



**Cornwall
Community
Foundation**



**People in Mind
Community Wellbeing Fund**

**Distribution Report
March 2026**

Executive summary

The People in Mind Community Wellbeing Fund forms part of the broader People in Mind programme co-ordinated and managed by Cornwall Voluntary Sector Forum (VSF) and jointly funded by Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Integrated Care Board (ICB) and Cornwall Council Public Health.

The five-year programme is aimed at supporting innovation and collaboration within the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector to deliver a trauma-informed and person-centred approach to improving the wellbeing of communities in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

The total value of applications received this year reached £1,774,186, underlining both the significant level of unmet need and appetite for this type of funding across Cornwall.

The core allocation of £133,542 from the ICB and Public Health was once again complemented by the generous support of Sedel-Collings Foundation, whose initial contribution of £45,000 was extended by a further £15,000 during the panel meeting. This additional investment enabled two further groups, The Women's Centre Cornwall and Livewire Saltash, to receive funding, and we are deeply grateful to Sedel-Collings Foundation for their continued commitment to this work.

People in Mind's core service is delivered through a partnership of eight VCSE organisations. The Community Wellbeing Fund extends this reach by supporting other voluntary organisations and community groups working with people aged 16+ who are most at risk of poor mental health, self-harm, or suicide.

This is the third year of the programme, and this report details the Community Wellbeing Fund's distribution of £178,542 to community projects.



