

2022-2023



Thriving People
Shared Prosperity
Thriving Communities

Making a difference in our community

Sussex Community Development Association
Annual Report 2022-2023



sussexcommunity.org.uk

Making a difference in our community by improving economic stability and opportunity, health and wellbeing and addressing loneliness, social isolation and social cohesion.

 **Sussex
Community
Development
Association**

delivers

difference

**Thriving
People**

**Thriving
Communities**

**Shared
Prosperity**



**Driven by
Needs**



**Person
Centred**



Inclusive



Quality



**Building stronger,
healthier
communities**



**Working in
partnership**

SCDA Values

Mental wellbeing

Physical health

Safety and security

Empowerment and choice

Connecting and giving

Learning and skills

Home and money

Sussex Community Development Association is a:

- Registered Charity number 1094905
- Company limited by guarantee, registered in England number 3387617
- Development Trust and member of Locality

Sussex Community Development Association Ltd
Denton Island Community Centre
Denton Island
Newhaven
BN9 9BA
Tel: 01273 517250
Website: www.sussexcommunity.org.uk

Chair's Report

SCDA delivers difference for individuals and communities in Sussex. This annual report 2022-2023 sets out the broad range of services and their impact.

The 26th AGM will take place on 6th December 2023. This annual report reflects the responsiveness of SCDA staff and volunteers in ensuring our local community needs in times of economic hardship are heard and met.

Our values are at the heart of SCDA action:

Driven by needs

SCDA listens and identifies needs and gaps in services, delivering real change for local individuals and communities.

- **92,789 people benefitted from SCDA services and activities**

Person centred

SCDA works with the complex issues people are facing:

- **Listening and acting on community needs**
- **Understanding people's lives are complex**
- **Building community strengths and assets**

Inclusive

SCDA supports inclusion in access to services, employment, volunteering and governance.

Quality

SCDA is committed to maintaining quality through monitoring impact, research and quality kitemarks. SCDA monitors and evaluates the difference our services make.

SCDA develops and adapts services through learning what is needed and what works.

- **SCDA annual Community Impact Survey 2023 tells us:**
 - **92% agreed SCDA identifies and responds to community needs**
 - **87% feel SCDA contributes to building stronger, healthier and inclusive communities**
- **Quality kitemarks: Information Advice and Guidance Matrix, Ofsted and British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy**
- **Research and evaluation with University College London, University of Sussex, University of Brighton, Curved Thinking and Collaborate CIC**
- **Lived experience: working with people who access SCDA services to ensure their insight is heard**

Building stronger communities

SCDA builds individual and community skills and resilience to address current and future issues. SCDA delivers services with the commitment of volunteers and local

employees. SCDA is rooted in the community.

- **368 volunteers, community messengers and community champions**
- **70 member groups**
- **85 full and part time staff**

Working in Partnership

SCDA is committed to working in partnership with other voluntary and community organisations, the statutory sector and local private businesses. SCDA is committed to the principles of generous leadership and is an active member of the East Sussex VCSE Alliance. SCDA's role includes being the 'glue': coordinating services to ensure cost effective local delivery and building voluntary sector collaboration.

- **Working together helps us all achieve more and ensure reach, value for money, added value and avoids duplication of services**

SCDA Vision going forward

The Board are looking to the future, delivering on our 3 Year Vision and being responsive to community needs and the effects of the cost of living crisis.



John Cornish, Chair

Sussex Community Development Association

Treasurer's Report

SCDA's Trustees, on behalf of the people who access SCDA services, are grateful to those who have supported SCDA's work.

Income:

Total income for the year to 31 March 2023 was £6,087,859, an increase of 20% on the previous year.

Unrestricted income from Charitable activities increased by 14% to £2,195,128, while Restricted income increased by 24% to £3,687,915.

Contracted services accounted for 30% of total income (2021/22 33%), while Grants and Social Enterprise contributed 61% and 6% respectively (2021/22 57% and 7%).

Donation income, the majority of which is unrestricted and which includes income from our charity shops, increased by 34%. However, at £202k, donation income represents only 3% of the total income.

Expenditure:

Total Expenditure increased by 16% to £2,155,735 representing 91% of total income (2021/22: 94%). SCDA works hard to keep its indirect costs as low as possible. Support and governance costs for the year amounted to only 5% of total income.

Reserves:

At 31 March 2023, SCDA's total reserves were £2,586,520, an increase of 27% on the previous year end. This total includes unrestricted reserves of £1,011,309, also a 27% increase.

