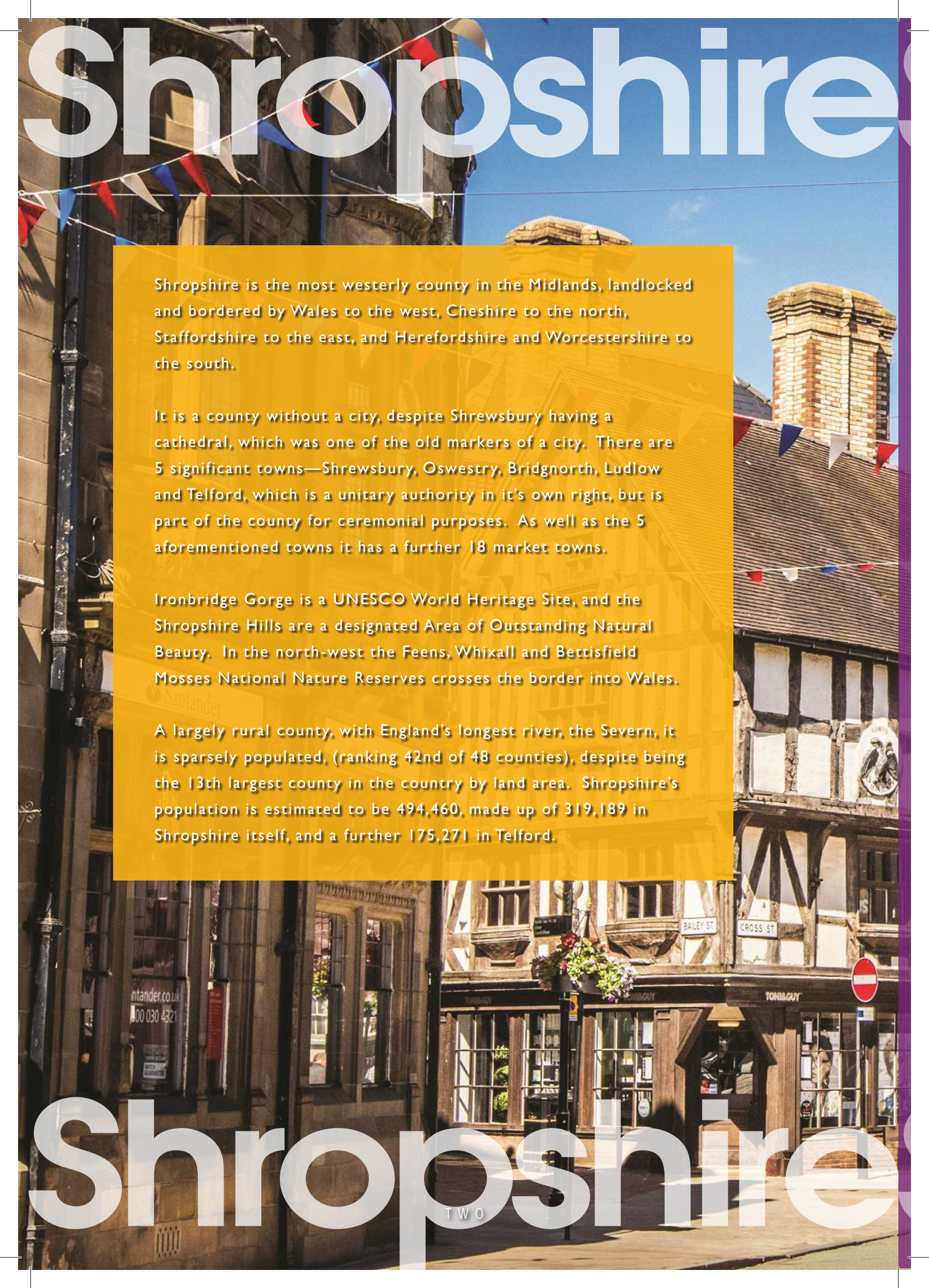


Shropshire

YEAR BOOK 2021



Shropshire

The background of the page is a photograph of a street in Shropshire. On the left is a stone building with a Santander branch. On the right is a timber-framed building with a sign for 'TONIB&GUY'. A string of colorful bunting hangs across the street. The word 'Shropshire' is written in large, semi-transparent white letters at the top and bottom.

Shropshire is the most westerly county in the Midlands, landlocked and bordered by Wales to the west, Cheshire to the north, Staffordshire to the east, and Herefordshire and Worcestershire to the south.

