

Covid Report



Introduction

This report attempts to capture some important aspects of Devon Community Foundation's response to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, and its impact on people and communities in Devon, as well as the organisations that exist to support them. It tells the story of what we have done, how we have done it, and what difference it has made. Most of all, we want to express our pride and admiration for the work that has gone on (and that continues), both within DCF and across the voluntary sector in Devon, to support communities at such a difficult time.

This story is far from over. Organisations in receipt of funding relating to the pandemic are starting to provide feedback and will continue to do so until early in the New Year. We do not know how the crisis will develop and how our response will evolve. We do know, however, that much of what we have learnt over this extraordinary period will shape our work going forward. These may be exceptional times, but the experience we have gained will very much help support our day-to-day work in the future.

Published October 2020.



Top left - Newton Abbot Community Transport Association Centre facilitating safe shopping trips for its members
Top right - Pete's Dragons suicide bereavement charity delivering mindful breathing session online

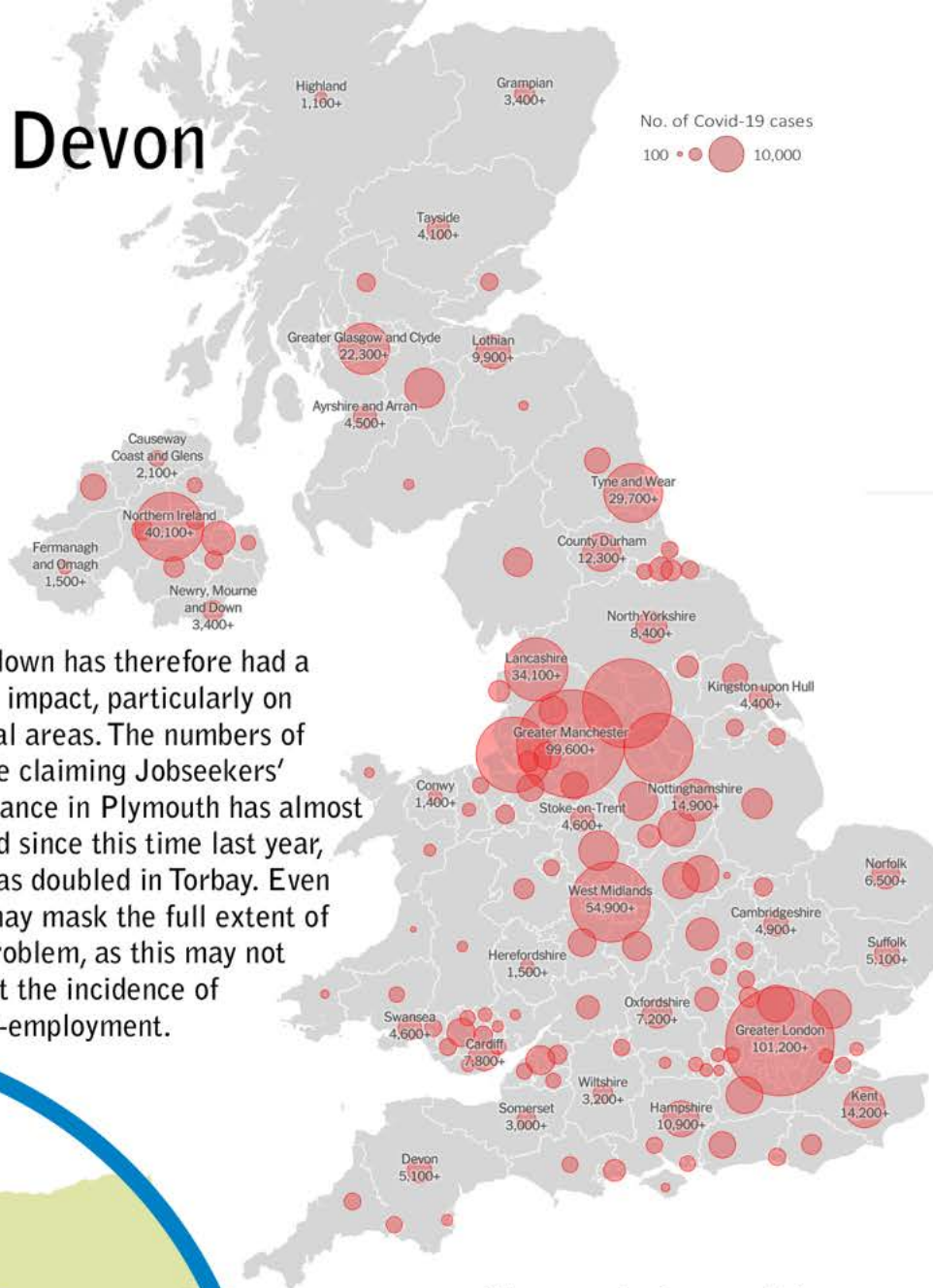
2. Bottom - Churches Together in St Budeaux supporting families with groceries, games & crafts

The Challenge in Devon

The impact of Covid-19 in Devon has been distinctive. At the time of writing, our infection levels have been among the lowest in the country, with some districts recording only a handful of cases. So, in terms of levels of sickness and excess deaths, the impact has been relatively slight.

