



Plus Dane Housing

Community Impact Fund

2025/26



**GOLDEN
COMMUNITY
IMPACT FUND**

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Introduction

This year we reached a milestone in Plus Dane's history, having delivered homes and services to people across Cheshire and Merseyside for 50 years.

In marking the anniversary, I was keen to make sure that customers also had an opportunity to take part in the celebrations which was where the idea of the **Community Impact Fund** was born.

We set aside **£50,000** and sought applications from customers who had ideas that could benefit from **up to £1,000** to do something meaningful in their community.

It was fantastic to receive applications covering such a **broad spectrum of ideas** including:

- **Community Wellbeing**
- **Environmental Improvements**
- **Community Resilience**
- **Children and Young People**
- **Community Cohesion**

Through this report, you will not only see some of the great things that have been delivered as a result of this fund, but also the **impact this has had** on those directly involved and those that have also experienced the initiatives.

We are proud to have been able to support a total of **57 projects** through the Community Impact Fund and I hope you will enjoy reading some of the stories contained in the pages that follow.

Thank you for all of those that submitted applications and have invested their time to **making the initiatives such a success.**

Max Steinberg

Chair, Plus Dane Housing



Overview of the Fund

 **£48,738** across **57**
community projects

 **56**
organisations funded

 **33**
communities supported

 **2,261**
residents directly benefited

Who We Reached

 **1,184**
children, young people
and families

 **662**
older residents
and people facing isolation

 **415**
people facing
financial hardship

Impact Areas

Community Wellbeing

28 projects promoted healthier communities through social activities, mental health support and reducing loneliness, including lunch clubs, arts groups, gardening and wellbeing workshops.

Environmental Improvements

9 projects improved local environments through community gardens, green spaces and local beautification projects.

Community Resilience

10 projects strengthened community resilience by addressing cost of living challenges, providing practical support and helping people develop skills for greater self-sufficiency.

Children and Young People

8 projects supported children and young people through sports, holiday activities, outreach and wellbeing programmes, helping to build confidence, inclusion and healthy lifestyles.

Community Cohesion

2 projects promoted social inclusion and cultural exchange, bringing together diverse communities through initiatives such as pop-up cafés and a Black History Month film series.



Community Wellbeing

Young @ Heart Refurbishment Scheme

Sandbach

This project supported a long-running resident-led group at Union Street sheltered housing that was set up to reduce loneliness and bring people together.

What began as coffee afternoons grew into a **warm, welcoming group** running twice weekly on Tuesdays and Saturdays, offering activities such as dominoes, cards and bingo, alongside talks from organisations including the police, fire service and Age UK on **safety and wellbeing**.

The funding helped **refurbish and refresh the community offer** by replacing worn games equipment, essential kitchen items and an outdoor bench, while also supporting improvements to the front garden area.

The project benefited residents of Union Street and nearby Plus Dane sheltered schemes by providing a **safe, sociable space** that promoted companionship, inclusion and wellbeing.

Use of Funds

To replace worn-out **equipment**, including games and kitchen items, and to support improvements such as an **outdoor bench** and light landscaping/garden enhancements.

At a Glance



16-20

participants attend coffee mornings each week





Sutton and Langley Lunch Club

Langley, Macclesfield

Sutton and Langley Lunch Club is a much-loved monthly community lunch that has been bringing people together at Langley Methodist Hall for 15 years. More than a meal, it offers a warm and welcoming space where residents of Langley, Sutton and Lyme Green can connect, feel included and enjoy time together.

It is especially valued by older people, those experiencing **isolation or loneliness**, and people with disabilities. The club also provides transport and an **informal welfare check-in** through regular volunteer contact, which is particularly important in a semi-rural area where many residents live alone.

Based in one of our neighbourhoods, the lunch club is a **valued part of community life** for Plus Dane tenants who attend regularly.

Use of Funds

To help this valued lunch club continue to thrive by **offsetting rising food costs** and covering essential running expenses.

At a Glance



36

guests attended on average each month



£6.50

provides guests with a freshly cooked two-course meal, plus tea and coffee



No Limits ABC 2025/2026

Liverpool

No Limits Amateur Boxing Club provides a safe, inclusive space for around 100 young people each week to learn boxing, discipline and respect.

Volunteer coaches gave their time free of charge, helping the club keep membership at just **£2 per session** so children and young people could take part regardless of financial background.

The club supported many members from low-income or vulnerable families, helping keep young people **off the streets** while building **confidence, resilience and teamwork**.

Funding helped remove **barriers to participation** by supporting essential costs linked to training and competition, ensuring more young people had the opportunity to take part, progress and succeed in a **positive community environment**.

Use of Funds

England Boxing **registration fees** for as many boxers as possible, plus support with subs and essential kit such as hand wraps and gloves.

At a Glance



100

children benefitting from sessions per week



“Parents are delighted how their children have thrived in the session.”

Organisers



Spring Treasure

Toxteth, Liverpool

This project supported **Spring Treasure**, a vibrant community event delivered by **Squash Liverpool CIC** that brought local people together through gardening, creativity and shared activities.

The day included seed planting, street drawing, garden tours, guided walks, a clothes swap and shared food, creating a **welcoming space** for people to connect and take part in positive community activity.

More than 140 people attended, helping generate interest in regular community garden sessions and showing **longer-term impact**.