It is a county without a city, despite Shrewsbury having a cathedral, which was one of the old markers of a city. There are 5 significant towns—Shrewsbury, Oswestry, Bridgnorth, Ludlow and Telford, which is a unitary authority in its own right, but is part of the county for ceremonial purposes. As well as the 5 aforementioned towns it has a further 18 market towns.

Ironbridge Gorge is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and the Shropshire Hills are a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. In the north-west the Feens, Whixall and Bettisfield Mosses National Nature Reserves crosses the border into Wales.

A largely rural county, with England's longest river, the Severn, it is sparsely populated, (ranking 42nd of 48 counties), despite being the 13th largest county in the country by land area. Shropshire's population is estimated to be 494,460, made up of 319,189 in Shropshire itself, and a further 175,271 in Telford.

Shropshire

TWO

Shropshire



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Shropshire - 3.7%

Telford - 5.1%

National Avg - 4.5%

AVERAGE SALARY

Shropshire - £29,900k

Telford - £27,528

National Avg - £30,529



AVERAGE AGE

Shropshire - 43

Telford - 41

National Avg - 40.3

ETHNICITY

Shropshire - White 96%, Asian 1%, Black 0.2%, Mixed 0.7%, Other 0.1%

Telford - White 92.7%, Asian 4.2%, Black 1.1%, Mixed 1.9%, Other 0.2%



RELIGION

Shropshire - Christian 66%, Muslim 1%, Hindu 1%, Sikh 1%, Jewish 1%, Buddhist 1%, Other 1%, No religion 24%

Telford - Christian 61.7%, Muslim 1.8%, Sikh 1.3%, Hindu 1%, Buddhist 1%, Other 7.6%, No religion 26.9%



COUNTRY OF BIRTH

Shropshire - 6% born outside the UK

Telford - 10% born outside the UK



LIFE EXPECTANCY

Shropshire - 82 years

Telford - 80 years



LIVING IN A RURAL AREA

Shropshire - 57.5%

Telford - 8.3%

Shropshire

***Welcome to our year in review for Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin,
covering the period from April 2020 up until March 2021.***

There can be no disguising the fact that this year has been all about Covid – the infection, the lockdowns and the effects of it on ourselves, our families, and on our wider communities. Whilst the threat was high we saw communities pull together, to help and support one another, and to consider the needs of others more than ever before. At one of the darkest times for our county it was heartening to see the community spirit and resilience that exists, and for people not used to seeing it, it must have been something of an eye opener.

Due to the pandemic we were busier than ever before. Our annual grant-giving surpassed £500,000 for the first time in Shropshire, as we were fortunate enough to be able to support the many community and voluntary groups who were doing so much to help support the people around them. We issued grants ranging from £1000 up to £25,000 to ensure that there was enough funding to allow groups to continue their services at a time when they were more needed than ever.

Despite the pandemic we managed to successfully launch our Shropshire's Outstanding Community competition, and although we had more than 40 communities interested in taking part, due to wider restrictions in society, only 20 managed to enter. This was still a fantastic number given the circumstances, and we look forward to expanding the competition and building on this year's success with next year's competition. The entries for the Shropshire's Outstanding Community competition are still being judged, but we are looking forward to presenting the winners with their prizes in October.

At the start of lockdown we moved operations to home-working, in line with many other office based organisations. Whilst the transition itself was easy thanks to our comprehensive Business Continuity Plan, there was a severe increase in workload, but fortunately the team rose to the challenge, pulled together, and actually managed to increase the number of grants we awarded, and increase the support we give to our local communities. Some members of the team changed their hours, so that they were working full-time rather than part-time, as being at home meant they could still meet their childcare and caring responsibilities. In that sense, home working has allowed them to work the hours that they wanted to, which they could never have done before due to the prohibitive factors of childcare costs and time. Looking forward, in common with many organisations, we will be adopting a hybrid approach to working. We will still have our office staffed every day, but there will be more opportunities for people to work from home. We want to make sure that we take advantage of the opportunities available to us, to ensure that we continue to change and adapt, and remain fit for the future.

During the year we were sad to lose Laura Shaw, who moved away due to family circumstances. Laura was a fantastic part of our team, and was popular amongst other team members, trustees and the people we support. Our loss will be someone else's gain. Although recruitment was difficult due to the pandemic, we will be joined in the new financial year by two new members of the team – Joe and Nikki, and so whilst they don't appear in this review, they will be in next years.

