



Chichester City Council

MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

MEMBERS ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO ATTEND A COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD AT 17:30 ON THURSDAY 4 DECEMBER 2025 IN
COUNCIL CHAMBER



.....
Town Clerk
28 November 2025

Agenda - 4 December 2025

CA2025/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

CA2025/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

CA2025/23 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

CA2025/24 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

CA2025/25 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

CA2025/26 UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

CA2025/27 REPORTS FROM PREVIOUS GRANT RECIPIENTS

CA2025/28 MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY LIAISON SUB-COMMITTEE HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2025

CA2025/29 TO CONSIDER SUPPORTING THE ST RICHARDS FEAST COMMUNITY EVENT ON THE CATHEDRAL GREEN

CA2025/30 PROPOSAL TO REINSTATE THE JUNIOR CITIZEN PROGRAMME

CA2025/31 COMMUNITY ASSET REGISTER

CA2025/32 MURRAY-NELSON STATUE WORKING GROUP

CA2025/33 ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA

CA2025/34 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

CA2025/35 PUBLIC SECTOR BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

CA2025/36 CONSIDERATION OF GRANT APPLICATIONS

CA2025/21. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To note apologies, received from members of the Committee prior to the meeting.

CA2025/22. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest by members of the Committee in matters on the agenda of this meeting.

CA2025/23. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

To answer questions (if any) from members of the public being pursuant to Standing Order 3(e) of Chichester City Council's Standing Orders (April 2025).

CA2025/24. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

To elect a vice chair of the committee following the resignation of Cllr. J Gershater from the committee

CA2025/25. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the ordinary committee meeting held on the 4 September 2025.

<https://chichestercity.gov.uk/minutes-community-affairs-committee-4-september-2025/>

CA2025/26. UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Agreed action	Assigned for action to
Arrange a meeting with the Police to discuss security concerns in the City.	TC
Submit nominations to CDC	CO
Add land in front of Scout Hut to next Devolution Working Group agenda.	TC
Add recommended changes to committee terms of reference and scheme of delegation to next full council agenda.	TC
Make necessary changes to grant guidelines.	CO
Update criteria for Civic Awards and publish procedure for awarding Freedom of the City.	TC
Amend Mayoral Engagement Form and publish on website.	CCCSO
Ensure items are included on December meeting agenda.	CO
Advise applicants of the outcome of their application.	CO

CA2025/27. REPORTS FROM PREVIOUS GRANT RECIPIENTS

UPDATES FROM COMMUNITY GRANT RECIPIENTS

To note receipt of reports from the following groups:

- Voluntary Action Arun and Chichester
- Chichester Cinema at New Park
- West Sussex Countryside Studies Trust

Reports attached or to follow

CA2025/28. MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY LIAISON SUB-COMMITTEE HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2025

To receive and note the minutes of the first Community Affairs Sub-Committee meeting, held on 21 November 2025.

CA2025/29. TO CONSIDER SUPPORTING THE ST RICHARDS FEAST COMMUNITY EVENT ON THE CATHEDRAL GREEN

To receive a presentation from Chichester Cathedral about the St Richards Feast Event (14th June 2026) and consider if the Council wish to support its delivery.

Oliver Tubb, Chichester Cathedral to report.

CA2025/30. PROPOSAL TO REINSTATE THE JUNIOR CITIZEN PROGRAMME

Reinstatement of the much-valued Junior Citizen child safety programme later in the academic year, with provisional dates in April or June.

Junior Citizen is a multi-agency initiative designed specifically for Year 6 pupils, recognising the importance of their transition to secondary school. The programme equips children with essential skills, knowledge, and confidence to stay safe, make informed choices, and understand the consequences of risky behaviours—all within a structured, interactive learning environment.

A key strength of the programme is the direct engagement between pupils and the professionals delivering each session. This interaction helps build rapport, fosters a deeper understanding of the roles and responsibilities of each agency, and encourages children to consider future career paths. It also prompts reflection on how individual behaviour affects public services and the wider community, contributing to efforts to reduce anti-social behaviour in our towns and cities.

Pam Busby of Chichester District Council and Anton Mezzone West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service to report

CA2025/31. COMMUNITY ASSET REGISTER

Further to Minute Reference 28 from the Community Affairs Meeting on 4 September 2023, to approve the nomination of the following East Ward venues for inclusion on the Community Asset Register.

Communities Officer to report.

CA2025/32. MURRAY-NELSON STATUE WORKING GROUP

To note the report and recommendations from the Murray-Nelson Statue Working Group held on Tuesday 17 June 2025

CA2025/33. ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA

CA2025/34.DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of next ordinary meeting: Thursday 5 March 2025

CA2025/35.PUBLIC SECTOR BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

Proposal to resolve that the public and press be excluded from this meeting for Agenda Item CA2025/36 due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted namely financial and business affairs of third parties.

CA2025/36.CONSIDERATION OF GRANT APPLICATIONS

[VAAC Monitoring Report](#)

CA2025/27 - REPORTS FROM PREVIOUS GRANT RECIPIENTS

Last modified: 02/12/2025

Chichester City Council

VAAC's Impact Report October 2025 to September 2026

Activity	Achievements and Impact
1. Anticipated and delivered tailored support to VCSE organisations.	<p>There are 242 VAAC members (September 2025 figure) in Chichester District, and the vast majority of their services will benefit Chichester City residents.</p> <p>VAAC delivered 22 one to one support sessions, including dealing with complex governance cases. High levels of VCSE groups return for support.</p> <p>Provided intensive strategic resilience work to three charities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. My Sisters House, to ensure stronger governance/sustainability/strategic planning2. Chichester Counselling Service: crisis management/sustainability3. Stonepillow: interim financial management <p>VAAC members directly supported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Madge Turner Statue Appeal• The Peaceful Paintbrush• Friends of St Anthony's• Children on the Edge• Positive Routes to Wellbeing• Stonepillow• Sanctuary in Chichester• Arun & Chichester Food Partnership• Confide Counselling Service