The project promoted **community connection, environmental engagement and stronger use of shared local space**.

Use of Funds

To deliver a **community event** including gardening, creative activities, **shared food and engagement activities** that brought local people together and encouraged **ongoing involvement in community garden sessions**.

At a Glance



140

participants benefitted

“I really liked the great sense of community and diversity.”

Community Member

Creative Connections

Walton, Liverpool

Our House Community delivers inclusive, community-led support in Walton. Creative Connections is a twice-weekly arts and crafts group for elderly, disabled and socially isolated adults, offering a safe, uplifting space for creativity, confidence and connection.

The project responds to **high local deprivation and poor health outcomes**, with **growing demand** through referrals from health and counselling teams.

In 2025 to date, the charity has recorded **4,402 attendances** from more than **600 unique members**; the arts and crafts group alone delivered **102 sessions** in the past year, with 1,198 attendances and 1,735 hours of engagement from 162 adults aged 18-97, most of whom were aged 65 and over.

Use of Funds

To provide arts and **crafts materials and equipment** so sessions can remain **varied, accessible and sustainable** into 2026.

At a Glance



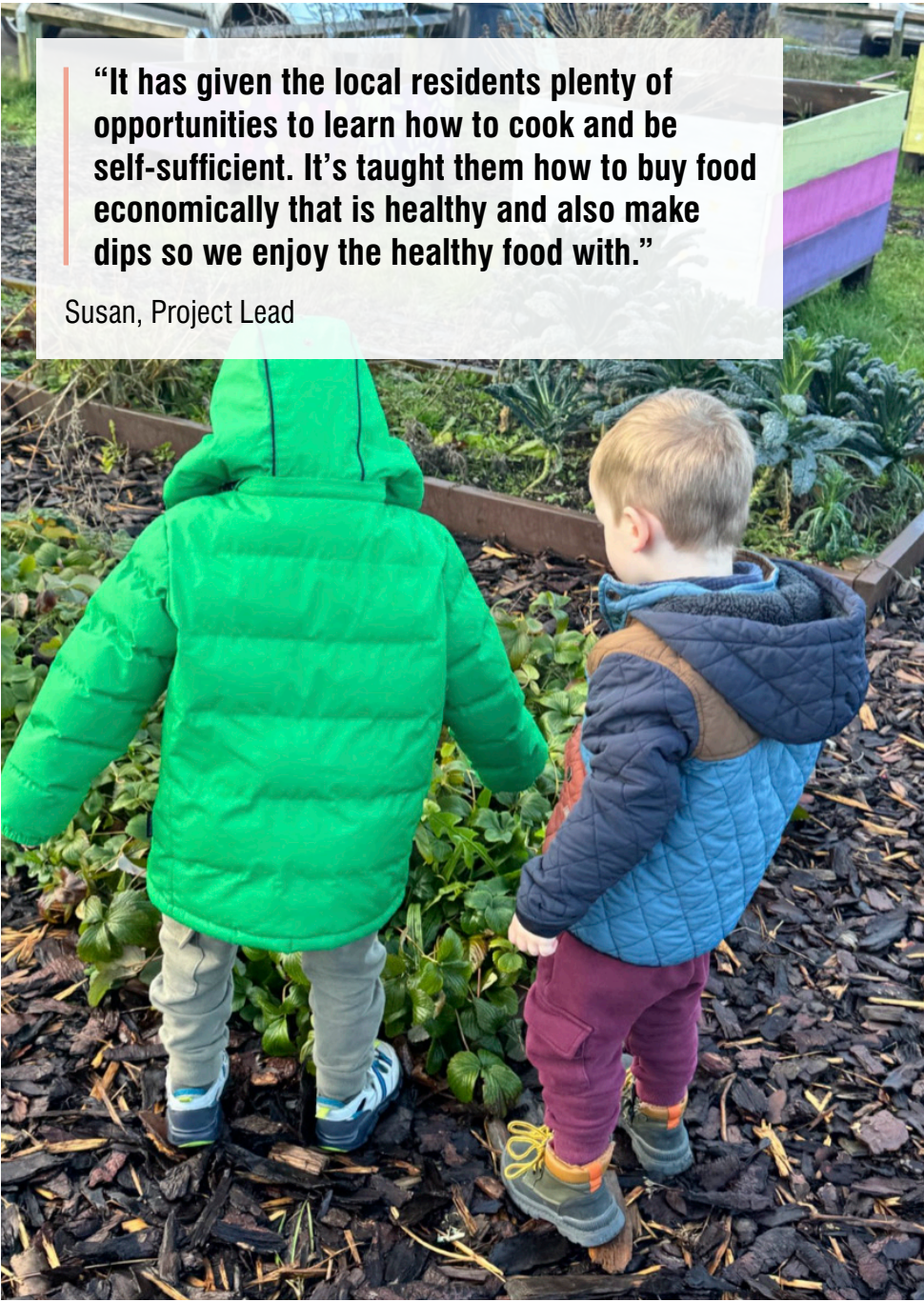
24

people were supported through this project

“I have improved with my mental health since coming here. Thank you for all your help.”

Participant





“It has given the local residents plenty of opportunities to learn how to cook and be self-sufficient. It’s taught them how to buy food economically that is healthy and also make dips so we enjoy the healthy food with.”