£8,927 average
grant size

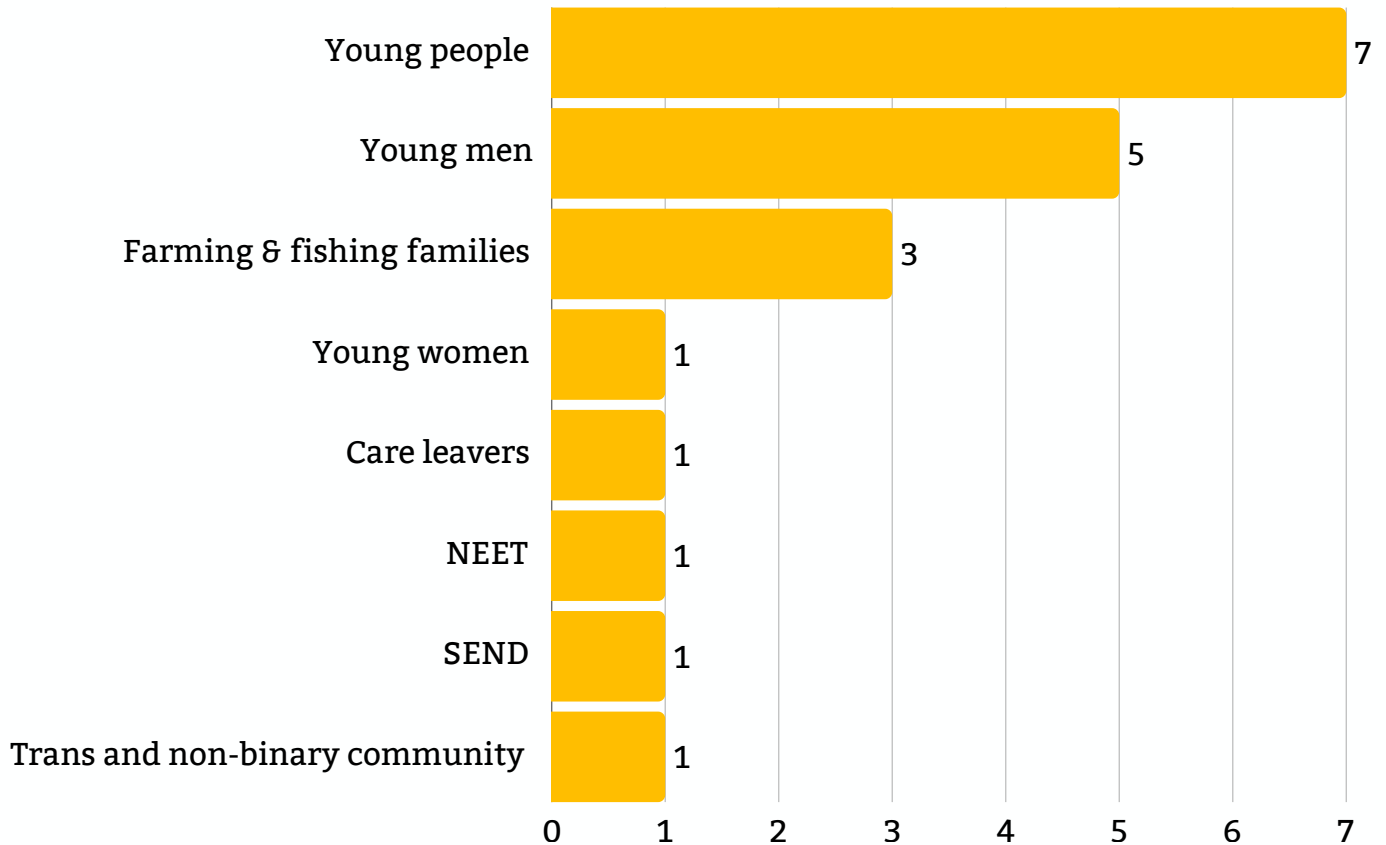


20 groups funded



2,485 predicted
beneficiaries

Beneficiaries



Funded projects this year reached a diverse range of beneficiary groups, with young people (16+) representing the largest single cohort at 35% of the portfolio, followed by young men at 25% and farming and fishing families at 15%. The remaining projects each accounted for 5% of funded activity, supporting young women, care leavers, those who are not in education, employment or training (NEET), individuals with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), and the trans and non-binary community.

Notably, seven of these funded groups also indicated that a specific focus of their work would be reaching neurodivergent individuals within their communities. This cross-cutting commitment to neurodivergent inclusion is a particularly encouraging development, reflecting a growing awareness among applicants of the distinct and often unmet mental health needs of this group.

Geographic representation

People In Mind Community Wellbeing Fund third year of distribution saw projects taking root across Cornwall's diverse communities. Just under half of funded projects operated county-wide, extending their reach to residents regardless of location. Reflecting our continued commitment to geographic equity, North and East Cornwall once again attracted the largest concentration of place-based investment, with around a third of projects rooted in these Integrated Care Areas, a sign that our targeted outreach in historically underserved communities is bearing fruit.

Encouragingly, the Camborne, Redruth and Pool area emerged more prominently this year, with a small cluster of projects responding to the distinct needs of that urban corridor. Similarly, Bodmin and the wider North Cornwall area saw meaningful activity from several funded organisations.

The Lizard remains a focus for development. The Sparkle Foundation UK continues to hold a presence there, and strengthening the pipeline of high quality applications from this peninsula remains a priority going forward. South East Cornwall saw representation through a project in Saltash, though like the Lizard, this is an area where we would welcome greater engagement from local groups.

The Isles of Scilly remain without representation in this funding round. Closing this gap continues to be an ambition for future distributions through targeted community outreach.



Geographic distribution

This map shows the locations of the registered offices of the funded groups. Please note their work may extend beyond this area, as listed in the interactive section.