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chichester Counselling Service • Chichester Boy's Club • Chichester Ship Canal • My Sisters' House • Enabled2Parent • A Creative Space • Florence Park Community • Friends of Bishops Palace Gardens • Transition Chichester • Pregnancy Options • Volya Art Group • New Park Community Centre • Chichester Pride <p>The range of support included Legal & Governance advice / Policies & Procedures / funding / volunteering / governance / financial management.</p>
<p>2. Act as the voice of the VCSE representation</p>	<p>Attendance at a range of strategic meetings – at District and County Level - and led VCSE on Chichester Neighbourhood Partnership (= Integrated Community Team) and Chichester Local Community Network.</p> <p>To illustrate we have representation at:</p> <p>Young People's Needs Assessment, Community Safety/Cohesion, Suicide Prevention, Community Resilience, Get Sussex Working, Health and Wellbeing, Financial Inclusion Group, and Digital Inclusion/online Safety.</p> <p>We have maintained high visibility and strong local intelligence.</p>

3. Social Action Projects

Social Action projects are delivered by our members and benefit CCC residents:

Joint work with Meadow Blue Community Energy

We progressed the Meadow Blue Community Energy commissioned work and managed the Meadow Blue VCSE Eco funding. Via this fund, **Chichester Community Development Trust secured 10k for their bicycle recycling project.**

We linked our members to Meadow Blue and the image below shows the installation of a new roof and solar at New Park Community Centre, the first initiative funded via a 'soft' loan.



Other examples/feedback from social action initiatives include:

Creative Spaces

Testimonial:

"I am delighted to note we had 31 people attend our first meet-up of, 'A creative Space"

If you fancy joining us our next meet-up is on the 28th of October-

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-creative-space-chi-tickets-1671329975949>.

Pregnancy Options

Testimonial:

"I found your advice on Monday absolutely invaluable, you helped me to take a step back from my work and to think more strategically in a way that I know will benefit this wonderful charity I'm so proud to work for.

You also helped me with specific ideas and tools for searching for potential funders and mentioned particular funders who align with our work – for which I am very grateful.

Really look forward to talking to you again".

*Laura Blake
Pregnancy Options Centre*

<p>4. Equity, Inclusion and Diversity</p>	<p>VAAC'S Values focus on equity, inclusion, diversity, community enrichment, and strengthening VCSE voice.</p> <p>We have a clear purpose - responding to local needs and enabling sustainable change.</p> <p>Two examples of this work are below:</p> <p><u>Ukrainian Community Development Work</u></p> <p>The Ukrainian teenage psychological support group Starshina continued their regular Sunday meetings at The Boys Club in Chichester. They were supported with community group registration and the opening of a bank account. We are now exploring ways to assist the group with volunteer recruitment.</p> <p>In August 2025, we attended an event organised by Roota, a new Ukrainian group. It celebratrif Ukrainian Independence Day in Chichester. We facilitated networking with the Ukrainian community in Hampshire as well as other local Ukrainian groups.</p> <p>Volya Art Community group was further supported through the development of the Ukrainian Cultural Festival in Chichester on 15 November. Funding from both Chichester District and Chichester City Councils was secured for the event.</p>
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The festival was a great success and attracted a record number of visitors.

Disabled People's Initiatives and Access:

Chichester for All

Chichester for All operates as a small steering group, with a wider reference group and attends various strategic meetings. Including CDC Chichester Nighttime Economy Forum and the Parking Forum.

We have also engaged with New Park Community Centre regarding their proposed capital project that will enhance their accessibility.

Chichester ShopMobility

The highlight of this work over the last 12 months was the CCC launch of the Shopmobility scheme by CCC on 2nd May who are now operating a small scale 'shop-mobility' service.



Ramp UP Chichester

We have collated a list of independent city centre businesses who do not have accessible ramps. VAAC hopes to work with Chichester BID to promote the scheme and invite businesses to apply for a ramp.

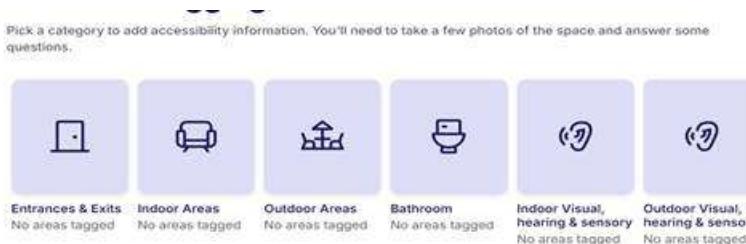
Public transport - disability awareness training

Training was needed for both bus and taxi drivers. However, since bus operator Stagecoach is a national company, and a number of national charities are already in contact with Stagecoach, it was felt that VAAC's work should concentrate on improving disability awareness for taxi drivers.

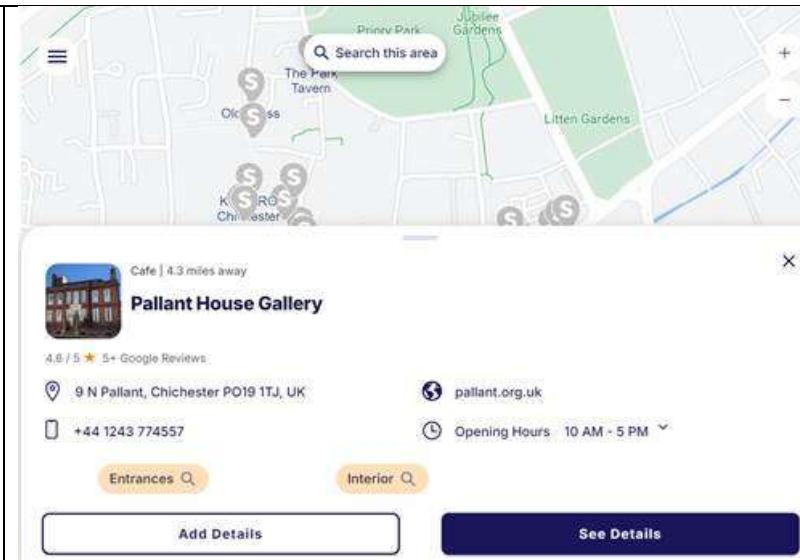
VAAC undertook a consultation to understand how other councils provide disability awareness training and found many now mandate disability awareness training as part of their licensing requirements with most using third party online service providers. We continue to campaign to ensure that the Disability Awareness Training becomes compulsory as part of the license.

