.	North Somerset	**£2,000**
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Horfield CEVC Primary School	To restore and maintain a wildlife pond within the grounds of the school and make this accessible to children at school and in the local community through Forest Schools.	Bristol	**£0**
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Nailsea Environment & Wildlife Trust	To undertake environmental DNA sampling to establish whether great crested newts are using and breeding in ponds at this nature reserve.	North Somerset	**£1,000**
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Natural Networks Community Interest Company	For the delivery of Forest School and Outdoor Play sessions, with a focus on nature connection, restoring biodiversity, and conservation.	Bristol	**£2,000**
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Frome Valley Growing Project	To enhance rainwater harvesting, improve irrigation efficiency, and develop biodiversity-focused ponds to support amphibians, benefiting both food production and local ecological resilience.	South Gloucestershire	**£1,989**
Wessex Water Environment Fund	St Julian's School Association	To deliver a water-saving planting project that will create a sensory garden, compost heap, wormery, improved fencing, and waterbutt to enhance outdoor learning areas and provide environmental education.	Bath and North East Somerset	**£1,000**
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Mud Pie Explorers CIC	To deliver ten seasonal, family-friendly nature connection sessions at Lincombe Barn Woods, teaching simple, hands-on conservation activities that improve local biodiversity and empower communities to protect their green spaces.	South Gloucestershire	**£1,000**
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Home 2 School Link (Bristol) CIC	A community-led project engaging Somali and migrant families in Easton and Barton Hill with nature-based learning, water-saving activities, and biodiversity through fun, accessible family workshops and outdoor sessions.	Bristol	**£1,000**
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Friends of the Park (Oldbury Court / Vassalls Park)	To double the size of the wildflower meadow created last year in Oldbury Court Park, thus further improving the biodiversity of the grassland of the park.	Bristol	**£2,000**
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Woodcroft Community Orchard	To build an irrigation system and expansion to their community rainwater harvesting system, supporting local environmental activities and improving water sustainability.	Bristol	**£2,000**
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Sustainable Westbury-on-Trym (SusWoT) (on Behalf of TroutintheTrym)	To equip residents in Henbury and Southmead with litter-picking kits to keep their local green areas clean and improve the biodiversity around the River Trym and Hazel Brook.	Bristol	**£500**
			Total awarded	**£14,489**

Wiltshire and Swindon Community Foundation - Environment Fund grants				
Programme	**Organisation**	**Summary of award**	**Location**	**Award**
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Friends of Biss Meadows Country Park	To clear an existing pond that will improve habitats for a range of wildlife and create a scrape with landscaping to improve biodiversity and flood mitigation.	Wiltshire	£2,000
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Dilton Marsh Parish Council	For the creation of a Community Orchard to increase biodiversity in the village as well as fruit for use by local residents.	Wiltshire	£1,968
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Hazel Hill Trust	For materials and staff time needed to train and supervise volunteers in building and putting up bird, bat and dormouse boxes.	Wiltshire	£2,000
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Bowerchalke Parish Council	To reinstate an historic pond both to manage flood water and provide habitat for wildlife.	Wiltshire	£2,000
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Fruitful Malmesbury	Towards rainwater harvesting and irrigation equipment for a new 'edible forest' for the community and the benefit of nature.	Wiltshire	£1,250
Wessex Water Environment Fund	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	For water butts and notice boards as part of their Climate Action Plan.	Wiltshire	£2,000
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Shrewton Village Hall & Recreation Ground	Towards the provision of a small, lockable shed along with gardening and litter picking tools for the use by their volunteers and the wider community.	Wiltshire	£750
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Friends of Shurnhold Fields	Towards tools for volunteers and plants to increase the biodiversity of a local park	Wiltshire	£1,067
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Friends of Southwick Country Park LNR	For fencing to protect a stream and its resident wildlife.	Wiltshire	£1,445
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Colerne Parish Council	Towards trees, shrubs, wildflower seeds/plugs, wild animal shelters, water butts and volunteer safety equipment for work to increase biodiversity on the site.	Wiltshire	£1,200
Wessex Water Environment Fund	RWB Environment Trust	For the restoration of a pond with a view to creating a local nature reserve.	Wiltshire	£2,000
			Total awarded	**£17,680**

Dorset Community Foundation - Environment Fund grants				
Programme	Organisation	Summary of awarded	Location	Award
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Allington Hillbilly Volunteers	To improve biodiversity for pollinators and run community workshops to promote the importance of insects for humans and wildlife.	Dorset	£1,690
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Bovington Garrison Kitchen Gardens	To construct a rain water collection system.	Dorset	£850
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Bridport Cohousing	Rainwater harvesting and irrigation system to support a new community garden within a local co-housing project.	Dorset	£1,000
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Community Connections	To start a new project to develop two small community gardens adjacent to our offices to provide nature enhancing environments.	Dorset	£1,000
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Corfe Castle CE Primary School and Pre-School	All year-round club nature Club. Inspiring children to engage with nature and take action; visiting their school grounds, forest school and Corfe Common.	Dorset	£688
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Fordingbridge Greener Living	To have a full ecological survey and a management plan for woodlands that we will be managing.	New Forest	£2,000
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Friends of Knyveton and Spencer Gardens	Repairing the pond to save water, boost biodiversity, and ensure sustainability.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£1,000
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Grounded Community	Diverting food waste from landfill or incineration and transforming it into nutrient rich compost, reducing the greenhouse gas emissions associated with transportation and processing waste in the usual way.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£2,000
Wessex Water Environment Fund	In Jolly Good Company	To add a small pond to our allotment plot at Kingston Lacy.	Dorset	£400
Wessex Water Environment Fund	PCC of St Michael and St Gabriel Hamworthy	For tools, native bulbs, shrubs and money for tree health works, alongside habitat creation such as bird and bat boxes, insect homes, etc.	Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	£1,000
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Purbeck Tree Nursery	Purchase equipment that will increase capacity to propagate trees.	Dorset	£1,284
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields Child Okeford Charitable Trust	In collaboration with Eco Kids and St Nicholas Primary school to deliver a community tree and wild flower planting activity.	Dorset	£350
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Ringwood Junior School PTA	Help to restore and improve the green spaces and increase the amount of accessible nature area to be enjoyed and explored for all using the school grounds.	New Forest	£1,000
Wessex Water Environment Fund	The River Char Action Group	To continue and to extend the level of chemical and bacterial monitoring and to use the data to highlight specific sites of pollution and seek possible solutions.	Dorset	£1,988
Wessex Water Environment Fund	Trees for Dorset	"My Life My Tree" project involving children throughout primary school years in growing and planting trees.	Dorset	£2,000
			Total awarded	**£18,250**

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