To close this introduction, I'd like to take the time to thank everyone who has helped and supported us on our journey this year. The fantastic team at the Foundation – there is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes, and I'm fortunate to work with some fantastic people, who view their role as more than a job. They care about our communities and our residents, and genuinely want to help them to succeed and thrive. It is that commitment that allows The Community Foundation to grow, and so I sincerely thank them all. Our trustees, who are always there on hand when the support is needed, and offer suggestions as to new ways to help people that they may be in contact with. All the members of our sub-committees, who are drawn from the communities we serve, to help us make decisions on our direction and the support that we need to be offering to help people. All of our donors, to the endowment fund, to our grants funds, and in response to our emergency appeals – we really couldn't do what we do if we didn't have your commitment and support. Your donations and efforts across the county really do improve the lives of local people, and we would all be poorer without your involvement.

With increased grant-giving and a higher value endowment fund, as well as lots of new projects in the pipeline, there come increased challenges. With our new expanded team in place, and with the support of our donors and trustees, I have no doubt that we can meet those challenges head-on, providing more in-depth and vital local support to our local communities than ever before.

Partnerships

UKCF

The Community Foundation is a member of UK Community Foundations, (UKCF), a national membership and representative body that secures national grant funding to be distributed through local community foundations, and provides national representation for the support of empowered local communities.

THE LIVING WAGE

The Community Foundation is a Living Wage employer, and a Living Wage Funder, which means that not only do we guarantee to pay staff and contractors at the Living Wage rate, but we also encourage the organisations we support to pay the Living Wage, and award funding to allow them to do so. The Community Foundation is a member of the Living Wage Funders Committee.

HIGH SHERIFF

We were honoured to work with Dean Harris, High Sheriff for Shropshire 2020/21, who has become one of our trustees. We are looking forward to working with Tony Eyton-Morris during his shrieval year of 2021/22.

SURVIVING WINTER

Surviving Winter is a scheme managed by community foundations across the UK, and raises funds to help people in our communities who may suffer disproportionately through the colder months, particularly due to heating costs, loneliness or isolation.

Our Funds

The Community Foundation manages many different types of funds, but the aim of them all is to facilitate grant giving to organisations and individuals across the county.

Different fund types are suitable for different types of giving. Some are designed to generate growth that adds to sustainability for The Community Foundation and to provide a permanent source of funding for our communities that are not susceptible to changes and restrictions in funding cycles, whereas some are used for immediate grant-giving.

PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUND

With a permanent endowment the original capital donation is 'locked in', meaning it cannot be spent. Instead the fund is invested, and the returns and dividends generated are used to award grants. This type of fund generates less in the first few years, but much more as time goes on, and so is very good for long-term sustainability.

LONG-TERM ENDOWMENT FUND

Long-term endowment funds work in a similar way to a permanent endowment fund, but have a fixed time horizon, usually of ten years+, but less than 25 years. The capital sum that is invested can be spent at the end of the period.

EXPENDABLE ENDOWMENT FUND

In an expendable endowment a sum of money is invested with our endowment fund, but is designed to be spent over a fixed time period, perhaps five years as an example. The fund is spent equally each year, but accrues income from the investment, allowing more funding to be awarded than was originally invested.

HELD FUND

A held fund is invested in a similar way to the endowments, but is designed to benefit specific named organisations. The aims of the beneficiaries must still be charitable. A held fund could also be where we manage the administration of a charity and handle the investment, but it does not 'belong' to The Community Foundation.

FLOWTHROUGH FUND

This is a fund where a set amount of money is donated to The Community Foundation but is not invested. It is awarded as grants over a pre-agreed timescale, and usually to a pre-agreed remit, and so is very good for short-term giving where people want their impact to be more immediate.

Being a Thoughtful Funder

The Community Foundation is probably most well-known for our grant giving, awarding more than £500,000 per year to help support causes across Shropshire.

Our grant giving is drawn from many different sources—some from government provided schemes, which is distributed through community foundations due to our local insight, knowledge and connections, some from local authorities, who work with us due to our reach, connections and our way of providing a high quality grant giving service that is cost effective. National and regional charities also work with us when they want to reach local people, and through our endowment fund, which is made up from donations and funds from businesses and local individuals who want to give something back.

Many of these funds are highly specialised, and they all have their own criteria and terms and conditions, but we help to bridge the gap between the needs of the funder, and the needs of the community.

In 2020 The Community Foundation grant guidelines and practices were reviewed. This is something that we undertake regularly, to ensure that we stay relevant, and that we are meeting the needs of the community. Our policies and procedures were changed to ensure that we were seen as a thoughtful funder, and we have signed up to the nine commitments through IVAR of open and trusting grant-making.