On the other hand, the measures introduced to prevent the spread of the virus have had a disproportionately damaging effect on the lives of many Devon residents. Our economy relies heavily on tourism and hospitality, with a healthy spring and summer season being crucial to the viability of many businesses (a large proportion of which are small), and to the availability of casual seasonal work.

Lockdown has therefore had a heavy impact, particularly on coastal areas. The numbers of people claiming Jobseekers' Allowance in Plymouth has almost tripled since this time last year, and has doubled in Torbay. Even this may mask the full extent of the problem, as this may not reflect the incidence of under-employment.



Of course the impact of the lockdown and subsequent restrictions has had an impact extending far beyond the economic. We have become acutely aware of the dangers of loneliness and social isolation, and of the mental health challenges the emergency can either provoke or exacerbate. We have seen how inadequate access to technology has excluded some from educational or remote support opportunities. We know that for those for whom home is anything but a safe haven, this has been a very difficult, and potentially dangerous time.

Map showing reported Cases of Covid 3rd November 2020

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/world/europe/united-kingdom-coronavirus-cases.html#map>

Devon's Community Response

Fortunately, we have a fantastic range of community organisations in Devon, of all shapes and sizes, who understand their local communities and their needs, and have risen to the challenge of supporting them through this most difficult period. Devon is home to a large number of small and micro organisations, doing extremely valuable work to support local neighbourhoods. They have been flexible and creative in finding ways to continue to support local people and communities wherever possible – we have been amazed by their energy and resourcefulness. Not only that, but a network of volunteer 'mutual aid' groups quickly emerged in neighbourhoods across the county, to provide practical support very close to home.



Top photo - Totnes Caring volunteer visits a vulnerable couple at home.

Middle photo - Churches Housing Action Team (CHAT) taking their foodbank on the road in Tiverton.

Bottom photo - Teign Valley Larder collecting and distributing food and groceries in the Teign Valley near Exeter.



But, while their services have been needed more than ever, voluntary sector organisations have faced their own challenges. Those organisations relying on income from trading or rent, or who generate funds through fundraising events, have been particularly hard-hit. And those that work with volunteers who might fall into older age groups, or be otherwise vulnerable, have also been faced with severe operational challenges.

“ We’ve had to cancel all of our fundraising events at the busiest time of the year for this, and we have lost all of our corporate donors. ”

DCF’s emergency response work has therefore had a dual focus. We aimed to fund essential activities to keep people safe, happy and healthy during the lockdown. And we also looked to support the organisations with the skills and expertise to do this important work to get through the crisis.

Our Response Grantmaking

As the country was heading towards lockdown in February and early March 2020, DCF had already planned to pause our regular grants programme, for a long-awaited review of our grantmaking. We wanted to find ways to simplify our applications and monitoring procedures, and to make them more user-friendly and proportionate. We had expected to spend the summer making these changes, and to re-open for grantmaking in the autumn.

In response to the crisis we naturally suspended our grantmaking review. Instead, the Philanthropy team moved quickly to set up our emergency fund, the Devon Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund (DCRRF), open for applications within two days of the national lockdown being announced.

This fund was financed primarily with money from the National Emergencies Trust (NET) appeal, with other funds coming from the Department for Culture Digital, Media and Sport, Devon County Council, the NHS Sustainability and Transformation Partnership the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Many of our existing donors also kindly agreed that, if needed, their funds could be diverted into this emergency fund.



**NATIONAL
EMERGENCIES
TRUST**



**Department
for Culture
Media & Sport**



Health and care working in partnership with local communities
in Plymouth, Torbay and the rest of the county



PCC

**Office of the Police and
Crime Commissioner**
Devon and Cornwall

**The
Aurum
Charitable
Trust**

MARS WRIGLEY
Foundation

OXYGEN  HOUSE



**NFU Mutual
Charitable Trust**



Clare Milne Trust
Transforming Lives in the South West

OLD M[•]LL
Financial experts, fuelling ambition

£1,101,298

At the time of writing we have distributed a total of £1,101,298 to groups and organisations across Devon to support their response to the crisis. This money has gone to 211 different organisations, nearly 100 of which we'd not funded before (in part because our eligibility criteria were wider than usual).

The funding was organised into three phases, to reflect changing needs as the crisis developed.

Response

Our initial emergency response, through the **Devon Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund**, provided rapid funds to enable immediate response. This was open from late March to late September.