Scan QR code to see the interactive map for more details

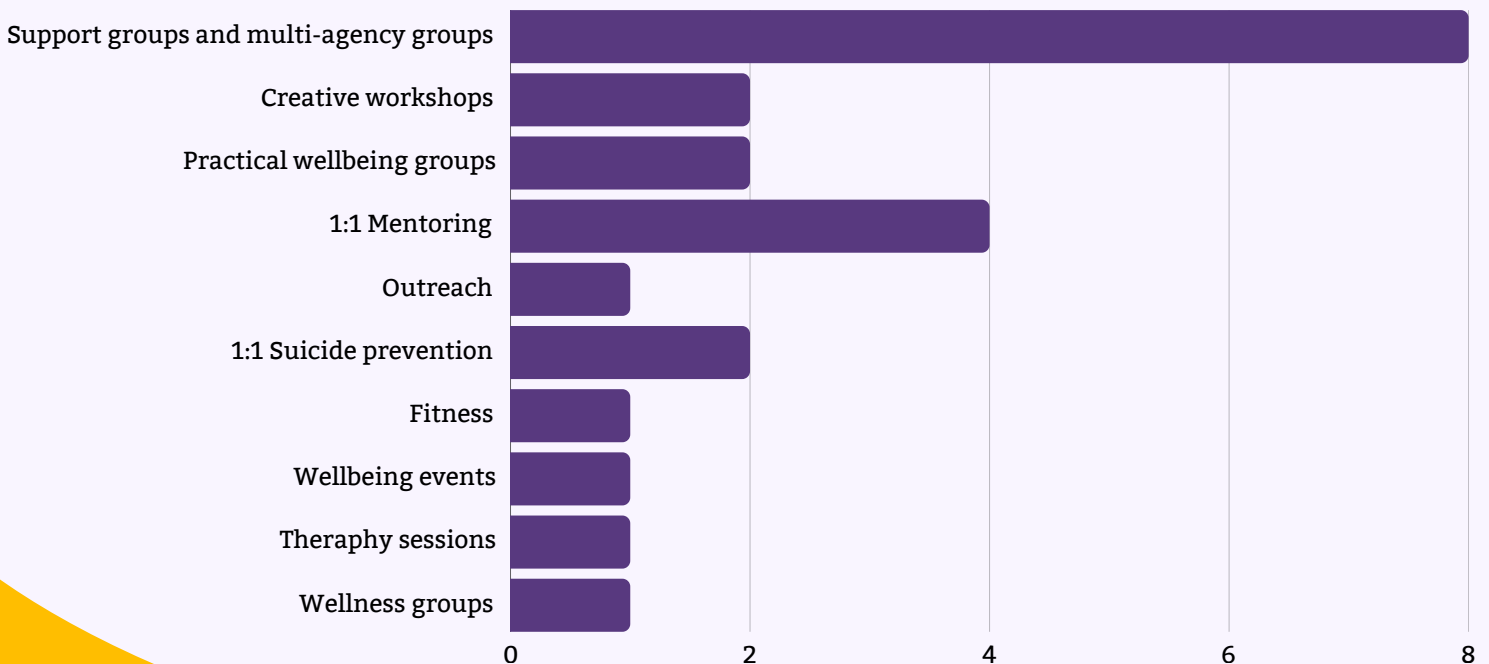


Frameworks for change

This year, we are pleased to see a wide range of funded projects that reflect the breadth of the Fund's criteria, with mental health support being delivered through group sessions, mentoring, and one-to-one provision.

The diversity of approaches across the portfolio highlights something important: these organisations know their communities. They understand what works and have the experience and expertise to deliver meaningful results for the people they support. Rather than applying a one-size-fits-all model, each group has developed its offer in direct response to the needs of those it serves.

The importance of multi-year funding also stands out as a highlight of this round, giving groups the stability and confidence to plan ahead and ensure continuity of support for some of the most vulnerable people in our communities.



Reflection and learning

Year three of the People in Mind Community Wellbeing Fund has supported 20 high-quality projects, representing a notable increase from 16 projects in Year Two. This growth reflects not only an expansion in funded activity but also a significant rise in demand, with applications increasing from 72 to 93 – a 29% year-on-year increase.

A key development this year has been the introduction of multi-year funding, with ten projects awarded three years of guaranteed support. This decision demonstrates strong confidence in the capacity and impact of these organisations and aligns with the IVAR Open and Trusting Grant Making principles, to which Cornwall Community Foundation is committed. By removing the need for annual reapplication, funded organisations can focus their time and resources on delivery rather than fundraising. To ensure continued learning and accountability, grant holders will submit short interim impact statements to capture progress and insights.

This shift to multi-year funding strengthens a growing network of community organisations delivering meaningful mental health outcomes across Cornwall, helping to alleviate pressure on NHS services.

Looking ahead, we would like to continue exploring opportunities to secure additional funding, to further expand our grant-making and reach more impactful organisations. Evidence continues to show that well-supported community groups contribute to improved mental health outcomes for residents, reducing demand on statutory services through these cost effective interventions.

To ensure sustainability and continuity, we will move to an invite-only model for the next two funding rounds. This approach will enable us to manage limited resources effectively, prioritise emerging trends in mental health support, while enhancing support for organisations funded during the first three years.