Chichester access guide: Sociability

Research was carried out to find a quick and easy accessibility guide. Sociability is a free to download (and use) mobile app (Android and Apple) which allows users to identify accessibility information across six areas.



Business details are listed with information such as opening hours, address, etc.



The data includes photographs and details of internal and external facilities such as entrances.



Cafe | 4.6 Miles away

Pallant House Gallery

A screenshot of a Google Maps interface showing the 'Entrances & Exits' information for Pallant House Gallery. The interface includes a map, a sidebar with a list of accessibility features, and a 'More' button.

Sociability is currently populating the site with data for the country's largest cities and towns. Chichester For All has begun to populate the site with information surrounding external accessibility such as entrances, including sensory information.

Chichester's inclusion on this site can be promoted through the local media, local and district council websites, BID and the Great Sussex Way.

West Sussex consultation on Public Realm Autumn 2024

Chichester for All was involved in the consultation to improve the existing public realm within the pedestrian zones of East and North Street. We were pleased with the results of the consultation. As detailed below:

	<p><i>“WSCC have engaged with key local stakeholders, most notably Chichester District Council (CDC), CDC’s Heritage Officer, Chichester City Council, Chichester Business District and Chichester Cathedral, who all support the recommended designs.”</i></p> <p><u>Disabled People and volunteering</u></p> <p>We are also researching disabled people and volunteering, with the aim of increasing volunteer opportunities and working with our members on disability awareness.</p> <p>We were aware of the Disability Awareness Training delivered to all the cathedral volunteers by Toucan. This led to significant improvements in both access and attitudes re disabled people and New Park Community Centre are also now considering this training.</p>
<p>5. Volunteering – promotion and development</p>	<p>VAAC’s volunteer development offer covers the wider Chichester district.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 Volunteering newsletters informing VAAC’s registered volunteers (619 Chichester district) about new volunteering opportunities • Weekly updates for a local newspaper on new volunteering opportunities in Chichester District. • Social media on new volunteering opportunities in Chichester District • Liaising with VAAC members in the district and advertising their new volunteering opportunities and updating ongoing opportunities.

- As of 1st of October 2025, there were **74** volunteering opportunities advertised by VAAC and covering the Chichester District.
- Regular processing of all volunteering enquiries. On average there were **50** new enquiries every quarter – and **30 to 40** new volunteers from Chichester District were registered on our database, every quarter.

Feedback from Mike Turner, the Chair of the Chichester Boys Club on the VAAC's support with volunteer recruitment:

"Finding new trustees is a real problem relying mainly on personal contacts which by definition are limited. We had been searching for a new trustee/potential treasurer for more than two years without success. When we became aware that VAAC might be able to help we were more than happy to work with them. Firstly, they were very helpful in framing the wording of the 'advert' for the post and secondly for publicising it. Within a matter of only three weeks two people came forward, one of whom met our requirements perfectly. She has now become a trustee and is understudying the current Treasurer with a view to taking over in the near future. By way of a bonus we received details of another person who, after seeing the advertisement, searched our website etc to find out more. She had only recently moved to the area and was not otherwise aware of our existence. After meeting her and explaining that the post was already filled, she expressed interest in becoming a volunteer to help us with our various youth programmes. She has experience in this area and is now fully integrated into the team, making a valuable contribution to our work. We are extremely grateful to VAAC for their help in filling these posts and will not hesitate to make use in the future."

<p>6. Networking, events and training</p>	<p>VAAC delivered a range of events, networking and training - both in person and virtually.</p> <p>A number of these have been directly delivered in conjunction with CCC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer Recruitment Fair 18th January 2025 at CCC, 19 VCSE organisations and attendance of 158 • Community Green initiatives event, 26th March at CCC, 38 attendees (funding for climate change, presentations from WSCC, CCC and Meadow Blue) <p><i>“Wonderful to learn what other organisations are doing in Chichester, like City Council, and find out about funding opportunities”</i></p> <p><i>“I am working on our sustainability strategy so this was very useful.”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCC launch of the Shopmobility scheme on 2nd May • CCC Community Forum 21st May. VAAC provided the opportunity for one-to-one advice in the following: Volunteering, Funding, Running your Organisation and Training – 20 attendees <p>In addition - VAAC’s AGM took place at CCC in October 2024 with an attendance of over 90.</p> <p>We also attended a number of city-wide events including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chichester Pride • Emergency Services Day

7. Research and respond to local needs	<p>VAAC's work is reflective of the local VCSE needs, and as such our work is focused on community engagement and co-design so that services reflect better local needs. Examples from the last 12 months include:</p> <p><u>Sexual Health Project</u></p> <p>VAAC was invited to be part of the steering group and evaluation panel for grant funding from WSCC, to gather insight around sexual health services. We worked with a number of local groups to assist them in submitting their applications; VAAC participated in the evaluation panel. In total, 9 groups were funded across West Sussex with three being from Chichester (West Sussex Mind, Pregnancy Options Centre and My Sisters House)</p> <p><u>VAAC collaboration with the University of Chichester/University of Sussex</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Direct work and support of their bridging course Adversity to University• Research Engagement Network – with focus on marginalised communities and individuals experiencing cancer• Participation in a conference focused on childhood trauma and resilience with reference to the Ukrainian community• Work placements with 20 VAAC members
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[CHI CINEMA MONITORING REPORT](#)

CA2025/27 - REPORTS FROM PREVIOUS GRANT RECIPIENTS

Last modified: 02/12/2025



MONITORING REPORT FROM CHICHESTER CINEMA AT NEW PARK LTD

In 2024, the registered charity Chichester Cinema was awarded a three-year community grant of £5k per annum from Chichester City Council. It was agreed that the funding would:-

- Help us to continue creating a thriving and engaged community through our educational and cultural programme, within a warm, safe, welcoming and socially inclusive environment
- Enable us to continue including the city's unique and historic sites and buildings during its annual international film festival, preserving Chichester's heritage and fostering civic pride
- Facilitate reaching out to the audiences of tomorrow by targeting the changing demographic of the city – the new professionals and recent empty-nesters frequenting the new builds
- Help us to target young people aged between 15-25, many of them students, not just to introduce them to the wonderful world of independent cinema, but also fulfilling a key social welfare role as many of them deal with social isolation ignited by the Covid lockdowns and perpetuated by remote working and addictions to handheld devices.