In August, after consulting with previous fundees about what they now needed, we launched a funding round to give **core cost support** to trusted organisations.

In mid September, through the **Advice and Support Programme**, we distributed funds that supported financial hardship or unemployment as a result of coronavirus.

Resilience & Transformation

We anticipate a further phase of funding to come that will concentrate on continuing to support our sector into the future.



211
organisations

Transition

Timeline

16th March

Devon Community Foundation issues a statement promising its grant holders flexibility and understanding during the uncertain events that are unfolding in relation to an outbreak of coronavirus in the UK.

17th March

Following advice issued by Public Health England, DCF announces that its doors are temporarily closing to allow our teams to work safely from home.

18th March

The National Emergencies Trust, a relatively new body formed with the aim of collecting and redistributing funds in the event of a national emergency in conjunction with UK Community Foundations, announces the launch of its Coronavirus appeal

19th March

DCF starts its own emergency fund to concentrate on support based in Devon, and a platform for donating launches together with an appeal for donors.

23rd March

DCF's Devon Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund is opened for applications from local charitable groups supporting the most vulnerable people affected by the outbreak of coronavirus.

23rd March

The whole of the UK is officially placed into lockdown by the government.

26th March

First clap for the NHS takes place across the UK

2nd April

In one week DCF has received 106 applications for emergency funding with a total requested amount of £395,068

2nd April

Webpages where groups and individuals can find other sources of help, including other outside funding, information and advice on a range of topics, how to volunteer help, and the services that are available locally, are launched on the DCF website.

A DCF weekly briefing is launched to give other public sector and charitable bodies and partners a general oversight of both the impact of and response to the coronavirus.

5th April
Boris Johnson is hospitalised with Covid-19

5th April
The Queen addresses the nation

16th April
99 year old Captain Tom Moore walks 100 laps of his garden and raises more than £25 million for NHS Charities Together



30th April
The DCF emergency funding team make a move from holding daily panel meetings to once a week.

Beginning of June
DCF begins to contact known groups about the next stage of funding and how it could be of most benefit to them.

13th May
The first steps in easing lockdown measures start - including returning to work where possible, wearing of masks, and driving to outdoor spaces for exercise

4th June
DCF announce that funds distributed from the emergency fund exceed half a million pounds

10th August
DCF launches the Core Cost Support Fund to provide a short respite for groups from the financial burden of their running costs, whilst they regroup from the impact of the virus on their services.

26th August
DCF announces that their Devon Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund and Core Cost Support Fund have distributed £734,550 and £29,297 respectively.

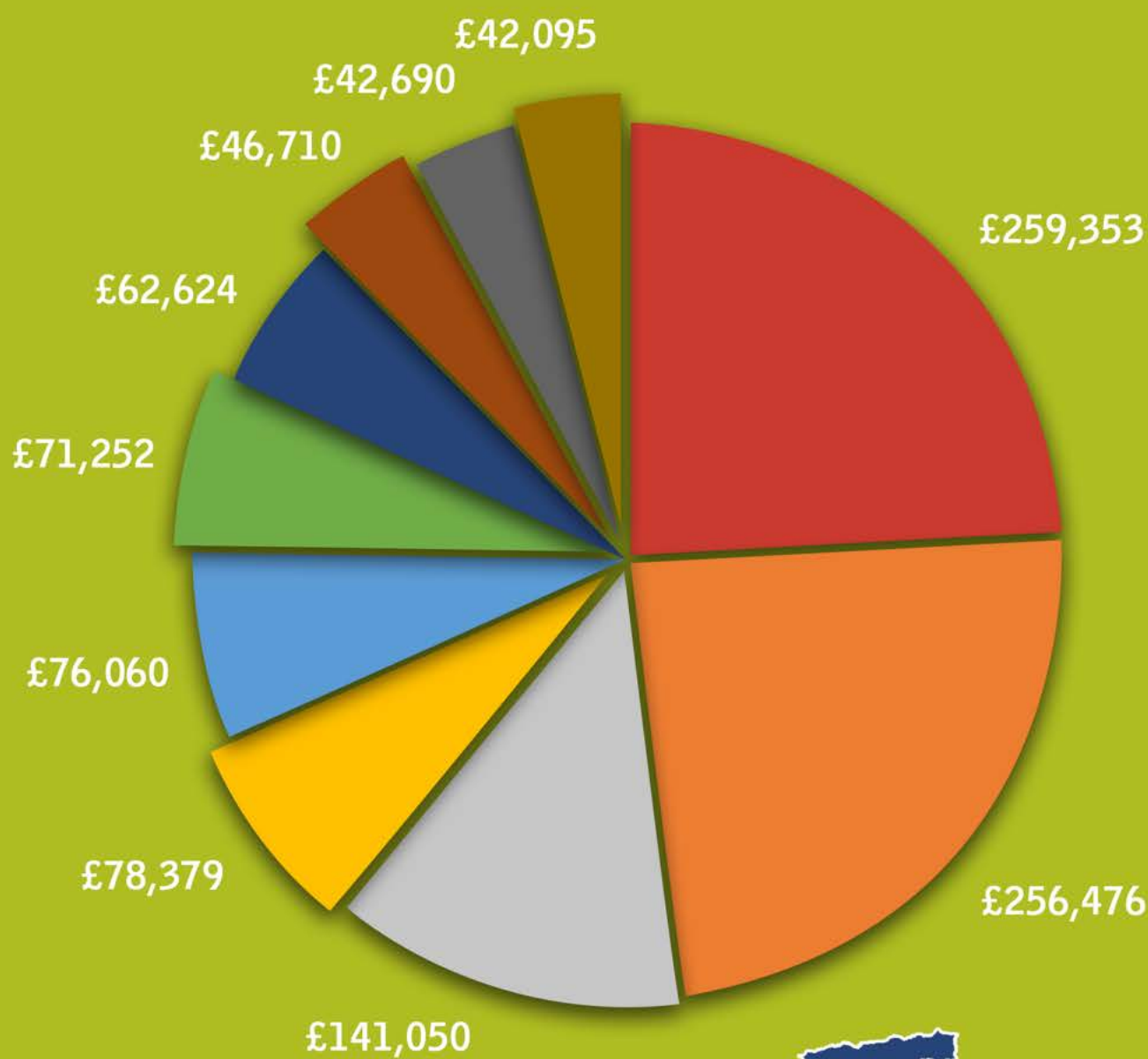
September
DCF announces that a longer-term phase of emergency funding is anticipated in early 2021 to further support the charity sector in Devon post-Covid.