Susan, Project Lead

Cookery and Friendship Garden

Congleton

This project supported community gardening and free cookery classes for residents in the Bromley Farm area, helping people learn how to grow food, cook healthy meals and build practical life skills.

Funding enabled the purchase of **vegetable plants and fruit** for the community garden, creating opportunities to teach local people about **gardening, sustainability and self-sufficiency**.

The project also delivered cookery sessions in the nearby community hub, using produce grown in the garden to show participants how to **prepare affordable meals at home, make food go further and support healthy eating**.

By linking food growing with cooking education, the project helped provide **free food**, strengthen **community relationships** and support residents in an area of deprivation.

Use of Funds

To buy **plants and fruit**, and to provide **cookery lessons, food and resources** linked to the garden and community classes.

At a Glance



60

participants benefited from funding

Community Play and Wellbeing Activities

Middlewich

Friends of Fountain Fields is a dedicated volunteer-led community group based in Middlewich, working in Fountain Fields Park to create joyful, inclusive opportunities for local families and children.

The group delivers free, play-based activities that **boost wellbeing, reduce social isolation** and encourage positive use of shared outdoor space.

With Plus Dane funding, they run eight community events, including arts and crafts, seasonal celebrations, group games, nature play and wellbeing-focused gatherings, all designed to be **accessible for all ages and abilities**.

Plus Dane residents are actively encouraged to take part, and the group includes volunteers from a Plus Dane neighbourhood to help ensure activities **reflect local needs**.

Use of Funds

To help bring **eight inclusive community events** to life in 2026, covering activity materials, entertainers, equipment, refreshments and **annual public liability insurance**.

“Thank you for everything you have done for me. I appreciate it so much, thank you for all you have taught me, that I am enough and that I will succeed in life and even though I have had trauma I can always think positive. Thank you for helping me with my anxiety. You have helped me so much.”

Participant Supported by RASASC

Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre (RASASC)

Cheshire and Merseyside

RASASC is a specialist support service established in 1995 and now operating across Cheshire and Merseyside through nine community-based centres, including Ellesmere Port and Knowsley.

With accredited counselling (BACP) and an accredited Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) service (LimeCulture), RASASC provides **confidential, trauma-informed support** to survivors of rape and sexual abuse, including women, men, children, young people and non-binary people.

Demand for support in the Ellesmere Port area is rising, and this project will help **reduce waiting times** by expanding access to specialist counselling.

Use of Funds

To deliver an additional **20 hours of specialist counselling** for survivors in Ellesmere Port, helping more people access **vital support sooner**.

At a Glance



655

residents supported during the year



134

children supported during the year



5

young people received therapy sessions

Community Workshops

Anfield, Liverpool

This project supported the development of community craft workshops led by a Plus Dane resident and teaching assistant based on the Pinehurst estate.

Building on previous sessions delivered for the local community and within school settings for parents and teachers, the workshops provided **creative opportunities** that promoted **mental health, inclusion and confidence-building**.

The project benefited parents, caregivers, teachers and the wider local community by creating **accessible, informal activities** that encouraged **participation, connection and wellbeing**.

Use of Funds

To purchase **craft materials and resources** for community workshops.

At a Glance



60

people benefitted from sessions

“It has enabled people from different backgrounds and cultures to come together, be creative and relax in their community. It also allowed parents and carers to engage in activities with their children, including a Christmas event with Anfield Cinema where families watched a film and made paper bag puppets.”

Workshop Lead

Easter Afternoon Tea

Liverpool

This project hosted a special Easter Afternoon Tea for residents at Alman Court, creating a warm and cheerful opportunity for people to come together, celebrate the season and enjoy each other's company.

Easter Afternoon Tea Activity

Cheshire

This one-off project delivered an Easter afternoon tea activity across four Plus Dane schemes in Cheshire, bringing residents together for a shared seasonal celebration.

The Clock Community Activities

Everton, Liverpool

The Clock Community Centre used funding to develop a programme of community gardening and outdoor sessions in the Clock garden for local residents in Everton.

Castlefields Wellbeing Projects

Castlefields, Runcorn

Wellbeing Enterprises CIC used a £1,000 Golden Communities allocation from Plus Dane to support community-led initiatives from the Castlefields wellbeing project and local consultation.

5 Ways to Wellbeing Promotion

Sandbach

Changes Plus promoted the 5 Ways to Wellbeing through an interactive workshop focused on exercise, education, giving, connection and diet.

Derby Court Social Activities

Halewood, Liverpool

This project supported the continuation of daily social activities at Derby Court, where tenants and members of the wider Halewood community took part in sessions five days a week.

Patton Close Cricket Team

Over Peover

Pearson Estates Limited supported local residents at Patton Close and members of Over Peover Cricket Club by helping provide cricket equipment and supplies for both children and adults.

WalkFlorrie

Dingle, Liverpool

The Florence Institute Trust supported WalkFlorrie, a community initiative launched after lockdown to help people particularly men improve their mental health, wellbeing, fitness and sense of connection through walking and peer support.

Colwell Court Forgotten Loneliness

Dovecot, Liverpool

This project supported older residents at Colwell Court in Dovecot by providing equipment and resources to help tackle social isolation and bring people together through shared activities.

Southdene Eat Well Live Well Project

Kirkby

This project supported vulnerable people in the Kirkby community through a mix of practical food support and ongoing social activities.