IMPACT OF THE FUNDING

2024

1. £3.5k was spent to improve the safety and access in our cinema by providing handrails on each side of the central auditorium staircase, making the route to each seat so much safer. Since the installation we have had no falls and we have received positive feedback from our patrons. We also put in new safety glass in the box office which incorporates a looped microphone, making our hard-of-hearing patrons feel much more comfortable being able to hear better when booking their seats and we now provide the free use of looped hearing devices for amplified sound in the auditorium for the hearing impaired.
2. We used the balance of £1.5k towards the costs of auditorium hire for performances and technical rehearsals for our Education programme. In 2024 we had planned to do 18 talks for adults and 23 talks for schools but in fact we did 23 talks for adults and 23 talks for schools. We reached 1342 pupils across 8 schools and colleges, spanning all age groups, working with Bishop Luffa Y8 and A Level, Chichester High School Y10 & Y11, Southbourne YR6, Chichester Free School Y9, Fishbourne Primary Y4, Felpham College Y10, Bohunt Liphook Y10, The Regis School YR9, Y12, YR13 and we reached 988 adults across our 23 public, paid talks. In our post event surveys, 100% of attendees say they would recommend our talks to others and we can provide testimonials from teachers should you wish to see them.

2025

1. We requested £1.1k to put towards the erection of heras fencing in Priory Park for our open air screenings during the international festival, and towards the costs of hiring the LED screen and projector which enables daytime projection. Impact-wise, the Festival's open air screenings reached 1700+ people. The grant was also to include the cost of screening

the 1927 silent classic film *Sunrise* in St John's with a live accompaniment of piano, harp, flute and accordion. The latter got a near 100% 5 star rating from our attendees with one patron saying it was one of the best experiences of his life and in all we received almost 80 admissions.

2. £2.1k went towards the costs of auditorium hire for performances and technical rehearsals for our Education programme. In 2025 we did 26 talks for schools and 25 talks for adults. We estimate we will have reached at least reached 1040 pupils by the year end and 1210 adults. In addition to the schools above we are also now working with Oakwood School, The Petersfield School, the University and the College. In addition to the talks they are now bringing groups down for bespoke screenings or just to learn more about what we do and what a rich cultural life they can have if they join us as members.
3. The remaining activity in 2025 focused around the development of FILM CLUB, a new initiative aimed at 15-25 year olds. They can join for £3.50 and thereafter they can see any film each year for just £3.50 and once a month, there is a screening dedicated to them with a slice of pizza thrown in. This monthly screening is designed to get them out of their digs and socialising with like-minded people. As it is a club, they get to see the same people attending and friendships are formed, and importantly, they are given an eclectic array of films, as diverse as *Cinema Paradiso*, *Psycho*, *Amelie*, *Pulp Fiction*, *In the Mood For Love* and *Blade Runner*. For Freshers Week we had fliers made, and pull-up banners, badges and we put Film T-shirts on the staff attending. We now have 84 signed -up members. It is wonderful to see young people experiencing and loving seeing a foreign language film for the first time or discovering Hitchcock! The members also offer volunteering assistance during the Film Festival now and seem to relish feeling part of an exclusive club.

We anticipated spending much more on Freshers Week than we actually did in year 2 but the projection costs for the Open Airs were much higher because our provider had increased the screen size and now charges more. But the provider still remains competitive.

2026

1. £2.3k has been allocated to Education again because this is such an important part of our work, and something we know is unique. Outside of the BFI we do not believe that any other cinema is doing anything remotely on the scale of our educational output.
2. We will continue with Film Club, but we would like the Council's blessing to spend less on Freshers Week (mirroring our spend in 2025), with the balance going on some PR assistance and help with our social media to reach this young audience. The other upside of focusing on Film Club is that it has enabled us to forge new relationships with The Young People's Shop, The Jam Café, Cobnor Activities, Chichester BookFest, and West Sussex Careers Hub etc
3. During this year our emphasis has shifted from wanting to target the new builds to targeting the most disadvantaged members of Chichester's Community and to this end we have been working with the housing associations of Hyde and Clarion and with Community Transport, Home Start, Family Support Work and West Sussex Young Carers to provide free cinema tickets in the run-up to Christmas, and offering free annual memberships to those most in need. We would like to discuss this shift in direction with Chichester City Council when we meet and moving the £0.6k spend from new builds to the disadvantaged.

BUDGET 2024-2026 - CHICHESTER CITY COUNCIL APPLICATION	2024	2025	2026	GRANT YEAR 1	GRANT YEAR 2	GRANT YEAR 3
IMPROVED ACCESS FOR OUR EXISTING CUSTOMERS	YR 1	YR 2	YR 3			
Laminated glass & looped microphones	691	0	0			
Fitting and installation	265	0	0			
Handrails in the auditorium	2600	0	0			
TOTAL	3556	0	0	3556		
TAKING FESTIVAL TO HERITAGE SITES						
LED Open Air Screenings in Priory Park, equipment hire, labour & security over 3 days	5780	6127	6495		0	
Heras Fencing for Priory Park	310	329	348		329	
Bad weather insurance for Open Air Screenings	840	890	944			
Guildhall Hire	100	100	100			
St John's Hire	200	200	200			
Graylingwell Chapel collaboration	800	800	800			
Projection costs, labour, equipment and transport	768	814	863		814	
Promotional membership offers within these sites - to attenders of each event and across the whole of Graylingwell	215	228	242			
TOTAL	9013	9488	9992			
EDUCATION AUDITORIUM HIRE						
18 Talks for adults auditorium event hire based upon a duration of 30 hours @ £16.50 p.h	495	525	556	495	525	556
18 Talks for adults technical rehearsal hire of auditorium as above for total of 29 hours	479	508	538	479	508	538
23 Talks for Schools auditorium event hire based upon a duration of 29 hours @ £16.50 p.h	479	508	538	479	508	538
23 Talks for Schools tech rehearsal hire of auditorium for 40 hours	660	670	742		670	742
TOTAL	2113	2211	2374			
PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITY AIMED AT NEW BUILDS						
Flyering the new build estates	318	337	357			357
Distribution of flyers	280	297	264			315
TOTAL	598	634	621			
ESTABLISHING AN UNDER 25s CHICHESTER FILM CLUB						
Prize for concept design by a Chi University student	100	0	0			
Flyers at Freshers Week	100	100	100		100	
Stand hire at Freshers Week campuses	1500	1590	1650		1590	1650
Tote bags to attract student membership	186	197	209			
Bar	300	318	337			307
TOTAL	2186	2205	2296			
GRAND TOTAL	17466	14538	15283	5009	5044	5003