September
DCF opens the Advice and Support Programme, concentrating on supporting organisations working with individuals facing financial hardship or unemployment as a result of Covid-19.

8th October
DCF announces reaching £1,000,000 in Covid-related funding

Our Response

Grantmaking



Pie chart showing the total value of DCF's emergency grantmaking by Local Authority - includes Devon Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund, Core Cost Support Fund and Advice and Support Programme

Devon Coronavirus Response & Recovery Fund

£897,588

The **Devon Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund** has distributed £897,588, in 243 separate emergency grants (with a success rate for applications of about 70%).

39% of these grants (29% by value) were to organisations with an income in the last financial year of up to £50,000.

6%

Enabling volunteer groups to cover expenses and travel costs.

10%

Overcoming logistical challenges for vulnerable people, such as delivery services and transport.

16%

Helping organisations to switch to remote working and online or phone-based service provision, or covering the costs of PPE to allow Covid-secure interaction.

31%

Mitigating financial hardship: provision of food and basic supplies, facilitating access to technology to allow online learning for disadvantaged children or access to remote services.

38%

Support for vulnerable people struggling with isolation, mental health difficulties, at risk of domestic abuse and other vulnerable groups.



Bar chart shows distribution of grants by type. Note some grants fit into more than one category.

South Brent & District Caring

South Brent is a village on the southern edge of Dartmoor in Devon. What happened there during lockdown is reflective of one truly good thing that became highlighted with the arrival of the virus. Community spirit.

South Brent and District Caring is a befriending service that was established as a charity in 2013.

When the pandemic hit, they were quick to react. Within weeks they had enlisted the help of 160 extra volunteers, including local businesses, to help them deliver a long list of services to those self-isolating or in financial difficulty that included both practical and emotional support.

“The response of volunteers, local businesses and donors to the crisis has been outstanding. The spirit of community and co-operation in the area has been wonderful and heart-warming to see and will leave a lasting legacy when we return to more normal times.”



Devon Community Foundation were pleased to recognise the immense value of this charity's work by approving their grant application to our Devon Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund.

A grant of £6,000 was awarded to enable the charity to purchase supplies for its foodbank and to support those suffering the most severe of financial circumstances.

Trevi

Trevi is a women's and children's charity based in Plymouth that provides safe and nurturing spaces for women in recovery from addiction and domestic abuse.

"Most of our women will be disproportionately affected by Covid-19. Many are characterised by extreme levels of poverty, living in some of the most deprived neighbourhoods in the UK. 46% of the women have children, some who have been taken into care."

Jasmine Mother's Recovery is a residential rehabilitation centre exclusively for mums and their children. During lockdown staff there worked 72-hour live-in shifts in order to minimise any possible spread of coronavirus.

Its sister facility, the Sunflower Women's Centre, moved all its training, support groups and activities online, as well as offering further support and 1-1 appointments by Zoom and phone. They experienced a significant increase in crisis situations during this time that included mental ill-health, child protection and domestic abuse.