The Trustees monitor closely the sustainability of the charity's operations and are committed to increasing the level of free reserves, which are those unrestricted reserves that are not tied up in operational fixed assets.

The Trustees have set a target minimum level of free reserves of £375,000. They especially value the potential of free reserves above the required minimum to initiate or give on-going support to SCDA services in response to need, even when available funding is insufficient. At 31 March 2023 free reserves totalled £475,016.

For more detail on SCDA's financial position including a full list of grant funders, SCDA's Trustees Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 are available on our website or through Companies House and the Charities Commission.



Helen Macaulay
Treasurer

Healthy Lifestyles

Healthy Lifestyles aims to:

- Deliver healthy lifestyle activities to address the wider determinants of health and health inequalities
- Complete and promote evaluation of Making it Happen asset-based community development approaches to address health inequalities
- Deliver activities promoting access to green, open and blue spaces (GBOSH)
- Develop community gardens and growing food

WE DELIVER

- Affordable, accessible and sustainable community-led activities to meet local needs
- Inspiration for local people to live healthy and active lives
- Promotion of links between mental wellbeing, physical health and eating healthily
- Support for people to feel connected with the community around them and make best use of local assets

OUR IMPACT:

Healthy Lifestyle aims are delivered across a range of service areas and projects including community gardens, wellbeing groups, Denton Island Nursery and outdoor activities:

DENTON ISLAND COMMUNITY CENTRE

- Gardening Club maintaining the Community Centre garden area. People sharing skills and knowledge and reporting improved wellbeing
- Social eating space developed within Newhaven Community Supermarket
- New on-site composting scheme
- 3,000 nutritious frozen meals made available to 166 households each week
- 5,000 fresh salad boxes, soups and baked goods produced weekly
- 3 free plant-based cookery, pickling and fermentation courses delivered

WILLINGDON TREES COMMUNITY CENTRE

- 73 local residents attended free health and wellbeing focused short courses for adults including: Arts & Crafts for Wellbeing, Healthy Eating on a Budget and Art and Mindfulness
- 16 sessions providing 807 healthy meals
- 17 people registered Trees Youth Voice project, supporting local young people to launch monthly 'Cup of Joy' Youth Wellbeing Café from January 2022, 40 people attended each session
- 25 Cosy Space Café sessions attracting 90 visits, tackling the effects of loneliness and fuel poverty

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

- 23 families engaged in outdoor learning projects including Plant and Play and Family Forest School in Newhaven
- 735 children attended Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) project in Newhaven, enjoying a hot nutritious meal at each session
- 177 children accessing forest school, promoting outside learning and engagement with nature activities
- 397 learners attended Family Learning courses across East Sussex including Beach School, family food and gardening

DENTON ISLAND NURSERY

- 100 children registered
- Large outdoor area to support physical play and risk taking
- Sensory Room to explore enhanced sensory play
- Promoting healthy snacks and lunch box ideas with parents to encourage them to offer healthy food choices to their children
- Forest School activities with dedicated staff

NEWHAVEN YOUNG PEOPLE

- 3 weekly youth clubs, with a footfall of 1,508 including provision of food
- Youth Club sessions focus on transitions, mental health and wellbeing, identity, inclusion, connecting to the local community, green education, cooking on a budget, confidence building and exploring nature
- Young people's community engagement including litter picking in their local area



MAKING IT HAPPEN

- Improving health and wellbeing through Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) delivering in 17 neighbourhoods across each of the 5 Districts and Boroughs of East Sussex
- Delivered in a partnership with Action in Rural Sussex (AIRS), 3VA, Rother Voluntary Action (RVA) and Hastings Voluntary Action (HVA), led by SCDA
- Connections: Community Development Workers logged 768 connections which demonstrate a positive change, improvement or development
- Stage one evaluation report completed. New evaluation partners, Collaborate, appointed for stage two. They have created an analytical framework to support evidence gathering by Community Development Workers
- Stage one evaluation report: This found that Making it Happen is contributing to the development of communities by working with local people to:
 - Build foundations to achieve goals
 - Make connections
 - Take the lead to create positive change
 - Improve health and wellbeing
- Stage Two report due in November 2023 with the final report shared March 2025
- 100% of grant recipients reported that they agreed or strongly agreed with the following two statements:
 - The grant helped us to achieve something valuable or useful in our community
 - The grant helped people in our community to connect in a meaningful way
- The Big Sparks event on 10th November 2022: 10 representatives from local groups were involved in planning the event; 49 groups, projects and organisations contributed to the event on the day by running workshops, hosting conversations, performing or running activities; over 600 people attended the event.
- Community of Practice: 1 Community of Practice event attended by approximately 30 people.
- Grants awarded:
 - 62 Small Sparks grants (up to £500)
 - 39 Next Step grants (£501 - £3,000)
 - 10 Grow Grants (£3,001 - £15,000)