[G'Wood Education Trust Monitoring Report](#)

CA2025/27 - REPORTS FROM PREVIOUS GRANT RECIPIENTS

Last modified: 02/12/2025



GOODWOOD EDUCATION TRUST

HOME FARM, GOODWOOD, CHICHESTER, WEST SUSSEX PO18 0QF
TELEPHONE: 01243 755157 EMAIL: GET@GOODWOOD.COM
goodwood.com

From the Goodwood Education Trust
For the Chichester City Council Community Affairs Committee

Annual Monitoring Report for our Multi-Year Grant

The grant was awarded in June 2024 for three years, in order to:

- Enable children from the more disadvantaged schools in Chichester City to have a free farm visit.
- Offer Forest School for schools to reach the most disadvantaged and vulnerable children in the city community.
- Deliver Children in the Community woodland days for local charities and organisations supporting children facing challenges in life.

In the period June 2024 to November 2025, we're delighted to update that:

Farm Visits for Chichester City Schools

We welcomed children from St Anthony's Special School, St Joseph's Infant School, Portfield Primary and Fordwater Special School to the farm. Due to funding from other sources, in this case the Rural Payments Agency, we did not need to use City Council funding for these trips.

Children spend the day on the farm, meet the animals, learn about growing crops and sensitive land management, make butter, try the milk, meet the people who put the food on our table, and think about careers and opportunities in agriculture. They spend time outside and improve their mental and physical health.

Forest School for Chichester City Schools

Children from Bishop Luffa, Chichester High School and St Anthony's Special School have attended weekly as part of their curriculum. This is for children who are struggling with mainstream schooling, or who are at risk of exclusion, or are in some way vulnerable. The benefits of Forest School practice for children are powerful, offering autonomy and agency over their choices, nurturing new



GOODWOOD EDUCATION TRUST

HOME FARM, GOODWOOD, CHICHESTER, WEST SUSSEX PO18 0QF

TELEPHONE: 01243 755157 EMAIL: GET@GOODWOOD.COM
goodwood.com

connections, working with adults beyond school or family, and the freedom to try new things while reducing the fear of failure.

Forest School, while based in the natural environment, develops valuable life skills for those participating, such as decision making, co-operation, socialisation, communication skills, perseverance, working with adults, making positive informed choices and conflict resolution. Drawing on these skills when back in the school environment, the teachers observe children engaging in education which can keep them safe and reduce their vulnerability.

Bishop Luffa said, 'The child-centred ethos of Goodwood has given rise to confidence in some highly complex individuals when little else appeared to work'.

St Anthony's said, 'The Special School said, 'Pupils are particularly motivated to work together to create things like bridges, they are turn taking, co-operating and communicating with each other and reaching decisions without adult support. We have noticed this has strengthened the friendship bonds between them and this has had an impact on them whilst at school too, during social interactions like play times'.

The High School include a regular report on Forest School in their school newsletter, and you can see an excerpt here:

Forest School at Goodwood

We recently had another wonderful session at Forest School. Although it was a staff training day, several pupils were keen to attend, so we took the opportunity to head out for a walk in the local woods. Along the way, students practised their navigation and direction skills before returning to camp.

Back at camp, hot dogs were cooked over the fire, and the pupils also had the chance to build and light their own small fires. Some even enjoyed a brief rest in the hammocks.

We were joined by Mrs Peel, Head of Year, who came along to experience Forest School firsthand.

She enjoyed seeing where her year group spend their weekly sessions, taking part in the woodland walk, relaxing in the hammocks, and cooking on the fire.

Page 20 / 36 - +



GOODWOOD EDUCATION TRUST

HOME FARM, GOODWOOD, CHICHESTER, WEST SUSSEX PO18 0QF

TELEPHONE: 01243 755157 EMAIL: GET@GOODWOOD.COM
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We were delighted to be joined recently by Chichester MP Jess Brown-Fuller, who said, 'It was a pleasure to visit the Goodwood Education Trust, an independent charity. It is an example of how outdoor learning, taking place outside of a traditional classroom setting, can transform the lives of young people. I have seen first-hand how time in nature builds vital skills like confidence, curiosity, and resilience. For fifty years, the Education Centre has shown a remarkable commitment to helping young people connect with the natural world, and it's fantastic to see that legacy continuing to grow for future generations.' You can see the [whole article here](#):

Children in the Community woodland days for Chichester City charities

We use our funding and facilities in partnership with local charities, to provide free woodland activity days for children and families facing a challenge in life. In 2025, city-based charities included:

The Young People's Shop (2 sessions)

The Chichester Down Syndrome Support Group

The Bell Tower drop-in

The Young People's Shop sent parental feedback, sharing, "Thank you for today's session – they were buzzing telling me all about it! They said how much they enjoyed themselves and the activities were great as there was the choice of which activities to do without feeling organised and pressured - most of all they said the staff/helpers/adults were brilliant as very easy going".

You can see an excerpt on their social media, below:



29 October at 15:52 · 
We had an amazing time at @goodwoodeducationtrust in the woods with our young people and staff. Everyone got to choose their own adventure, from pumpkin carving to building dens, and we even enjoyed some hot chocolate and treats over a campfire. We were blown away by the teamwork and creativity shown by our young people - a huge thank you to @goodwoodeducationtrust, we can't wait for our next activity together!