Wellbeing at Dennis Round Court

Alsager

Dennis Round Court aimed to reduce loneliness and social isolation by creating more opportunities for people to come together in a supportive communal setting.

Friends Lunches Warm Space

Congleton

Bromley Farm Hub Friends supported a warm space lunch offer for residents on the Bromley Farm Estate, using the Plus Dane hub as an inclusive, welcoming environment for people experiencing cost of living pressures, fuel poverty, loneliness and social isolation.

All Saints Community Centre

Buglawton, Congleton

The funding supported community activities at All Saints Community Centre in Buglawton, including a weekly luncheon club, monthly Tea-Church sessions and community group events that brought residents together with local agencies and support services.

Outdoor Space for Wellbeing

Liverpool

Improvements to the outdoor space at 103 North helped create a safer, more welcoming communal area for residents, encouraging greater use of the shared space.

Women's International Day

Toxteth, Liverpool

AA Health and Nutrition delivered a community event in Toxteth to mark International Women's Day, bringing women together in an inclusive space to connect, celebrate and feel valued.

St Cyril's Residents' Group

Liverpool

The funding supported St Cyril's residents group to improve the communal garden through the construction of a garden shed.

Wellbeing @ SCCYP

Liverpool

St Cyril's Community and Young Peoples Project supported the continuation of meaningful activities for adults aged 50 and over, many of whom were retired women or living with disabilities, through St Cyril's Community and Young Peoples Project.

Wellbeing Sessions (Riverview)

Liverpool

This project supported wellbeing sessions at Riverview Community Centre through fortnightly visits from New Horizons during community coffee mornings.

Community Fitness and Friendship Weekends

Westvale, Kirkby

Community Fitness and Friendship Weekends is a free, inclusive weekend project delivered from Knowsley Vale Amateur Boxing Club's gym in Westvale, Kirkby, designed to improve wellbeing and strengthen community connection.

Environmental Improvements

Open to Grow

Bootle

The Gateway Collective CIC delivers Open to Grow, a twice-weekly community growing project at North Park Community Garden (Mondays and Wednesdays, 10am-2pm), welcoming local people to learn how to grow food and get involved in all aspects of garden life - from seed sowing and plant care to maintenance, harvesting and welcoming visitors.

A shared lunchtime meal is a **central part of each session**, using garden produce where possible to **build relationships and reduce isolation**.

In an average year, the garden produces around 450kg of food, most of which is shared among participants. In 2025, 62 regular community gardeners attended 1,405 times, contributing 3,419 volunteer hours.

The project is a **powerful example of community ownership in action**, supporting wellbeing, connection and **access to healthy food** in an area affected by food poverty, including providing extra portions for those who need them and trialling 'pick your own' growing areas in the park.