- 1 We will not waste applicants' time
- 2 We will explain our priorities clearly and be open and transparent about requirements
- 3 We will only ask relevant questions and only collect information that is necessary
- 4 We will accept our share of risk and be realistic about how much assurance grant applicants can provide.
- 5 We will act with urgency working at a pace that meets the needs of applicants and make our decisions as quickly as possible
- 6 We will be open about our decisions, giving feedback and publishing success rates and providing reasons for unsuccessful applications
- 7 We will enable grantees to respond to changing needs by giving unrestricted funding where possible, and making any restricted funding as flexible as possible
- 8 We will be clear about our relationship from the start, being realistic about time commitments to ensure our contact is positive and purposeful
- 9 We will use light touch reporting where possible, ensuring that our formal reporting requirements are well understood, proportionate to the amount of funding awarded and meaningful



Revitalising Trusts

Many people know of the work of The Community Foundation through our many grants programmes, and through our efforts to encourage local philanthropy and sustainable giving, but unlocking assets of other trusts and charities is just as important.

Revitalising Trusts is a partnership between the Charity Commission and The Community Foundations national membership body, UKCF, and by extension community foundation's across the country.

It seeks to help and support those trusts and charities that may be facing difficulties in their operations by facilitating a transfer of management to The Community Foundation. Existing trustees can still remain involved, but the bulk of the burden of work will pass to The Community Foundation.

THE CHARITY COMMISSION STATEMENT SAYS

The Charity Commission acknowledges that community foundations have a reputation for the effective management of charitable funds in order to maximise their impact at local level.

The Charity Commission and community foundations have worked closely in recent years to ensure that trustees seeking to revitalise moribund (dormant) or ineffective trust funds (and who are looking for an effective way of carrying on their good work in future years) can release their funds to a community foundation as part of their appraisal of options. The Charity Commission welcomes and supports this initiative and encourages all charities to ask themselves whether they should work with community foundations as an alternative to continuing, particularly if they agree with one or more of the following statements:

We find it difficult to identify beneficiaries.

We cannot spend the income of the charity.

We find ourselves providing money to the same people or groups every year.

We find it difficult to attract trustees.

We would like to be involved in how the money is spent but we do not want the legal responsibility of being a trustee.

The work of administering the charity and its investment is becoming onerous or disproportionate to the level of funding.

Shropshire's Outstanding Community



The Community Foundation launched Shropshire's Outstanding Community in March 2021. This new initiative in Shropshire offers communities within the county the opportunity to be recognised for their community spirit, and the way that they help and support one another, not just in times of need, but everyday. We want to recognise that there is a strong supportive spirit in Shropshire, and make sure that those people who do so much for their local area, and to support local residents, are recognised.

Shropshire's Outstanding Community wants to offer people across Shropshire the opportunity to be recognised. To celebrate the strong, supportive community spirit. Whether it's within a town, village or even a street or housing development, we want to shine a light where people come together and support each other, and create a community of people who have developed a safe and thriving environment in which to live, socialise and work.

Plenty of great things go on within our communities which does not always get duly recognised. We would like to encourage people who take pride in their local area, both rurally and within our towns, to come forward and showcase what they have achieved. It is an opportunity to tell us about the great things that are going on within your community and celebrate why it's great to live in Shropshire.



Hidden Needs Analysis

VitalSigns

Vital Signs was originally an initiative of Canadian Community Foundations and was brought to the UK in 2015. The purpose is to create or provide a high level needs analysis of the local area and population, with a particular focus on hidden need, or causes that many people may ordinarily be unaware of. Most community foundations now produce a report of this nature, although it can go under different names - some use Vital Signs, some call their report 'uncovered' and some refer to it simply as Hidden Need Analysis. The work has never been undertaken in Shropshire and Telford before, and so we are pleased to be launching this initiative for the county in early 2022.

The document and report will help to inform us of the hidden needs, and where we should target our grant-making, as well as being publicly available to help to support other agencies in their work across the county.

The point of Vital Signs is to look at where we have common goals, and can work together in multi-agency partnerships to ensure the best for Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin.

The Vital Issues report is broken in to ten distinct categories, and this annual review will focus on five of them, highlighting some of the headline figures and statistics and how our grant-giving has helped to alleviate some of these problems.

The ten categories are;

- Arts, Culture & Heritage
- Environment
- Fairness & Equality
- Health & Wellbeing
- Housing & Homelessness
- Education & Learning
- Local Economy
- Safety
- Strong Communities
- Work & Employment



Sustainable Development Goals

The UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognise that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

The overall initiative may have a world outlook, but it can only be achieved if we all work together locally to help to do our bit. Quite often there are small changes that we can make that fit in with the overall development goals, and by all working together and pulling in the same direction, we can help with worldwide targets. Many community foundations were early adopters of the SDGs, and as such we are working with community groups, charities and businesses across the county to help inform and support them to play their part. If you would like to learn more about the UN Sustainable Development Goals or our work in this field, please contact Faye Williams or Jo Cooper on 01743 295900.