Lewes District Making it Happen

- Lewes District: 122 Meaningful connections – connections which contribute to positive health and wellbeing. Grants awarded:
 - 20 Small Sparks (up to £500)
 - 9 Next Steps (£501 - £3,000)
 - 2 Grow Grants (£3,001 - £15,000)
- Highlights include:
 - SEND Parent Peer Support Groups for Peacehaven and Newhaven
 - The growth of the Hospitable Environment Project from the seeds of the Tidemills Choir
 - Peacehaven Community School intergenerational project with U3a
 - Bags of Hope – a project to support people who are struggling with their mental health and those who have been bereaved

SUSSEX NATURE PARTNERSHIP HEALTH AND WELLBEING WORKING GROUP

- Cross sector working group chaired by SCDA fostering collaboration to develop the emerging Health and Nature Strategy for Sussex to 'extend access to green, open and blue spaces to support health and well-being'
- Connecting people to nature, particularly in areas of health inequality and through green social prescribing
- Extending access by addressing barriers and local green space opportunities
- Multi agency group involving 53 organisations from environmental, health, local authority and community sectors

Contribution to South East Nature Partnership and NHS Integrated Care System on delivery of Green Social Prescribing and access to green and open space for health



Wellbeing

Wellbeing aims to:

- Deliver professional counselling and therapeutic support
- Build access to counselling through Sussex Community Counselling
- Support people affected by suicide
- Support mental wellbeing of young people

WE DELIVER

- Quality assured British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) accredited Sussex Community Counselling supporting all SCDA counselling
- Access to affordable counselling for those living in Newhaven, Lewes, Hailsham and Eastbourne
- Access to youth counselling addressing the mental wellbeing of young people
- Free counselling from qualified counsellors for individuals at risk of suicide
- One to one support for individuals bereaved by suicide
- Partnership working with Counselling Plus Community in Hastings and Rother

OUR IMPACT:

SUSSEX COMMUNITY COUNSELLING

- 18 volunteer counsellors whose delivery is quality assured and their practice supported
- 187 referrals and 124 clients aged 16 to 90 assessed
- 82 went on to receive support
- Face to face sessions in Newhaven, Hailsham and now Lewes and Eastbourne
- Of respondents, 100% of feedback about counsellors was positive and 81% found counselling helpful using COREOM outcome measure

Counselling for people from black, Asian and minoritised ethnic backgrounds who have been affected by domestic abuse

- 7 clients have been supported, a total of 66 sessions have taken place
- 5 volunteer counsellors
- Clients have been seen in Newhaven, Eastbourne and via Zoom

YOUTH COUNSELLING

- 25 young people supported
- 6 volunteer counsellors
- 43 referrals received and 36 assessed

IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO RAISE A CHILD (VRAC)

- Supporting young people disengaged from education
- 25 referrals received for Youth Counselling Project
- 13 young people supported through VRAC, a total of 67 sessions
- 4 volunteer counsellors
- Sessions were offered via Zoom and face to face in Newhaven

SUPPORT FOR SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE (SSOS)

- All clients received counselling via their requested method of delivery (face to face, Zoom, telephone)
- 130 referrals and 85 clients who went on to receive counselling
- 100% of clients received a response from the service within 48 hours
- Signposting to information and further support for 24 clients

BEREAVED BY SUICIDE OUTREACH (BSO)

- 74 referrals and 57 clients who went on to receive support from BSO
- Signposting to information and further support for 36 clients
- 24 carers/parents of dependent children supported by the service



Loneliness and Social Isolation

Loneliness and Social Isolation aims to:

- Support individual and community wellbeing by promoting community connections
- Provide community hubs as part of social infrastructure
- Deliver befriending, activities and buddy support
- Promote volunteering and community messengers

WE DELIVER

- Face to face and telephone befriending facilitated by volunteers
- Peer support groups in community hubs
- Volunteering for community activity
- Projects and services that create opportunities for connection
- Community hubs which provide a wide range of activities and services
- Volunteering opportunities for community activity
- Active participation on developments of community hubs to address loneliness and social isolation with East Sussex County Council