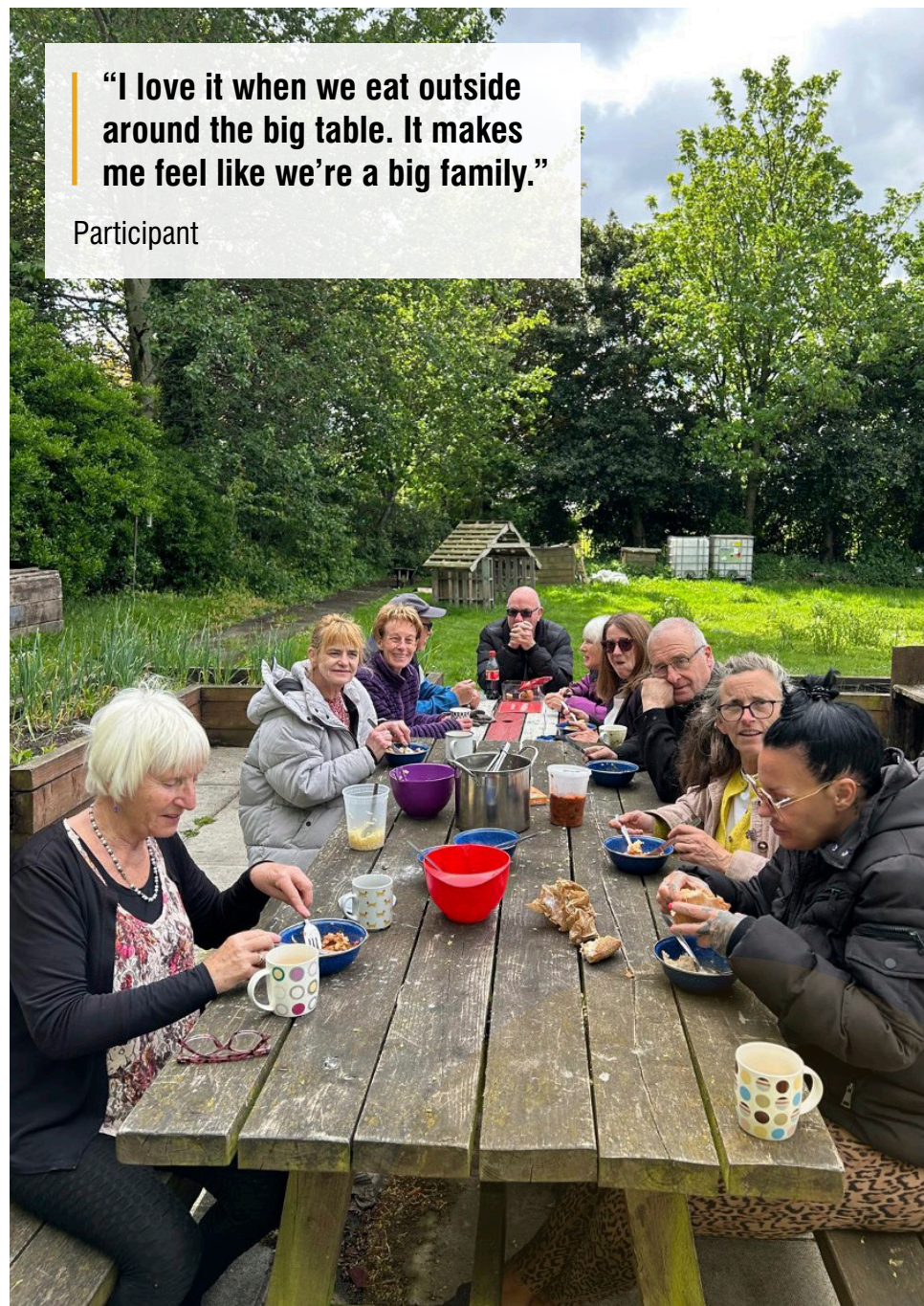
Use of Funds

To provide **lunches for community gardeners** attending Open to Grow sessions, helping make each session **welcoming and inclusive**.

At a Glance

 **34**

people were supported through the project





Alleyway Green Space

Toxteth, Liverpool

This project transformed a neglected alleyway into a brighter, more welcoming pocket garden for the local community.

By adding planters, hanging baskets and colourful planting, the scheme improved the appearance of the space and helped create a **more pleasant environment** for local residents, nearby shop owners and visitors.

The project also encouraged **pride in the shared environment** and contributed to a **safer, more attractive setting** for people living, working or spending time in the surrounding streets.

Use of Funds

Buying **planters, hanging baskets** and supporting **clearance works** to improve the alleyway green space.



Netherton Community Garden

Netherton

Netherton Feelgood Factory runs a vibrant community garden in the heart of Netherton, creating a welcoming green space in an urban area and providing affordable, locally grown organic produce for local residents.

The garden **brings people together** through a wide range of community activities in the warmer months, including children's workshops, sessions for vulnerable adults and older people, and wellbeing activities such as yoga, while also supporting volunteers year-round to **reduce loneliness and improve physical and mental wellbeing.**

Use of Funds

The project installed an electrical hookup to the site, helping **transform the only indoor space** from an unlit, unheated shipping container into a **safer and more usable community space** during autumn and winter.

This improvement supported **year-round activity** through lighting, heating and basic refreshments, while also enabling electric equipment to be used to **increase productivity and grow the amount of affordable produce available to the community.**

Fun in the Sun

Maghull

Christopher Taylor House residents helped improve the shared outdoor space so residents could spend more time together enjoying the gardens they help maintain.

Oriel in Bloom

Bootle

Oriel in Bloom is a tenant-led project to transform the communal garden and parking area for a Plus Dane block of 24 flats on Oriel Road, Bootle.

Litter Picking

Liverpool

This project supported a local litter-picking group working on the field and park in front of Plus Dane properties.

Community Garden

Castlefields, Runcorn

This project supported plans to create a shared community garden for residents of De Lacey Row in Castlefields, providing a space where local people could work together to grow fruit, vegetables, herbs and flowers.

Rosemary Close Environmental Day

Liverpool

This project will support an environmental improvement day at Rosemary Close, helping residents work together to improve the appearance and condition of the local area.

Bringing Colour to Goodier Court

Runcorn

Community Integrated Care worked with the local fire brigade and young people to brighten Goodier Court through practical improvements to the communal environment.



Community Resilience

Preloved Clothing Events

Congleton

The Big Clothes Movement hosted community preloved clothing events at Congleton Town Hall, helping make affordable second-hand clothes and accessories accessible to the local community.

The project supported both **environmental sustainability** and the local **cost of living response** by keeping quality items in use for longer and helping women, children and families access essential clothing at low cost.

Events were open to anyone able to attend in person, including people collecting on behalf of others who face barriers to travel.

Use of Funds

Van hire and venue hire to help deliver **welcoming community preloved clothing events** at Congleton Town Hall.