Emergency Response - Shropshire Floods 2020

FLOOD RESPONSE

In early 2020 Shropshire was hit by some of the worst flooding in years. As a community foundation we are there to respond to emergencies quickly and efficiently, and on the day of the first flood we launched our Shropshire Flood Appeal Fund. The flooding affected some areas more than others, such as Ludlow, Bridgnorth, Market Drayton, Telford and Wellington, with flood warnings in place along the Teme and the Severn.

The fund continued throughout Storm Ciara and Storm Dennis, raising over £40,000. Nearly half of this came from small online donations, with the rest made up of donations from businesses and trusts. As well as the financial support we received, we were approached by many business supporters who offered us clothing and household goods to pass on to people in need. Due to a co-ordinated response from government and local authorities, not all of the funding raised was needed for the immediate response, and so the remainder is held in a ring-fenced account to respond immediately to any future flooding that hits the county.



Our response to the pandemic

The Community Foundation has been at the forefront of the charitable giving response to the Covid pandemic in Shropshire and awarded our first grant the day after the first lockdown was announced.

In early March 2020 The Community Foundation made plans to respond to the coronavirus pandemic, should they be needed, as at that time there was no indication of what would follow. The team was set up to work from home and an office closure date of 18th March was put in place. We readied a public giving campaign for Shropshire to launch in the event that they were needed, and spoke to our existing donors and supporters to see whether they would be prepared to support a campaign, and whether they would offer flexibility to existing grantees if the pandemic prevented people working in the way that they usually do.

Fortunately donors and fundholders responded positively, and by the end of the first week of the campaign we had raised over £10,000 towards the response fund. At the same time the National Emergencies Trust (NET) were making plans to launch their own national fund to respond to the pandemic, which would be distributed through community foundations across the UK. By April we had started to award NET funding too.

The Community Foundation would like to thank everyone who supported our local campaigns, and those who contributed to the national campaign led by the National Emergencies Trust, who gave us the ability to support all of our local communities, and those most affected by the pandemic.

Our Grants

Employment & Work

According to the Office for National Statistics the unemployment rate across the country was 4.6% in March 2021. Whilst Shropshire has a lower rate of 3.7%, the rate in Telford and Wrekin was 5.1%. Although the Covid pandemic will have affected employment rates and figures, employment is still a core issue that The Community Foundation works towards supporting.

We have many funds that focus on supporting people who are looking for work, going into training, or continuing or restarting their education. It's not necessarily about finding them a job, but about giving them the skills to allow them to help themselves. This could mean helping them write a CV, helping with job searches, or giving them some confidence building so that they feel able to move into the workplace. It could mean offering volunteering opportunities or work experience, particularly if they have been away from the workplace for a while, so that they feel more comfortable taking that step back to work.

HMM Arts (The Hive), based in Shropshire were awarded funding from the Tampon Tax Community fund, a programme aiming to support women and girls. They launched their project "Music Tech for Girls", a programme educating girls on music technology and igniting possible career aspirations.

Women and girls are under-represented nationally in music technology and the aim of this project was to engage with this particular demographic, increase confidence amongst women interested in the industry, increases access to jobs and training opportunities and improve their social and communication skills amongst the participants. They delivered 6 workshops during the holidays, which focused on basic music technology skills and they contracted female role models to run them.

One particular participant was a looked after child in Shrewsbury. She was interested in electronic music but never had the opportunity to learn how it was made or performed. One of the workshop leaders spent time helping her make her own music and an introduction to DJing, eventually she was confident enough to share her creativity with the group. "I feel proud and inspired by how fun the workshop was and how much I have achieved" – As a result, she now attends regular music sessions and is continuing to develop her music skills. She has plans for college and is considering a career in music technology.

Our Grants

Health & Wellbeing

Our most recent impact report highlighted five particular areas where there is need for support focused on health & wellbeing. They include long-term illnesses, the ability to easily access doctors and dentists, substance misuse and addiction issues, local residents participation in fitness, exercise or healthy living programmes, and mental health.

Mental Health issues in particular have increased significantly lately, and we managed several grants programmes that were designed to support organisations who were helping people with mental health issues. As well as that, many of our more general grants programmes also make awards to support people who may need help or support with their mental health.