During lockdown staff at Sunflower hand-delivered survival packs that included food, hygiene products & children's activities, and used that opportunity to look in on women they usually support at the centre, in their homes.

Trevi's third setting is Daffodil Family Centre, a residential parenting assessment centre. It ran at full capacity and received many more enquiries - due they suspect, to fewer fostering placements being available and other centres closing their doors.



"Since the lockdown, alcohol use has increased by 22%; domestic abuse is on the rise. We are deeply concerned for women's and children's safety both physically and mentally."

Over the spring and summer Devon Community Foundation were able to grant two applications of support from Trevi, that included costs for additional staff and their associated overheads, PPE and infection control kits, totalling £16,089.

Alabare Christian Care

Alabare Christian Care is a national charity that run a range of homes, drop-in centres and support services dedicated to helping the homeless. In Devon they have four homes based in the North of the county where people live until they can be moved into independent living.

Although residents each have their own furnished rooms, they also have shared living areas and as such, form a household -that also includes the staff who visit regularly to monitor each resident's welfare and provide additional support.

During Covid it was this support and the nature of shared living that posed a risk to residents of contracting and spreading the virus. The protective measure of self-isolation also meant inhabitants were at risk of being isolated from other sources of outside support - such as drug, alcohol or mental health specialists.



"The biggest change for the clients is being unable to access external support groups. This IT equipment will allow them to keep in touch with family and friends, for remote support sessions and to continue to do online training or bidding on properties."

"Many of our clients have no family to turn to and we are their only form of support during this pandemic. Our clients are chaotic, fearful and require reassurance and support in order to self-isolate and socially distance."

14.

Devon Community Foundation was able to provide £2,000 of emergency funding to cover the charities outlay for PPE and cleaning materials and help towards the purchase of tech for residents.

YMCA, Exeter

YMCA is the oldest and largest youth charity in the world, helping young people (5 to 30) to reach their potential and live full lives. Their services involve and benefit vulnerable young people and their local communities, and include working with children and their families, supported accommodation and mental health intervention.

During lockdown a much higher level of anxiety was reported amongst this age range than for the elderly -who at the time, were perceived to be the hardest hit by the pandemic.

YMCA in Exeter aimed to address this by reaching out to young people and their families in the city with a range of support services including:

- Emotional and wellbeing advice via telephone, video and text chat
- Collection of prescriptions for families self-isolating
- Activity and wellbeing resource packs
- Emergency food packages

“With the funding we hope to relieve the mental and emotional suffering caused by Covid-19 on the young families and children we work with. We hope also to reduce the amount of anxiety by providing food hampers and offering guidance as to how they can best maintain a calm and stable family home.”



**70% of
18-24 year olds
are experiencing more
anxiety than usual,
compared
with 47% of
over 75s**

DCF supported two applications over the summer from YMCA Exeter totalling just over £2,000 to help their youth support workers provide remote support and food supplies.

Core Cost Support Fund

The **Core Cost Support Fund** came after a period of consultation with local organisations, coupled with a wider look at what was happening in the sector at the time as a result of the pandemic.

It was aimed at supporting the sustainability of organisations who were suffering a loss of income as a result of the pandemic, through providing funds to help with core operational expenses like rent, utilities and salaries.

This was especially the case for those organisations who relied more heavily on earned income, or events-based fundraising.

We were able to help **39** organisations (on a sliding scale according to their size), with a total of **£118,784**.

We will be conducting a full evaluation of this fund early in the New Year.

“ We want to say thank you very much to DCF for believing in us and helping us to keep going despite the terrible situation we currently face.

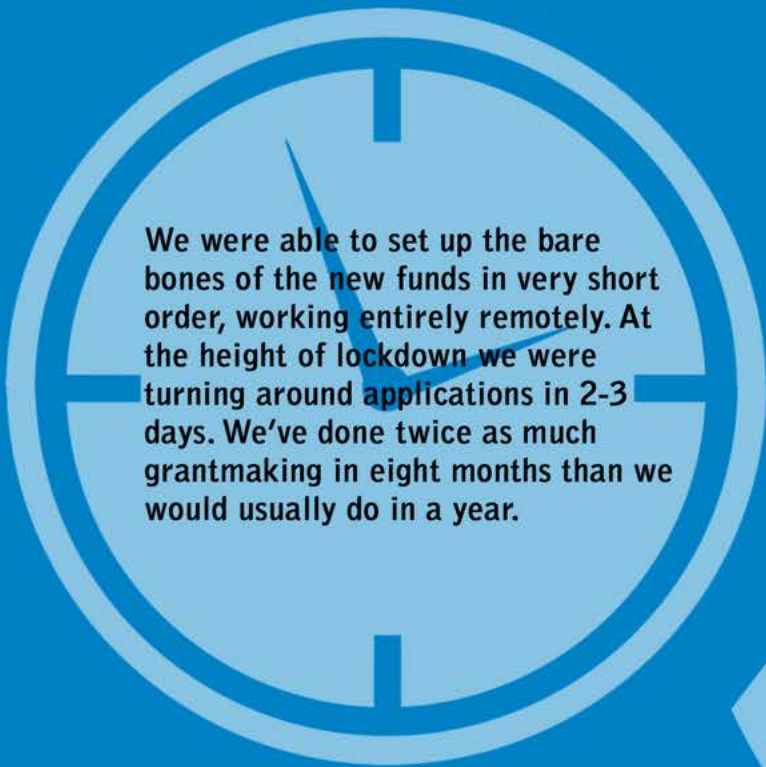
We appreciate the ‘grown up’ relationship we have with DCF, where we are not afraid to say when things are hard, knowing that this will be heard with respect and a joint determination to try to do what’s right.”