GOODWOOD EDUCATION TRUST

HOME FARM, GOODWOOD, CHICHESTER, WEST SUSSEX PO18 0QF

TELEPHONE: 01243 755157 EMAIL: GET@GOODWOOD.COM
goodwood.com

The Chichester and Arun Down Syndrome group said, 'The various forest activities and visit to the young calving sheds were enjoyed by us all and we were blessed with gorgeous sunshine! Thank you for sharing so much interesting information about the badgers and their habitat – every day is a school day'.

The Bell Tower said, 'It's such a fantastic space that you facilitate and I know it makes such a difference to those attending. We had an amazing time visiting over the summer'. They shared images on their social media:

 Chichester Bell Tower Youth Drop-in Centre
12 August · 0
We had a fantastic time at our Goodwood forest day! The young people had such an enriching time away from screens and the busyness of life. There were so many things to do and young people could choose to spend the time however they wanted. 🌳
Such a great space and such a lovely team looking after us! 🐾
Thank you so much to @goodwoodeducationtrust for having us.



We ran sessions for other charities who undoubtedly support children and families in the city, but are not exclusively city based. These include the NHS Paediatric team, Sussex Prisoner Families and the Sussex Snowdrop Trust.



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In 2026, we will celebrate our 50th birthday! We will continue our emphasis on farm visits, Forest School and woodland community days, and offer as many children / schools as we can the opportunity for free or subsidised visits. Removing barriers to outdoor learning, through the provision of free trips and support with coach travel, as well as loaning wellies or waterproofs when needed, means more children can benefit from time in nature.

I am looking forward to attending the Community Affairs Committee on 4th December to provide an update on our activities and take any questions from Councillors.

With best wishes, Catherine

Attached: Autumn 2025 newsletter

[Minutes - Community Liaison Sub-Committee - 2025-11-21](#)

CA2025/28 - MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY LIAISON SUB-COMMITTEE HELD ON 21
NOVEMBER 2025

Last modified: 27/11/2025



Chichester City Council

MEETING OF COMMUNITY LIAISON SUB COMMITTEE

Minutes

Date Friday 21 November 2025

Time 10:30 AM -- 12:00 PM

Location Chichester City Council Chamber

PRESENT: Cllrs Sarah Quail (SQ), Ann Butler (AB), Judy Gershater (JG), Rhys Chant (RC), Sean McHale (SMH), Nicholas Russell (NR)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Communities Officer, Town Clerk, Pam Bushby (CDC Communities Manager), Dawn White (Community Warden) Natasha McLeod (Chichester BID CEO), Graham Pound (Friends of Chartres), Jennifer McNeil (Friends of Ravenna)

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE FOR 2025-2026

Decision: Cllr Judy Gershater was **ELECTED** Chair

2. TO AGREE SUB COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Decision: Sub committee membership was **RESOLVED** as:

Judy Gershater, Nick Russell, Joanne Kondabeka, Clare Apel, Sean McHale, Sarah Quail, Ann Butler, Rhys Chant

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Kondabeka and Apel.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

NR joined the meeting at 10.31am
RC declared an interest in the Young Peoples Shop

5. SUB COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Decision: The sub committee **RESOLVED** to adopt the proposed Terms of Reference

6. UPDATE FROM YOUNG PEOPLES SHOP

The Young Peoples Shop were unable to attend the meeting so it was agreed that the item would be **DEFERRED** to the next meeting

7. TO NOTE REPORTS RECEIVED FROM COMMUNITY GROUPS



Chichester City Council

- Friends of Chartres
- Friends of Ravenna
- Friends of Speyer
- Friends of Valletta
- Chichester Tree Wardens
- BID

Friends of Chartres:

A short report had been provided. A visit to Chartres is being arranged. The trip to Chartres (30/4 - 4/5) will be followed directly by a trip to Ravenna (8/5), so many members will be travelling directly from one to the other.

Cllrs asked how relationships with local schools were developing?

FoC have made contact with a number of schools but are still finding it difficult to establish a relationship. Graham Pound asked if members of the committee could advise him of any contacts they had in local schools.

Cllrs asked if it was a reasonable expectation to build links with local secondary schools?

There have been many problems as schools struggle with resources and the cost of school trips is becoming increasingly prohibitive. Schools do not seem to be interested in building exchange links with schools in Chartres.

Friends of Ravenna

They have been working with schools in Ravenna to help develop English conversation skills with pupils. They now have a group of 22 thirteen-year-old Italian students looking for pen pals and exchange families in Chichester. The focus is on building links and relationships between individual families and children. The aim is to build individual pen pal relationships and grow from there.

Cllrs asked if there was any scope to build on musical and cultural links between the two cities?

Yes - Chichester University sent a group of students over last year and helped facilitate the trip, finding host families, etc, but music is tricky due to the logistics of transporting instruments etc. They are currently exploring if there is a way in which Italian students can travel over to perform here.

Chichester Tree Wardens

Paula Chatfield (Tree Wardens) had been unable to attend the meeting in person, but requested any questions be sent directly to her.

Cllrs asked if the tree wardens had been directly involved in the public realm scheme design?

The TC advised she would check with WSCC.

8. POLICING AND SECURITY IN THE CITY

To receive reports and/or updates relating to policing and security in the city:

- BID Ambassadors
- Sussex Police
- CDC Community Wardens



Chichester City Council

- CDC Communities team and Joint Action Group (JAG)

BID Ambassadors Report

Key themes in the City;

Lots of low value small theft – wine, food, etc from local shops – mainly due to substance abuse issues. Higher value crime in more organised groups is an ongoing issue. Roof running and Youth ASB remains an enduring problem. A few have been caught and punished, so hoping this will start to have an impact. Coop, Tesco, Boots, Iceland and TK Maxx tend to suffer most of the shoplifting; some are employing their own additional security.

Rough sleeping remains a problem – a few rough sleepers have been violent/abusive to ambassadors.

BID are expecting more police to begin patrolling the City Centre on foot from January 2026 to try and help address longstanding issues.

Cllrs asked if more CCTV coverage in the City help with some of the problems?

There are issues with CCTV quality in many of the shops, and not all the retailers report all incidents.