Qube – Oswestry Community Action were awarded #iWill funding for their project “Young Minds”. Qube’s core purpose is to reduce isolation and improve wellbeing for people living in an area of rural deprivation. They worked with Marches school to identify their participants and launched an 8 week pilot project at Nant Mawr Centre – a 20 acre outdoor community space. The activities included tree planting, wildlife surveys, building shelters, clearance work, hedge-laying, willow bivvies and cooking on an open fire.

The students engaged with this project had been struggling with a school setting and it was a good opportunity for staff at Marches school to find out more about the young people on an individual basis in a safe and creative environment. Students learnt how to interact with other adults and gave them opportunities they would not have ordinarily been offered.



Our Grants

Community Safety

Strong Communities are essential if people in our county are to feel safe, valued and involved. There are many ways that the strength of communities can be determined, and it is not all about official statistics. Some communities are largely self-sufficient, with neighbours supporting one another to ensure that personal needs of the most vulnerable are met. There are environmental issues that might be addressed through a residents' association or local community group, or even a few individuals that want to make their area a better place to live.

Building the capacity and ability of local organisations to respond to the need in their own communities, helping them to have a direct effect on where they live, is a key part of the work of The Community Foundation, and we allocate a large proportion of our grants to organisations who help to address need in local communities, and to help them strengthen their local area.

Parental Education Growth Support CIC (PEGS), based in Shropshire were awarded funding to support with their online domestic abuse by children programme. PEGS work specifically with parents who are being abused by their child. During the Covid-19 pandemic, these victims did not even have the option to flee to a refuge as they could not leave their child. During the pandemic, domestic abuse victims were at higher risk of incidents due to the restrictions placed for Covid - 19. This meant that victims of abuse were not able to receive face to face support, have assistance with safety planning or attend specific programmes that helped to understand their abuse. This form of domestic abuse is often misunderstood, extremely complex and is hidden more than any other form of abuse. PEGS saw an increase in parents and services reaching out to them for support. Parents feel alone and isolated, they are often blamed and feel shame that they are experiencing this behaviour from their child, they feel ignored and not listened too, they feel as though they and their lives / experiences do not matter. The abuse impacts on their emotional, physical and mental health and wellbeing. PEGS adapted their programmes to deliver online.

"Before finding PEGS I felt very alone and was constantly asking myself where I went so wrong at parenting. I had been searching for some support for a while but even as a professional myself I couldn't find any programmes or services that truly reflected our situation. Finding PEGS has been a revelation. Just realising I am not alone, and I am not solely to blame for how my child acts has improved my child's mental state no end. Things are still not perfect at home yet, but despite being sceptical that I would learn anything new after having done so many parenting-type courses before, I have noticed a change in mine and my child's relationship, and I feel far more confident and capable of addressing difficulties as and when they arise. I would recommend the course to anyone who feels at a loss as to how to address volatile and aggressive behaviour from their child, even if you feel like you have tried everything already! I only wish I'd found PEGS sooner."

Our Grants

Fairness & Equality

The main measures of fairness and equality are usually calculated from a national set of statistics known as the Indices of Multiple Deprivation. These are seen as fair measurements, as they create a balance between the good and bad. The Indices are based on results from 9 key indicators, but only 7 of these are reported on;

Education, Employment, Crime, Health, Housing, Income, Living Environment

A rural area might score highly on certain measures, like living environment, but score far lower on other issues, such as ability to access to health services. Areas that might score low on issues like crime or employment are more likely to score higher on availability and provision of housing.

Beyond these indicators there are other issues of fairness and equality, as some people may be seen as inherently disadvantaged, such as those with a disability, or those from a particular socio-economic background or those of a particular ethnicity, as they have extra barriers, disadvantages and prejudices to overcome.

Signal, based in Shrewsbury, are a charity who aim to support people who are deaf, have hearing loss or are experiencing tinnitus. They were awarded funding from our National Emergencies Trust Shropshire Fund for their project Make Communications Clear. This was a Covid-19 response project, in a world where the wearing of face coverings was now mandatory. After realising many of their members relied on lip reading and facial expressions for communication, they were now struggling to communicate. The organisation developed and delivered communication awareness workshops to the public and businesses. The workshops encouraged businesses and the public to communicate inclusively and encouraged the use of clear masks.



Our Grants

Social Isolation

Social Isolation is a problem in many parts of society. People who are, or who feel, alone, are more likely to suffer from ill health, both physical and mental. Social isolation is not just about the area that people live in, and can affect people in urban areas, as well as rural areas. Even in an otherwise close knit community, people can still feel alone, if there are not the services or support to allow them to integrate with their local community and play an active part in community life. It might not be the distance they are from someone that they can talk to, it might be that although there are lots of people around them, they don't have the connections to be able to socialise and open up.