“ You are the first funder who has asked us what we need instead of telling us.”

Advice & Support Programme

Through the **Advice and Support Programme**, we distributed **£84,926** to allow nine organisations who are providing support to individuals facing financial hardship or unemployment as a result of the coronavirus outbreak to extend and expand their provision as the government’s furlough scheme tapered off, and unemployment became a serious concern. Again, we’ll be reporting on the outcomes of this work in the spring.

What have we learned?

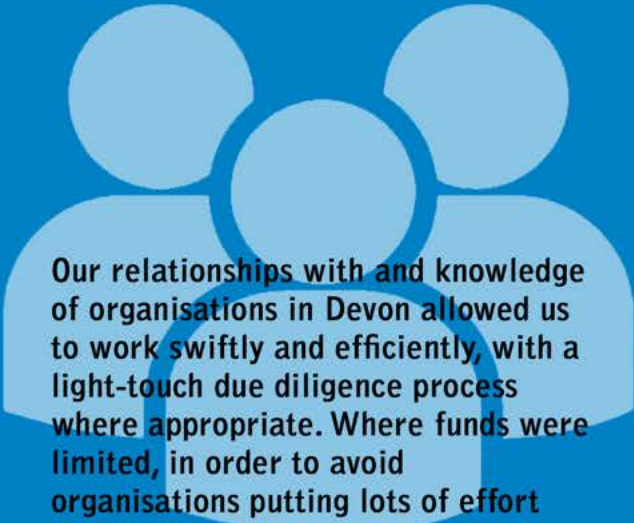


We were able to set up the bare bones of the new funds in very short order, working entirely remotely. At the height of lockdown we were turning around applications in 2-3 days. We've done twice as much grantmaking in eight months than we would usually do in a year.

We had planned a considered, holistic grants review, resulting in a carefully thought-through solution for all our grantmaking by autumn. Instead, we have had to respond to a crisis at speed, revising and refining criteria, processes and ways of working as we go along. But we've surprised ourselves.



We obviously needed to tweak and revise fund criteria, the way in which we processed applications, and how we structured different chunks of money, as we went along, through a process of constant review and response. This has been not only perfectly possible, but effective and agile.



Our relationships with and knowledge of organisations in Devon allowed us to work swiftly and efficiently, with a light-touch due diligence process where appropriate. Where funds were limited, in order to avoid organisations putting lots of effort into unsuccessful applications, we invited applications from known organisations.

What next?

We are now beginning gradually to reopen our regular grants programmes, conscious that many organisations will be in urgent need of funding. We are reviewing our application and monitoring processes as we go along, to check they are sensible and proportionate, and as efficient as possible for applicants. We're well aware that the impact of Covid on our communities persists, and may well expand; we're committed to using our learning from this first phase of response to inform future support.

Our Response Programmes

When the crisis began, it was clear that there would be no 'business as usual' for many parts of our work, and our involvement with programmes was no exception. But we have been impressed by the way in which strong partnerships of all kinds have been well-equipped to collaborate and adapt. Here are two examples.

For the last four years, Devon Community Foundation has managed the Wellbeing Exeter social prescribing and community development programme. This voluntary and public sector partnership (funded by Exeter City Council, Devon County Council, the NHS Sustainability and Transformation Partnership, and Exeter's Primary Care Networks) has seen Exeter City Council in particular working very closely with a number of voluntary sector organisations in the city to provide integrated and holistic support for individuals and communities to become more connected. When lockdown arrived, and the city was faced with supporting residents with both practical issues such as receiving shopping, and the emotional effects of loneliness and social isolation, these pre-existing structures and relationships became invaluable.