At a Glance



£2

provided participants with a full bag of clothing



15

bags of clothing were donated to Plus Dane residents



6

events took place



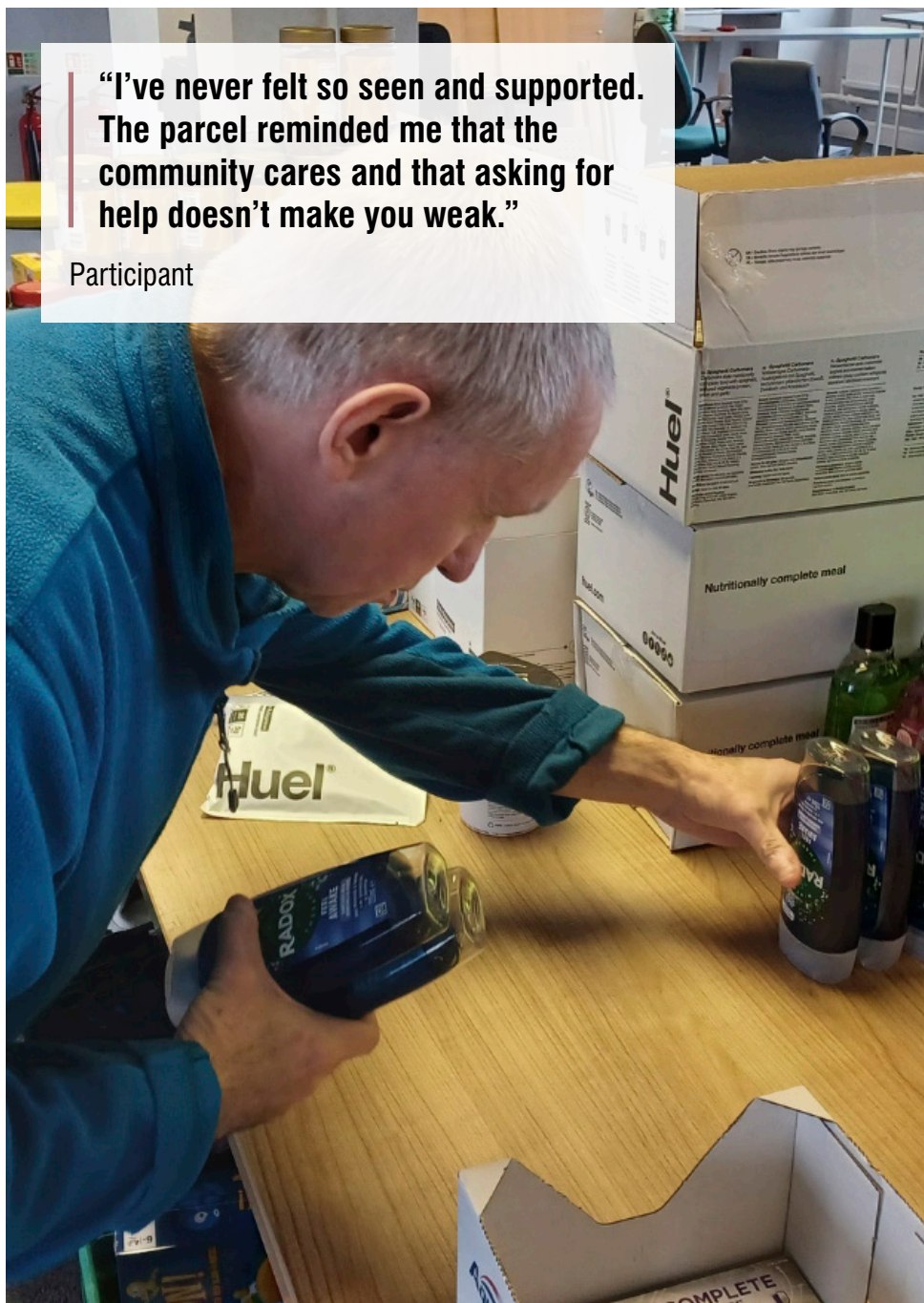
588

people were supported through the project

“Several parents who attended the event stopped on the way out to tell us how grateful they were, and how much they relied on our events during these financially hard times.”

Event Organiser





"I've never felt so seen and supported. The parcel reminded me that the community cares and that asking for help doesn't make you weak."

Participant

Kindness Kits

Crewe

St Paul's Centre provided practical support to vulnerable individuals and families in CW1 and CW2 through the creation of Kindness Kits containing essential toiletries and cleaning products.

In response to the **cost of living crisis**, the project helped people who were struggling to afford everyday hygiene items such as washing powder, shampoo, soap and toothpaste, supporting **dignity, health and wellbeing**.

The kits particularly benefited people living in poverty, women fleeing domestic abuse, older people and veterans, while also helping reduce some of the **stress and anxiety linked to financial hardship**.

As well as meeting immediate practical need, the project promoted **dignity, care and community support** for people at risk of hardship and exclusion.

Use of Funds

50 Kindness Kits, containing essential hygiene and cleaning items such as washing powder, shampoo, soap, toothpaste and other basic toiletries.

At a Glance



135

people supported through the Kindness Parcels project



50

carefully prepared parcels delivered

Repair, Reuse and Connect

Liverpool

Liverpool Tool Library supported the restart of the craft club and the development of a fixers meet-up, alongside the purchase of a fridge to make refreshments more easily available.

The activities created **welcoming opportunities** for local residents to come together, learn new skills and engage with the tool library's ethos of **working together to reduce waste**.

For many participants, the fixers meet, repair café and craft club provided their **first introduction to the tool library**, helping build **awareness, community involvement and practical action around reuse and repair**.

Use of Funds

To restart the **craft club**, establish a **fixers meet-up** to repair existing tools, and purchase a **fridge** to support refreshments during sessions.