Pam Bushby (CDC) advised that 9 cameras in the City Centre were installed in 2022. The quality of the footage is good, but the issue is that they are not continuously monitored. Monitoring could definitely be improved. CDC had their own monitoring station in the past; this was expensive to run and ceased in 2019/20 when Sussex police took over monitoring centrally from their HQ. Continuous monitoring ceased in 2022.

Update from CDC

The local chief inspector is changing – CI Adam Craig is taking over from 1st December (transferring from Crawley). A roof running exercise has been undertaken to look at where additional security measures can be installed – most of the access is via fire escapes, so not much that can be done to prevent this. Partners are now looking at how to focus on offenders and how to reduce the number of incidents.

Graffiti seems to be an issue at the moment – post-remembrance Sunday there was a rash of swastikas etc at sites around the City. Avenue De Chartres car park remains a persistent problem, although the graffiti here tends not to be racist/fascist.

There are ongoing issues with Anti-Social Behaviour at Canon Lane/Cathedral Green. Evening patrols are still ongoing, and the outreach team are engaging with rough sleepers, plus reporting ASB, etc. This will continue until Xmas.

Support from Joint Action Group has been provided for the Belltower and the Life Group to support their youth work. Approx. 30-40 children are regularly attending their sessions.

4 e-bikes have been seized recently. Partners led by WSCC Fire & Rescue Service are launching a Junior Citizen scheme for year 6 students in Arun and Chichester (possibly hosted at Goodwood) which will cover the basics of how to be a good citizen with focus on community safety, etc.

A memorial tree for Declan Moody will be planted in Bishops Palace Gardens on Monday 24th November at 10am if anyone wishes to attend.



Chichester City Council

Cllrs asked how much was the shortfall in funding for the junior citizen event? Is this a public event?

No, it is a school and child focused event, organised with local schools. The scheme has been run in other areas around the country and data shows that it has made a positive impact on behaviour and youth engagement. An event will be held at the Council House later in the year to try and secure corporate event sponsors.

Emergency Services (and Armed Services) day will be taking place again next summer in Oaklands Park. KC confirmed that CCC will be attending again in 2026.

Community Wardens Update

Dawn had taken part in the roof running exercise to identify issues/weaknesses for properties to help secure them from roof runners.

Dawn has been doing lots of works with shops and businesses to make sure they report crime and theft incidents. Has focused on foot patrolling in the City. Work has included assisting with a number of elderly residents who have had trips and falls in the City Centre due to the state of the paving. Working well with the BID and Ambassadors and building good relationships and partnerships.

The Mayor urged members to visit the Boys Club and see the work they are doing with young people who are excluded from school/not in education and the impact that this is having. The Boys Club are still struggling with volunteers, so help needed in recruiting additional people.

Cllrs asked what is happening with regards to securing the Tannery site?

Pam Bushby advised there is some evidence that a homeless person was living there, as well as evidence that young people have been accessing it for ASB purposes. CDC are currently working with the WSCC estates team to try and secure the premises. Cllrs advised that the site is a real problem for local residents and that there are still delays on when the site will be redeveloped due to the land contamination issues.

Meeting closed at 12.11pm

9. ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA

All previous items

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of next meeting:
Thursday 12 Feb at 10.30am.

[Community Asset Register](#)

CA2025/31 - COMMUNITY ASSET REGISTER

Last modified: 02/12/2025

COMMUNITY ASSET REGISTER

Further to Minute Reference 28 from the Community Affairs Meeting on 4 September 2023, to approve the nomination of the following East Ward venues for inclusion on the Community Asset Register.

- St Pancras Parish Hall
- Bassil Shippam Centre
- The Newell Centre Association
- Swanfield Park Community Centre

[Minutes - Murray-Nelson Working Group - 2025-06-17](#)

CA2025/32 - MURRAY-NELSON STATUE WORKING GROUP

Last modified: 28/11/2025



Chichester City Council

Murray-Nelson Statue Working Group

Tuesday 17 June 2025 at 11.00am
The Council Chamber

MEETING NOTES

Date: Tuesday 17 June 2025

Time: 11.00am

Location: The Council Chamber, The Council House, North Street, Chichester. PO19 1LQ

Present: Councillors Chant and Quail

Also in attendance: Property Maintenance Manager (PMM), Council Services and Support Manager (CSSM)

1. Election of Chair

AGREED that Councillor Quail would be Chair of the Working Group.

2. Apologies for absence

No apologies were received.

Councillor Scicluna was absent from the meeting.

3. Declarations of interest

None were made.

4. Review of draft Terms of Reference for the Working Group

The Working Group reviewed the draft Terms of Reference.

AGREED that the Working Group would be renamed the Statuary and Public Art Working Group to broaden its remit and to possibly encourage more Councillors to join.

The CSSM agreed to redraft the Terms of Reference accordingly and also to change the statement about frequency of meetings.

5. Review of summary history of the Murray-Nelson statue to date

The Working Group reviewed and discussed the summary report that had been circulated with the agenda. It was noted that Councillor Scicluna had seen the report and made some minor factual adjustments to its content.

6. Discussion of options for future of the Murray-Nelson statue

The Working Group noted the comments about the material that had been used to produce the statue and particularly its longevity when installed in an outdoor location and also the physical damage caused by repeated acts of vandalism and any knock on effect this might have should the bronze statue ever be commissioned.

Members also noted that there were concerns regarding the wooden chainsaw sculpture in Litten Gardens and the Maurice Patten resin statue, also in Litten Gardens.

It was **AGREED** that action needed to be taken before irreparable damage was done due to exposure of the Murray-Nelson statue to the elements.

Members suggested that, since a change of ownership, the Fernleigh building in North Street, Chichester, might be amenable to having the statue location on their property as this had been the originally planned location for it. Also **NOTED** that other locations, including the Cathedral, had declined to host the statue.

Based on the City Council's Public Art Policy, Members **AGREED TO RECOMMEND** to the Property Sub-Committee that the Murray-Nelson statue be decommissioned and that, further to the public art policy, it be offered to third parties as follows:

- a) Offer to return the statue to the original artist, Vincent Gray
- b) Offer the statue to the new owners of the Fernleigh building in North Street, Chichester.
- c) Offer the statue to the Royal Navy Museum in Portsmouth
- d) Store the statue while an alternative location was identified.