Since March, Wellbeing Exeter has been working very closely with Exeter City Council to set up **Exeter Community Wellbeing**, an online and telephone mechanism that assists individuals and community groups to link together and access the wide range of support on offer across the city. As of early July, 1,560 individuals had requested support, and 721 residents had volunteered to help. Residents have been connected with local volunteer networks for help with shopping, food deliveries, prescriptions and phone contact for those socially isolating. Wellbeing Exeter Community Builders have helped these local groups to mobilise, connect and develop. The Contact Team can also refer those who are struggling with the emotional effects of lockdown to Wellbeing Exeter Community Connectors, to help them access relevant support.

Wellbeing EXETER

721
volunteers

Exeter
City Council

the **Mohn
Westlake** foundation

When lockdown began, one of our newest programmes, focused on supporting young people's mental health, was just beginning. The restrictions meant all four of the projects we had funded, with a grant from the Mohn Westlake Foundation, had to go back to the drawing board. We were able to convene regular virtual meetings between grantholders to discuss the challenges this threw up, and share successful remote communication techniques. Although all quite different, the grantholders were able to support and encourage each other to adapt. And along the way, DCF has learnt a great deal about the value of this kind of peer support and how best to enable it.

Our Response

Communications

Even before we understood what the true extent of the effects of the pandemic would be, at DCF we considered it vital that the lines of communication were kept very much open with all of our various partners.

We realised that our **grant-holders** would need assurance that we were sympathetic to their changes in circumstance, and reassurance that we would be responding to any unfolding events in the best way possible to continue to offer them as much support as we could.

We also foresaw the importance of letting our **donors** know that we were still ready, able and eager to do our job in the face of the pandemic and to let them know just how important their support for our work was.

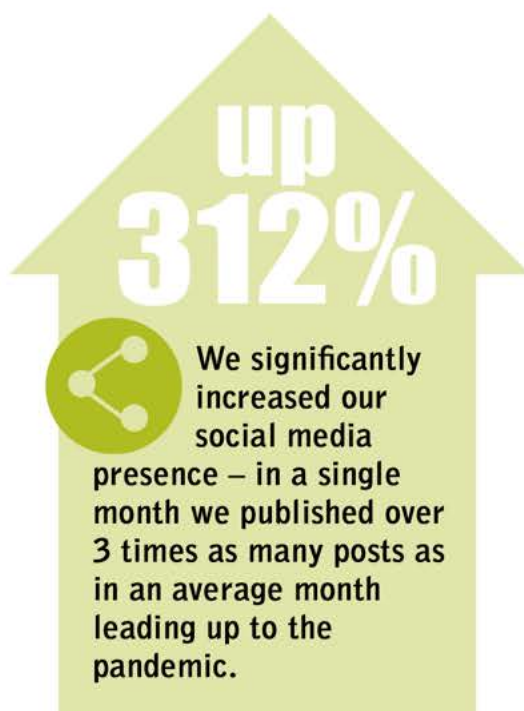


We sent direct emails to grant-holder and donor groups independently, as well as continuing our bi-monthly general DCF E-newsletter, changing its focus to reflect our pandemic activities and messages.

We noticed how important it is for would-be **grantmakers** to have up-to-date information on other sources of income for applicants, so that emergency funds could be used fairly. So we took action to ensure regular reporting of our own grantmaking:



We published details of our Covid-related grantmaking through 360giving's online platform. We generally publish our grantmaking data roughly annually through this national data standard. During the crisis however, we have done this at least monthly, as 360giving aims to provide as close to realtime information on emergency funding as possible.



up
312%



We significantly increased our social media presence – in a single month we published over 3 times as many posts as in an average month leading up to the pandemic.



We utilised our website to share numerous funding stories and articles as well as our funding news, an updated list of resources for anyone seeking help, and an updated list of alternative funding sources, for those organisations we couldn't help through our own grantmaking.



We also published a list of grants made in our regular Covid briefings to the sector and other professionals (see over).

Through our Community Insight Team, DCF was gathering a lot of locally specific information about how the pandemic was affecting different groups of people, and what local organisations were doing to help. This was vital for the Positive People programme, which supports people furthest from the workplace to move towards employment. It provided accurate detail about how the pandemic might be affecting would-be participants, and up-to-date information about how programme staff could best support them through links with local responses. We felt this insight could also usefully be shared more widely throughout the sector.

POSITIVE PEOPLE

At the same time, others in the Communities Team were reading reports and participating in national conversations about how the voluntary sector was responding to, and in turn affected by the crisis.



COMMUNITY FUND



Beginning on 1st April, we published a regular briefing (initially weekly, then fortnightly), combining: a local commentary on national reports and debates; thematic information about how the crisis was affecting groups of people, and how local organisations were responding to it; and information on DCF's grantmaking through the Devon Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund.

We published twenty issues of the briefing, ending in early October. Topics covered included: mental health, dementia, homelessness, digital exclusion, people with disabilities, and financial hardship.