OUR IMPACT:

DENTON ISLAND COMMUNITY CENTRE

- Youth clubs and children and families projects, enabling members of the community to connect with each other
- Gardening club to maintain the new Community Centre garden, sharing skills and knowledge, members reporting improved wellbeing
- Key results from Community Hubs Survey: 94% reported improved wellbeing as a result of attending the Centre; 88% felt more connected to their community since attending the Centre

COMMUNITY SUPERMARKETS

- Social eating space developed within Newhaven and Peacehaven Community Supermarkets
- Delivered a Warm Space during the colder months, providing warmth and a social element, as well as refreshments

WILLINGDON TREES COMMUNITY CENTRE

- Delivery of 25 Cosy Space Café sessions, attracting 90 visits, tackling the effects of loneliness and fuel poverty
- Trees Youth Voice project, supporting local young people to launch their monthly 'Cup of Joy' Youth Wellbeing Café
- Popular Willingdon Trees Gardeners Club extended
- Monthly Gardeners Social for like-minded people to get together

MAKING IT HAPPEN

- 100% of grant recipients reported that they agreed or strongly agreed that the grant they received through the project helped people in our community to connect in a meaningful way

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

- SCDA welcomes volunteers across a range of projects and services
- 68 active volunteers based at Denton Island Community Centre
- 58% of our Community Supermarket Volunteers reported that volunteering helped reduce isolation and meet new people
- 368 volunteers actively support all SCDA activities and services providing community connection and purpose

Wider work on Loneliness and Social Isolation

- Active participation in independent assessment of cross sector collaboration in East Sussex to address loneliness and Social Isolation facilitated by Collaborate
- SCDA active participation in the Loneliness and Social Isolation multi agency stewardship working group
- Identification of SCDA as delivery lead through the East Sussex VCSE Alliance on behalf of the stewardship group



Young People

Young People aims to:

- Facilitate an active youth voice through the Young People's Forum to ensure services meet young people's needs
- Promote a positive image of young people
- Reduce risky behaviours by young people
- Create and sustain safe, dedicated spaces for young people's activities

WE DELIVER

- Dedicated Youth Centre for Newhaven
- Three weekly term time youth clubs
- Outreach to promote engagement and access
- Youth mental health support through wellbeing groups, counselling peer to peer support, one to one work and positive impacts on emotional wellbeing
- LGBTQ+ support and safe space through a peer-led youth group (LAST)
- Partnership, Activities, Community and Education (PACE): supporting extended learning time and increasing wellbeing
- Sexual health access, support and education through the C-card Scheme in a local secondary school and Newhaven Youth Centre.
- Promotion of youth voice and participation including Newhaven Young People's Forum and annual youth survey

OUR IMPACT:

YOUTH CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

- 3 weekly youth clubs, with a footfall of 1,508 (145 are new enrolments)
- Average attendance at each youth club session is 12-20 young people
- Provision is youth-led and adapted to the needs of the current cohort. Termly educational workshops related to life skills and contextual themes
- 99% of youth club attendees are members of the LGBT+ and allies community
- 40% of youth club attendees attend other SCDA young people's provision including wellbeing services, youth counselling and NYPF
- Themes focus on transitions, mental health and wellbeing, identity, inclusion, connecting to the local community, green education, cooking on a budget, confidence building and exploring nature and the local areas.
- 80% of existing youth club members continued engagement alongside new members

YOUTH VOICE AND PARTICIPATION

- Feedback demonstrated that 100% of young people identify Newhaven Youth Centre as a safe space
- 90% of young people rated the sessions at the youth centre a 4 or 5 out of 5
- 65% of young people stated they had learnt something new and could recall what they had learnt
- 60% of young people stated the youth workers had helped them and could identify how they were supported

INFORMATION AND ADVICE

- 198 young people supported in wellbeing groups, 1-1 support and workshops
- 90% of young people accessing wellbeing support reported a notable difference
- 106 young people accessed sexual health support and education through the C-card scheme

IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO RAISE A CHILD (VRAC)

- Supporting young people disengaged from education in Hailsham and Newhaven
- 13 young people supported, total of 67 sessions

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

- 101 referrals, activities include wide range of sports, confidence building, art, photography and acting

ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

- Popular activities this year have been art and crafts, with fashion and recycling the main themes
- Members of the youth clubs have done litter picking in their local area
- Active participation in arts and creative activities through Play on Shakespeare (Romeo and Juliet); Newhaven Young Creatives