At a Glance

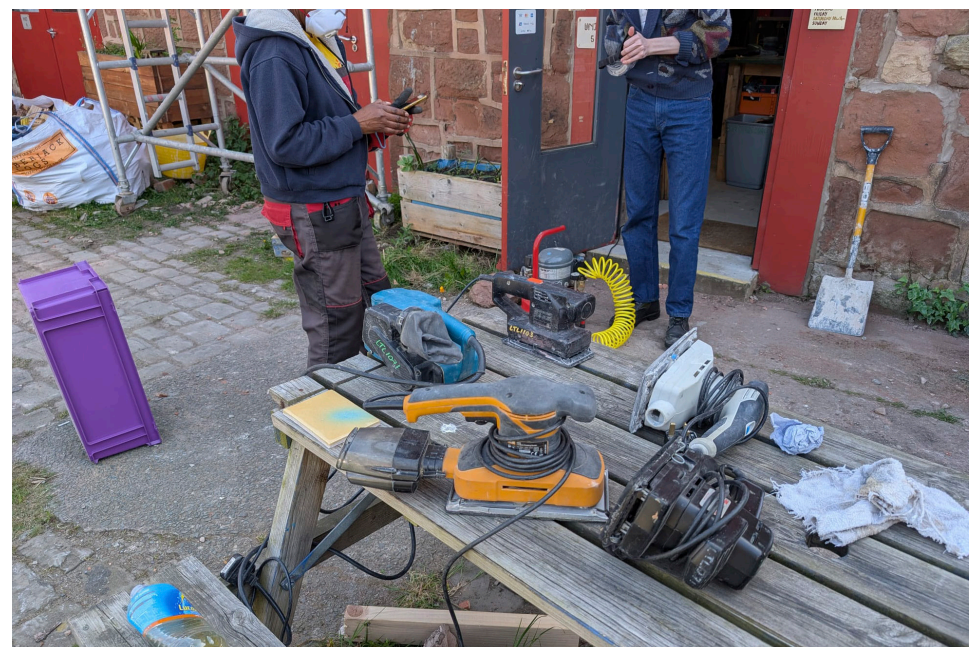


25-30

participants supported each month

“I loved being able to repair my skirt and learn more about the tool library.”

Session Participant



Pantry Bus

Anfield, Liverpool

For more than three years, New Beginnings Improving Lives' mobile pantry has provided fresh food, household essentials and practical support to people across Liverpool facing poverty, limited mobility or a lack of cooking facilities.

Preloved Clothing Events

Congleton

The Big Clothes Movement hosted community preloved clothing events at Congleton Town Hall. We provided a top-up to their original funding request (see page 22) so they could do more and help more.

Christmas Comfort and Kindness

Anfield, Liverpool

This project provided festive hampers to individuals and families in the Pinehurst area during the Christmas period, helping ease pressure on households struggling with the rising cost of living.

Storehouse Foodbank

Congleton

Storehouse Foodbank at New Life Church, Congleton, provides emergency food and essential items for local people in need.

Arncliffe Gardens Support Hub

Halewood

Merseyside Housing and Debt Advice CIC established a monthly support hub at Arncliffe Gardens, building on existing work that had already helped more than 20 people move into the scheme through applications, referrals, advocacy and grant support.

Hope Community Fridge

Liverpool

This project supported the ongoing delivery of Hope Community Fridge's weekly food pantry, which provided a warm, welcoming space for local residents to access refreshments, lunch and affordable food support.

Tuition Programme

Liverpool

Dery CIC delivered a 15-week tuition programme for secondary school students in Liverpool 8, particularly young people from Somali backgrounds facing educational inequalities.

Children and Young People

Jiu Jitsu for Malpas

Malpas

This project helped bring a new community sport to Malpas by supporting the setup of free weekly Jiu Jitsu sessions for children and adults.

Led by local volunteers with experience in the sport, the project worked with the local primary school to use hall space and create a **safe, accessible environment** where residents could come together to learn something new, stay active and **build confidence**.

The funding contributed towards **training mats and equipment** needed to establish a removable Jiu Jitsu training space, helping make regular sessions possible for the wider community.

Use of Funds

To purchase **judo mats and training equipment** to create a removable Jiu Jitsu training space and support the start-up of free community sessions.

At a Glance



18-20

children attend the sessions

“Thanks so much, she had the best time and she’s already excited for the next one.”

Parent of Participant





CLASP Holiday Activities

Crewe

South Cheshire CLASP delivered free, inclusive holiday activities for lone parents and their children in and around Crewe during the Christmas, February half term and Easter school holidays.

The project provided **fun, friendship and connection** at times when many families can feel isolated or under financial pressure, offering activities such as seasonal crafts, outdoor play and family outings.

By removing **cost barriers**, the programme helped around 40 lone parent families, approximately 100 individuals, access **enjoyable shared experiences, reduce isolation and feel part of a supportive community.**

Use of Funds

To cover **activity materials and resources, transport, refreshments, admission costs and volunteer support** for holiday activities and outings.

At a Glance



54

children and adults have benefited from the project, including families who are Plus Dane customers

“The project provides safe, inclusive holiday activities for families who would otherwise struggle to access them. Reducing social isolation, supporting family bonding, and giving children positive experiences during school holidays.”

Organiser

Heated Dryers

Crosby

This project supported vulnerable pregnant women and new mums across Merseyside by providing heated dryers to help ease the financial pressure of drying clothes during the winter months.

Sefton Baby Baskets is a **volunteer-led charity** that provides essential items for mums and newborn babies referred by professionals such as social workers, midwives and health visitors.