Grant distribution awards

Year 3-5

Grantee	Primary Beneficiary	Project Area	Award
Pegasus - Men's Wellbeing Centre	Young men	North & East Cornwall	£10,000
Lanivet Parish Sport & Recreational Trust FC	Young men	Bodmin & Camel Valley	£9,800
Hugs Foundation	Risk of suicide & neurodivergent people	Bodmin & surrounding area	£9,950
Sparkle Foundation	Men at risk of suicide	Helston, Lizard, Truro & Penzance	£6,000
Pearl Exchange	Young people	North Cornwall	£10,000
Imagine If Partnership	Farming communities	North and East Cornwall	£10,000
Georgia's Voice	Young women	Cornwall Wide	£9,980
Carefree Cornwall	Care leavers	Cornwall Wide	£10,000
Cornwall Neighbourhoods for Change	Neurodivergent people	Cornwall Wide	£10,000
Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen	Fishing families	Cornwall Wide	£10,000
Glen Carne Housing & Support	Men experiencing homelessness: LGBTQ+ & neurodivergent people	Cornwall Wide	£7,520

Grant distribution awards

Year 3-5

Grantee	Primary Beneficiary	Project Area	Award
WILD CIO	Young people	Cornwall Wide	£9,955
Urban Biodiversity CIC	Men including neurodivergent people	Newquay	£8,255
Transparent Presence CIC	Trans & non-binary communities	Central & East Cornwall	£9,952
Sunrise Cornwall CIC	Suicide reduction	Redruth, Penzance, Truro, Newquay and Falmouth	£10,000
Equally Abled	SEND	Bodmin & North Cornwall	£3,700
Gentle Yoga Rebellion	Young people	North Cornwall	£3,690
Farm Cornwall CIO	Farming families with focus on men 16+	Cornwall Wide	£10,000
Redruth Former Library CIC	Young men	Cornwall Wide	£10,000
Volunteer it Yourself	NEET	Saltash	£9,750

Total	£178,542
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Grants allocations for Year Four and Five

Year Four	£72,920
Year Five	£72,868

Grant distribution awards

Year 4-5

Grantee	Primary Beneficiary	Project Area	Award
Lanivet Parish Sport & Recreational Trust FC	Young men	Bodmin & Camel Valley	2027 £9,800 2028 £9,800
Pearl Exchange	Young people	Bude	2027 £10,000 2028 £10,000
Georgia's Voice	Young women	Cornwall Wide	2027 £9,980 2028 £9,980
Carefree Cornwall	Care leavers	Cornwall Wide	2027 £10,000 2028 £10,000
Royal National Mission Deep Sea Fisherman	Fishing families	Cornwall Wide	2027 £10,000 2028 £10,000
Glen Carne Housing and Support	Homeless men, LGBTQ+ and neurodivergent people	Cornwall Wide	2027 £7,885 2028 £8,276
Urban Biodiversity CIC	Men including neurodivergent people	Newquay	2027 £8,916 2028 £8,577
Transparent Presence CIC	Trans and non-binary communities	Central and East Cornwall	2027 £9,952 2028 £9,952
Sparkle Foundation	Men at risk of suicide	Helston, Lizard, Truro & Penzance	2027 £6,000 2028 £6,000
Farm Cornwall CIO	Farming families with focus on men 16+	Cornwall Wide	2027 £10,000 2028 £10,000

Messages of thanks

“Thank you so much for sharing this wonderful news with us this morning! This is really fantastic and we are so excited to be able to continue and expand on our work with your support over the next two years.”

The Pearl Exchange (3 year award)

“This is FANTASTIC news!! We’re so chuffed to have been chosen from what I can only imagine must have been a mountain of worthy proposals. This funding will be instrumental in expanding our support groups across Cornwall, thank you so much!”

Georgia’s Voice (3 year award)

“Thank you so much for this email! We are absolutely delighted to be successful. We can’t wait to get started on this project.”

Transparent Presence CIC (3 year award)

“Thanks so much for this, it's wonderful news, we're delighted.”

Volunteer it yourself (1 year award)

“Wow thank you so so much that’s incredible! I will have a look through all the guidance and the VSF membership tomorrow, but I wanted to acknowledge the email and what a lovely end to the day! Thank you all for your continued belief in our team and mission.”

Hugs Foundation (1 year award)

We are so proud to continue working in partnership with the Integrated Care Board, Public Health, Sedel-Collings Foundation and Cornwall VSF to deliver this valuable fund for communities across Cornwall.



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