The Working Group also **PROPOSED** that up to £3,000 be made available to support the removal and transport of the statue to a new location. A source of funds was not immediately identified and it was felt that agreement for this proposal would be needed from the Finance Committee.

AGREED that the City Council should retain the plinth at its current location and repurpose it for a rotating series of public art installations. Further **AGREED** that this would require work to overlay the existing wording on the front of the plinth and removal/relocation of the Sussex Heritage Award plaque from the southern face of the plinth.

Concerns were raised that it may be difficult to remove the statue itself and there may be costs involved in making good any damage caused during the process.

7. General points for future consideration

The Working Group **AGREED** that, going forward, the following needed to be considered when thinking about public art and statuary projects:

- More complete and formal record keeping and ensuring that legal and insurance concerns were addressed.
- Clearer documentation and future planning of projects, specifically when external funding was being used.
- Need to better co-ordination between the Finance and Community Affairs Committees and the Property Sub-Committee.

The Working Group AGREED that the group remit should extend to all existing and future City Council statuary and public art in an advisory capacity, reporting and/or making recommendations to the appropriate City Council Committees or Sub-Committees.

ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING

Note ref.	Action	Assigned to
4	Amend Terms of Reference to reflect broader remit	CSSM
6	Add recommendation to decommission to the agenda for the next Property Sub-Committee meeting.	CSSM
6	Quotes to be obtained for making good the existing stone plinth and overlaying the existing engraving in the front of the stone	PMM

To:

Members of the Working Group

- Councillor Chant
- Councillor Quail
- Councillor Scicluna

[Grant Schedule 4 Dec Meeting \(small grants\)](#)

CA2025/36 - CONSIDERATION OF GRANT APPLICATIONS

Last modified: 28/11/2025

CHICHESTER CITY COUNCIL
DISCRETIONARY GRANTS (SMALL) 2025/2026

APPLICATIONS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING ON THURSDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2025

Organisation	Total of Grant Requested	Estimated Total Cost of Project	Application Details
Asperger's Syndrome Self Advocacy (ASSA)	£3,000	£11,827.00	Chichester City Grant would contribute to the annual cost of employing a part- time facilitator of the group, as well as paying for room hire costs and zoom subscription fees.
Chichester Film Makers CIC	£3,000	£34,000	We are also now embarking on bringing the film industry to Chichester as an annual fixture, by extending our events calendar to host and launch Cine South Expo in April each year. Incorporating an array of industry leading key note speakers and British A-listers & actors & actresses, film production workshops and talks, expanded film screenings content, and a number of exhibitors from the local business

CHICHESTER CITY COUNCIL
DISCRETIONARY GRANTS (SMALL) 2025/2026

APPLICATIONS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING ON THURSDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2025

			<p>and charity community, as well as the British film production guilds, technology vendors & suppliers and studios.</p>
CHICHESTER FOREST SCHOOLS CIC	£2,880	£10,640	<p>The funding we are applying for is for our “Wild Play” family support group which plays a crucial role in supporting vulnerable families. This programme supports families who have been impacted by trauma bereavement, domestic abuse and have reached a crisis point. Children and parents may have additional special needs or mental health issues.</p>
Chichester Living	£20,000	£3,000	<p>It is planned that Chichester Living will run a special ‘Summer of Culture’ digital campaign from 1st June 2026 to 1st September 2026. This will take the form of a devoted area of the website together with newsletters focused on the arts and culture special social media</p>

CHICHESTER CITY COUNCIL
DISCRETIONARY GRANTS (SMALL) 2025/2026

APPLICATIONS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING ON THURSDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2025

			campaign with appropriate hashtags.
CT Sussex	£3,000	£3,000	We would use the funding to run a regular shopping bus between the Stockbridge Road area of south Chichester to the centre of Chichester so that the elderly or those less mobile can easily get to the city centre to go shopping, access banks or socialise
St Wilfrid's Hospice (South Coast) Limited	£3,000	£3,408.75	<p>As an organisation we are passionate about inclusivity and we are committed to making sure that our services are accessible to everybody. Consequently, we are seeking funding to purchase Hearing Loops that we can place at principal locations around the Hospice; this includes our Main Reception and Ward Reception.</p> <p>Communication is fundamentally important to the work we do, our patients need to be able to express their medical requirements in order to receive the care they need. Being able to</p>

CHICHESTER CITY COUNCIL
DISCRETIONARY GRANTS (SMALL) 2025/2026

APPLICATIONS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING ON THURSDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2025

			<p>communicate effectively helps people feel less alone and also allows our teams to provide comfort to patients who are struggling.</p> <p>It is also critically important that we are able to communicate effectively and sensitively with loved ones; at such an emotionally turbulent time it is important that we can provide reassurance to grieving families.</p>
Sussex Creative Art Network CIC (Chichester CAN)		£1,250	Already agreed
The Hygiene Bank	£3,000	£3,000	<p>The grant will be used to purchase products specifically for Chichester based organisations, including Stonepillow, Chichester and District Foodbank, HEART for Homeless, Sanctuary in Chichester, Chichester Family Hub, Littles Bundles Chichester and Arun and CAB Chichester.</p> <p>Most frequently we buy these from retailers such as, In Kind Direct and For Common Good, who provide products to Charities at a</p>

CHICHESTER CITY COUNCIL
DISCRETIONARY GRANTS (SMALL) 2025/2026

APPLICATIONS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING ON THURSDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2025

			<p>reduced cost, enabling us to maximise our resources.</p> <p>We will purchase every day, essential hygiene products most people need, including shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, shower gel, period products, men's and children's toiletries as well as cleaning and laundry items and distribute them monthly to our local community partners.</p> <p>We regularly purchase other essential resources, such as collection boxes, branded tee-shirts and sweatshirts for new volunteers, and leaflets. Our banners are also aging and now not very sturdy. If we are successful in our application, we would be able purchase some new ones.</p>
The Juno Project	£1,618		<p>To run group 12-week wellbeing support group in the community for young women aged 10-13 in partnership with youth clubs, parents and youth and family focused organisations in West Sussex.</p>