Initially aimed at sharing information with a relatively small group of voluntary and public sector colleagues, the briefing's distribution list grew, through word of mouth, to nearly ninety people, and has been widely used and shared.

What have we learned?

Within the team we have, or have the capacity to access, a wealth of knowledge and information which provides a distinctively Devonian slant on a range of issues, be they practical, organisational or strategic. We are also well-placed to disseminate that knowledge and it is read and appreciated by people in both the voluntary and public sectors.

What next?

We are looking at ways to build on the value of the Covid briefing with a new general newsletter, specifically aimed at voluntary and public sector leaders. We'd like to continue to stimulate and contribute to Devon-focused debate between the sectors, and to involve a range of voices in that conversation.

Our Response

Convening

Early in the crisis, DCF was concerned that, although Devon's slice of the NET funding was being channelled through us, 'all roads ought not to lead to DCF'. In other words, we did not want to be the sole voice deciding on the distribution of these funds. We therefore convened an advisory group of leaders from across the voluntary sector in Devon, along with some interested public sector figures, to guide our grantmaking work, and enable us all to share experiences and insights from our different perspectives.

Over time, the broader value of a group of this kind became evident, to share information, but also to discuss ways in which, for example, relationships between parts of the public sector and parts of the voluntary sector were or were not working effectively, along with ideas for new ways of working in the future.



As part of a recognition of some common experience within the VCSE sector throughout the crisis, DCF undertook to compile a collaborative report, setting out what the sector had observed and experienced, and what this told us ought to be priorities in thinking about the future. The first report, *Roads to Renewal*, was published in July 2020, providing some headline observations, and highlighting some areas to build on. This report has been widely cited and used across both the voluntary and public sectors in Devon, and is informing Devon County Council's strategic planning process for post-pandemic recovery. A second publication, which builds on these early thoughts, and adds more detail and practical examples, as well as suggesting concrete ways forward, is due out soon.

We are proud, not only of the amount of attention these documents are attracting, but also of the genuinely cooperative effort they have been, bringing together diverse voices, not with a single uniform message, but a collective 'direction of travel' that is more than the sum of its parts, and is a strong and positive contribution to the 'rebuilding' conversation.

What have we learned?

DCF is well-placed to help convene the diverse voices of the voluntary sector in Devon and enable them to be heard more clearly. This feeds directly into our aims to find innovative, holistic ways to promote community wellbeing, whether these are place-based, or communities of interest.

Not the end

Looking back, our committed and focussed team members were able to work harder, faster and adapt to an ever-changing set of unforeseen scenarios. We have been careful to monitor our wellbeing and morale and recognise and reward our efforts.

As well as our people, the systems we have in place were able to facilitate a quick change in direction. As an organisation we are able to learn, adapt and respond when needed.

We have deep and healthy relationships with those that surround us. We knew the importance of understanding what is happening in the landscape in order to be part of the response and those conversations were easy and natural to set up, as were those with our supporters, who backed us without query.

We have an effective means of gathering other sources of information and of sharing it, that has both helped to tell the stories of what has happened within our sector during this time and influence it.

Above all, our passion to support our communities has been as strong as it always has, and that has been mirrored by the community action that we have been witness to.

We have been amazed, but not surprised at the community response to this crisis and if one good thing has emerged from Covid it has been the opportunity for this to be recognised more universally, more than ever before.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of those groups and charities whose hard work we are proud to be a small part of and to champion, all those who have stood beside us as we strive to support them, and finally, a huge heartfelt thanks to everyone whose generous financial support we couldn't do it without.

We hope you are heartened by the amazing effort that has gone on across the communities of Devon and by the support we have been able to provide in these challenging times. Support that would not be possible without the generosity of our donors, supporters and partners.

If you would like to find out about how you can help us make a real difference to lives in Devon, please contact our Philanthropy Director by emailing scott@devoncf.com.



Thank you

Photo - A pupil from Haywards Primary School, Crediton uses a new laptop to access home learning during lockdown



Top photo - Early Nourishment CIC in North Devon supporting expectant and new parents via Zoom
 Middle photo - Kingsbridge Age Concern preparing meals for delivery to elderly residents
 Bottom photo - Exeter based Hospiscare providing telephone support to people affected by bereavement and isolation

Devon Community Foundation and the people who surround us have one thing at their heart. Seeing our communities and the people within them thrive. Our expertise and experience make us a fantastic means through which donors can channel funds into the organisations that play a vital role in this. We believe really getting to know our communities well provides not only a great basis for this giving, but also provides a knowledge from which we can all grow and learn, making Devon a better place for everyone.

Since starting in 1996 DCF has distributed over £22 million in funding across Devon.

We're one of 46 Community Foundations in the UK, supported by the national body, UK Community Foundations.

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