PARTNERSHIPS

- Partnerships include: ESCC Targeted Youth Support; Sussex Clubs for Young People; Creative Force; Sussex Police; Seahaven Academy; Seaford Head School; Peacehaven Community School; East Sussex Community Voice; Kid Hyena; KDE Dance; Changing Chalk (the Railway Land Wildlife Trust) and Play on



Family Inclusion

Family Inclusion aims to:

- Actively engage with parents through a vibrant Families Forum
- Ensure parents and carers have opportunities to access high quality family learning and wider support activities
- Develop access to family activities to meet local community need through SCDA Hubs
- Develop partnerships to enable access to additional support

WE DELIVER

- Engaging and empowering families in the most deprived areas to promote community cohesion
- Denton Island Community Centre as a community asset for parents and families, partner services and a resource base for support, advice and activities
- High quality delivery of support, learning and activities
- 76 place nursery open 50 weeks a year

OUR IMPACT:

- 380 families attended weekly under 5s family drop in group 'Jitterbugs' at Denton Island Community Centre
- 735 children attended Holiday Activities and Food project (HAF)
- Support for Newhaven Family Forum (NFF), handing out 120 pre-loved uniform orders
- Year 2 of a 3 year project funded by Children in Need running in partnership with a local forest school
- Delivery of 41 Family Learning courses and workshops. 100% of attendees report learning something new as a result of attending the sessions. 168 families attended
- Courses include family first aid, gardening, family food, sensory play, music and beach school sessions. 203 adults, 194 children, total 397 learners
- 177 children accessing forest school, promoting outside learning and engagement with nature activities
- 76 place nursery, open 50 weeks a year
- Denton Island Nursery rated Good by Ofsted, inspection 2019
- Large outdoor area to support physical play and risk taking
- Sensory Room to explore enhanced sensory play
- Promoting healthy snacks and lunch box ideas with parents to encourage them to offer healthy food choices to their children
- Forest School activities with dedicated staff offered to children 3 days per week



Community Hubs

Community Hubs aims to:

- Promote community action and assets through local projects and volunteering
- Developing community hubs as community resources
- Establish partnerships to meet community needs
- Identify local needs and gaps in local services

WE DELIVER

- Community-rooted hubs as a focus for community activity
- Six community events to support community pride and cohesion
- Understanding of community needs as the focus for activities
- Support for volunteering and building on community strengths to build sustainability

OUR IMPACT:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EASTBOURNE

- Continued support of the Trees Community Association Board to manage and develop Willingdon Trees Community Centre, utilising year 2 of a 3 year £156K National Lottery Funding grant to support staffing and activity
- 24,363 visits
- Occupancy rates by repeat hirers remained at 39%
- 39 active volunteers engaged in a range of activities
- 16 sessions provided 807 healthy meals and a variety of fun activities to 50 families attending HAF funded Family Café sessions
- 25 Cosy Space Café sessions, attracting 90 visits
- Launch of a new Community Fridge and Pantry in January 2023, officially opened by the Deputy Mayor of Eastbourne on 9th February, accessed by between 15 and 30 households each week
- Further development of Trees Youth Voice project, supporting local young people to run 11 group sessions across the year, plus the launch of their monthly 'Cup of Joy' Wellbeing Café

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEWHAVEN

- 22,938 visits to Denton Island Community Centre
- iRock based within the centre, providing support and advice to young people between 14 and 25 years
- 68 active volunteers based at Denton Island Community Centre. Volunteers support with community supermarkets, cookery activities, gardening and administration
- Community coat rack, school uniform exchange, book shelves and community fridge to redistribute surplus items
- Community gardening group develop and maintain open spaces around the centre
- Midwife appointments continue 3 days a week seeing an average of 70 pregnant women a month
- CAB worker based at the centre 1 day a week to provide specialist advice
- Rooms hired by a range of trainers and community groups including Sussex Lacemakers, Community Chef, NHS, Abundant Light Church, Care for Carers, Recovery College, Play on Shakespeare and CAMHS
- Other regular activities delivered by SCDA at Denton Island include: 3 weekly youth clubs, free holiday activities and food provision for children aged 5-11 in receipt of benefits related free school meals, family learning courses including Plant & Play, Family Food and Sensory Play, Newhaven Community Supermarket and fridge
- Key results from Community Hubs Survey:
 - 94% reported their wellbeing had improved as a result of attending the Centre
 - 88% felt more connected to their community since attending the Centre
 - 100% felt safe and supported whilst attending the Centre