Shropshire and Telford United Women's Association, were awarded funding through The Tampon Tax Community fund, to support women within their Muslim community. They used the funding to create a fully inclusive programme including swimming sessions and coffee mornings. Within the Muslim community, social and leisure activities for men and women must be separate, so there is restriction on "free mixing" for religious and cultural reasons. Access to swimming and exercise facilities is a particular issue with barriers to accessing general swimming sessions, with male lifeguards and uncovered windows. Women from Muslim communities also feel self-conscious exercising in clothes that look very different from other people using the facilities.

Women from Muslim communities can lack confidence and stay isolated, leading to poor health and wellbeing. The idea of fully inclusive coffee mornings and arts and craft sessions provided an opportunity to engage and promote community cohesion

An example of this impact was a mother in her 40s and her two daughters (aged 9 and 19). The 19-year-old could not swim and always lacked confidence going into the water, and equally her mother was too shy to swim in public, and they found it difficult to access the evening sessions, until STUWA stepped in. "Thank you so much for this opportunity, it has made me so confident to get into the water and now with some swimming instruction I can learn to swim"

Emergency Response Examples

Perhaps understandably, the bulk of the work of The Community Foundation over the last year has been focused on helping people who are affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and its subsequent lockdown. This help might be related to those with health problems, or those who have to isolate who can no longer go to the supermarket or pharmacy, or those who are affected by not being able to attend educational establishments, or suffering from loneliness and isolation. The response of the community and voluntary sector in Shropshire was fantastic, and less than a week after the lockdown was announced our first grant was given to a local project helping people with food deliveries. In total more than £750,000 was awarded to organisations supporting people in their local community throughout the pandemic.

OsNosh's main mission was to cook large, pay-as-you-feel, community meals using surplus supermarket food. These meals were open to all members of the local community, but they actively tried to reach those who were struggling financially, vulnerable or in need of company. Since the coronavirus pandemic they have adapted their service in order to deliver hot meals and grocery boxes to people who are isolating at home, vulnerable, elderly, families with children or struggling financially. They were granted funding to expand this service and support as many people as possible.

Challenging Perceptions is a young person's mental health peer support service. Due to the pandemic they had to close their youth mental well-being group, which was accessed weekly by vulnerable youth. Due to the crisis, mental health difficulties in young people was increasing at an alarming rate, and coupled with the already high demand for their service, Challenging Perceptions had to adapt their service to ensure support was still readily available. They sought funding for some Solution Focused Therapy Packs. They contained workbook print outs, activity books, storybooks, scrapbooks and materials to enable the users to create a Covid-19 scrap book. They also included some information and advice, including signposting information. Due to the additional Covid-19 precautions, schools encouraged "bring your own stationery". However, some deprived communities were unable to do so due to financial barriers. Challenging Perceptions therefore used some funding to create some school packs for those most in need.

Shropshire Youth Support Trust is a charity that specialises in promoting social inclusion, by maximising employability, enterprise and self-employment support for disadvantaged and marginalised people across Shropshire. Since they began operating in 2016, they have delivered a wide range of projects and initiatives within the local community and empowered their clients with multiple and complex needs, to lead fulfilling lives and to work towards personal and financial independence. In response to the COVID-19 crisis, they sought funding to enable them to provide an online Employability & Enterprise Hub, providing in-depth support, workshops, development modules, clinics, advice and training remotely to people in their own homes. This provision has helped to meet an increasing demand from people affected by unemployment, redundancy and business closures over the last 18 months.



Shropshire

Grants Financial Summary

SHROPHIRE WARD NAME	NUMBER OF GRANTS	AMOUNT IN £	NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES
Abbey	5	30000	2000
Bayston Hill, Column & Sutton	8	55781	2550
Belle Vue	2	1500	240
Bishop's Castle	5	5775	6213
Broseley	5	24750	3000
Castlefields and Ditherington	3	2700	420
Church Stretton & Craven Arms	5	14430	750
Clee	2	750	600
Gobowen, Selattyn and Weston Rhyn	2	1494	75
Harlescott	3	36576	15000
Hodnet	2	1500	750
Llanymynech	2	1125	150
Longden	5	16650	600
Ludlow East	6	4200	915
Ludlow North	3	18000	1500
Meole	2	8025	48
Oswestry South	10	91913	3804
Oswestry West	5	20390	150
Porthill	2	285	2
Quarry & Coton Hill	22	53387	7500
Severn Valley	2	1500	75
Shawbury	3	1925	90
Shifnal North	4	31604	90
St Oswald	3	7593	244
Tern	2	1500	45
Wem	2	22500	675
Whitchurch North	2	1500	53
Whittington	2	1500	52
TOTAL	119	458853	47591