Alongside baby baskets, toiletries and larger items such as cots and prams, the charity supports women facing significant hardship, including **single mums, care leavers, asylum seekers, victims of trafficking and domestic abuse.**

The funding helped provide an additional **practical item** that reduced **household costs, stress and pressure** for families already living in some of the region's most deprived communities.

Use of Funds

To buy **29 heated dryers at £35 each** for new mums supported by the charity.

At a Glance



40

families benefitted from funding

“We have had support workers advise us that the mums we help have been relieved and very appreciative of the heaters because it helps with the pressure of drying washing and we all know that babies create a lot of washing.”

Volunteer



Outreach Youth Activities

Warrington

Westy Satellite Youth Club launched in December 2024 and was originally based in a community building, but when funding ended the youth workers relocated the provision into the park so the project could continue as an outreach offer.

This funding supported the satellite youth club by providing **practical resources to run engaging sessions** for local young people, including sports equipment, summer craft activities, and refreshments.

The project will help maintain a **positive youth presence** in the area, offering accessible activities that **encourage participation, physical activity, creativity and ongoing engagement**.

Use of Funds

Sporting equipment (including footballs, badminton equipment, portable football nets, bowls, tag game, rounders equipment, rugby balls, skipping ropes, golf games and swingball), **summer craft activities** (face paints and glitter body art tattoos), and **drinks/snacks** for young people attending sessions.

New Day, New Start

Everton, Liverpool

Shrewsbury House Youth Club will deliver a tailored six-week programme for young people aged 11-16 in the local community, designed to build confidence, spark curiosity and inspire healthier lifestyles.

Weekly sessions will encourage participants to **try new experiences** through activities such as yoga, Pilates, boxing, football and dance.

Alongside the physical activities, each session will embed learning on **healthy eating, self-care, mental wellbeing and resilience-building**.

The project aims to **strengthen community cohesion** by bringing young people together through shared positive experiences and creating lasting benefits for participants and, indirectly, their families and peers.

Use of Funds

To deliver the **six-week programme**, covering weekly activity sessions and resources for yoga, Pilates, boxing, football and dance, alongside materials promoting **healthy eating, self-care, mental wellbeing and resilience**.

Central Youth Club

Liverpool

This project supported food provision for a youth centre that opened four nights a week from 4pm to 9pm, welcoming around 35-40 young people aged 8-18 each session.

The funding helped the club provide food so young people could go home with a **full stomach**, while also continuing to benefit from a **safe, warm environment** where they could meet friends, make new ones and take part in positive activities.

The project benefited youth club members by supporting both **wellbeing and inclusion** in a **trusted community setting**.

Use of Funds

To provide **food for young people** attending the youth club.

At a Glance



35-40

young people benefit from each session



5

months of food provision funded for sessions

“Young people have been having a hot meal each session, taking pressure off families, and we also provided a Christmas party.”

Youth Lead

Big Heart Book Club

Liverpool, St Helens and Knowsley

This project delivered an inclusive reading initiative across Plus Dane neighbourhood schools, using author visits, reading sessions, a writing competition and a pop-up travelling bookshop to promote literacy, inclusion and wellbeing.

Stay and Play Group

Congleton

This project provided free activities and nutritious snacks for children aged 0-4 and their families through an open community stay-and-play group at The Bromley Hub.

Community Cohesion

Community Pop-up Café

St Helens

Unite Bridge Hope delivered a fortnightly Community Pop-up Café bringing together British residents and people from refugee and asylum-seeking communities through shared food, drink and storytelling.

The café created a **warm and welcoming space** where people could connect, celebrate different cultures and build **mutual understanding**.

Homemade cakes, desserts and drinks from a range of traditions helped spark conversation and connection, with each item accompanied by a take-home card explaining its origin, cultural significance and a simple recipe.

By creating opportunities for people to share heritage, skills and personal stories, the project promoted **social inclusion, cultural exchange and stronger community cohesion**.

Use of Funds

Ingredients; crockery; printing; baking equipment; setup and cleaning costs; transport/accessibility support for people in financial hardship or with disabilities; and reserve for unexpected costs.

At a Glance



30

people attended during the first few weeks of opening



“Despite its heavy themes, people also highlighted ‘a real sense of hope by the end of the film,’ which sparked conversation about societal change.”

Participant



Black History Month Film Series

Toxteth, Liverpool

This project delivered a curated four-week film screening series at Granby Winter Gardens during October to mark Black History Month, celebrating Black cinema, culture and community in Toxteth.

Curated and hosted by Anthony Wilde and creative collaborator Renée Charles, the series included one screening per week for around 20 guests, with each evening featuring discussion before and after the film to **encourage thoughtful dialogue and community reflection**.

Themes included Black love and relationships, cinematography and narrative, fashion and comedy, and directorial vision.

The project aims to provide a **free, multi-generational cultural space** for local residents particularly people from racialised backgrounds, while removing barriers linked to **cost, awareness and access**, and creating opportunities for **connection through underrepresented stories**.

Use of Funds

Venue hire and technical equipment hire to facilitate the four Black History Month film screenings.

At a Glance



3

October dates during Black History Month, with all events at full or near full capacity

Online



plusdane.co.uk

Portal



[My Account](#)

Live Chat



Email



customer@plusdane.co.uk

WhatsApp



0151 351 4747

Face to Face



Phone



0800 169 2988