Telford & Wrekin

Grants Financial Summary

TELFORD & WREKIN WARD NAME	NUMBER OF GRANTS	AMOUNT IN £	NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES
Apley Castle	3	16710	300
Arleston	2	1290	225
Brookside	2	7500	1500
Dawley & Aqueduct	6	33000	2250
Donnington	6	10271	780
Hadley & Leegomery	2	11393	1500
Haygate	10	99453	7965
Ironbridge Gorge	2	8400	750
Ketley & Overdale	3	12732	1257
Madeley & Sutton Hill	13	34865	10248
Malinslee & Dawley Bank	2	36222	1420
Oakengates & Ketley Bank	6	17121	1387
Park	4	23295	487
St Georges	2	15860	90
The Nedge	3	13125	1680
Woodside	9	32415	7500
Wrockwardine Wood & Trench	3	9000	172
TOTAL	78	382652	39511

Support your Community

SUPPORTING A COMMUNITY FUND

If you wish to give something back charitably but don't want to establish your own dedicated fund, or you don't want to give large amounts you could support one of our community funds.

These funds are specific to a geographic area, and are flexible so that they can respond to changing needs within your local community.

ESTABLISHING YOUR OWN FUND

Having your own fund is like having your own charitable trust without the hassle of administration and regulations. If you have a specific remit in mind, or a specific type of charitable cause that you would like to support then you can establish your own named fund. The name can be chosen by you, and is usually used so that it is easily identifiable by donor, whether that is an individual's name, a family named fund, or a business name. It helps to ensure that your charitable giving is recognised.

HELD FUND

A held fund is where we take over the day to day administration of an existing fund or a newly established fund. We will manage all legalities, and can invest the fund with our endowment to generate a better return, whilst leaving all decisions to you.

JOIN THE FOUNDATION CLUB

The Foundation Club is a local network of people and businesses who want to give something back to their local community on a regular basis. Donations can start from as little as £1000 per year, and offers the opportunity to network with other Foundation Club members, to share information about your charitable giving and to develop personal and business connections with other philanthropically minded people. Any donation received through The Foundation Club is administered through our community funds, and so goes to make a difference to organisations on your doorstep.

LEAVING A LEGACY

You can leave a gift to The Community Foundation in your will to support the causes and areas you care about after you are gone. This could be a pecuniary or residuary legacy, and we are happy to work with you and your solicitors to decide on appropriate wording that you can include in your will. A legacy can be used to establish a fund in your own name, that of a family or a family member, or to be added to one of our existing funds.

YOUR OPTIONS FOR GIVING SOMETHING BACK

Charitable giving is a personal choice, and it is rare that two people want to achieve exactly the same thing in the same way. The Community Foundation does not operate a 'one size fits all' approach to charitable giving, and our team of expert advisors are here to work with you to develop a plan to give charitably that suits your needs and wishes. Charitable giving and philanthropy is no longer the domain of the very wealthy, and everyone can be involved in supporting their preferred causes and people, in a way that suits them.

Meet the Team



1. Steve Adams (Chief Executive) 2. Adam Berrisford (Head of Operations)
3. Leanne Macpherson (Head of Programmes) 4. Faye Williams (Business Development Manager)



5. Jo Cooper (Business Development Officer) 6. Sian Emery (Programmes Officer)
7. Benjamin Hilton (Operations Officer) 8. Laura Shaw (Programmes Administrator)



9. Dean Harris (Chair of Committee) 10. Emma Croall 11. Selina Graham
12. Victoria Handbury-Madin 13. Clair Moelwyn-Williams 14. Roger Lewis (Chairman of CFS)
15. Simon Price 16. Sonia Roberts 17. Johnny Themans



CFStaffordshire



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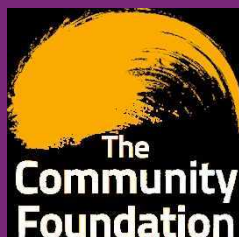
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The Community Foundation for Staffordshire



The Community Foundation

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Auditors: Dains LLP

Bankers: Unity Trust Bank

Investment managers:

Brewin Dolphin Limited, CCLA Investment Management Limited,
Marlborough Fund Managers Limited

Registered Charity No: 1091628 Registered Company No: 04220563