COMMUNITY EVENTS

- Christmas Extravaganza held in Newhaven town centre, funded by Newhaven Town Council - 250 attended
- Newhaven Fish Festival held on the West Quay, funded by NTC, Rampion Offshore Wind and Veolia - attended by over 2,000 people
- Four Eastbourne Community Events: Spring Hop, Jubilee Garden Party, Trick or Treat and a Christmas Fayre – each attended by 250-300 visitors.
- Took part in the Eastbourne Scarecrow Trail

Multi agency East Sussex-wide collaboration on community hubs

- Active participation in independent assessment of cross sector collaboration in East Sussex on community hubs coordinated by Collaborate
- SCDA active participation in the ongoing multi agency work to address access to community hubs and community focal points

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BEXHILL & HAILSHAM

SCDA has worked to secure funding to enable the continuation and development of community hub buildings in Hailsham and Bexhill. The lack of sustained funding meant the hub in Hailsham closed in September 2022. New opportunities to address community wellbeing are being explored



Community Inclusion

Community Inclusion aims to:

- Build community engagement and community links
- Increase confidence to access the help participants need
- Support access by local people from diverse ethnic backgrounds through Sompriti
- Support people who are victims of crime

WE DELIVER

- Community development workers with the ability to build community trust
- Community confidence to ensure word of mouth referrals
- Support to access a range of services and ensure holistic support
- Community events and activities in Lewes and Wealden Districts
- Community engagement in rural areas of East Sussex
- Partnership work with specialist providers such as The Rita Project and a stakeholder network throughout East Sussex
- Increased awareness of domestic and sexual abuse, creating space and support for recovery

OUR IMPACT:

- Sompriti supported 45 individuals through community navigation and engagement, including 10 clients who we have supported to access specialist support regarding domestic abuse
- Hosted an open day around local domestic abuse support services with Survivors Network
- Worked with SCDA's Youth Team to launch Global Youth Club
- 24 hour a day 'Welcome Point' provided at Newhaven Port for refugees arriving from Ukraine. 107 adults and 75 children supported
- English lessons developed with Peacehaven Community Mosque in January 2022. Newhaven English classes started in January 2023 due to popularity
- 4 Volunteer English Teachers recruited, 21 registered students in Peacehaven and 4 registered students in Newhaven
- Building and maintaining social media following, with 452 followers across two platforms and over 1000 audiences reached through community content
- Provided ongoing insight and support to 4 networking groups across East Sussex
- Training on domestic abuse delivered to Community Supermarket volunteers
- Collaborative projects co-designed and produced with over 4 different teams and organisations to empower the voices of culturally and ethnically diverse communities in East Sussex



Environment and Climate Change

Environment and Climate Change aims to:

- Strengthen community resilience to climate change
- Animate actions through behaviour changes
- Develop modal shift to cycling and walking
- Develop opportunities and skills in growing food locally

WE DELIVER

- The development of an active travel hub in Newhaven to support residents to make journey on foot and by bike, including provision for people with disabilities
- Our 'Recycle' bike workshop, a social enterprise that develops employability skills and provides low-cost bikes to the community
- Ouse Valley Climate Change Project in partnership with South Downs National Park
- Community gardens and allotments in Newhaven, Eastbourne and Hailsham

OUR IMPACT:

ACTIVE TRAVEL HUB

- Development of activities at an Active Travel Hub initially at The Sidings in Newhaven
- Funding bids submitted to the National Lottery and Motability
- Working in partnership with Sustrans on preparation of active travel proposal
- Newhaven Heritage Routes project to develop three historical walks with input from community historian
- Ouse Valley Climate Action team based at The Sidings
- Sport England funding secured to develop series of walking and cycling groups
- Funding from South Downs National Park to purchase an electric trishaw
- Dr Bike sessions hosted at The Sidings

GET SOCIALLY ACTIVE: RECYCLE

- Engaging with the community to reduce emissions and vehicle use through the provision of bikes, spares and skills to get people cycling for work and leisure
- Reuse of existing bikes and spares and the recycling of components
- Communities are actively engaged in culture change through engagement with existing cycle groups, services and infrastructure
- The Recycle model of repairing and restoring existing bikes is promoted to get people cycling with access for all
- Barriers to engagement around poverty, gender and disability are removed by offering support and actively promoting cycling to those groups who may feel excluded

OUSE VALLEY CLIMATE ACTION

- From a 1 year pilot, a successful 3 year project funded through National Lottery Climate Action Fund

- 10 partners supporting delivery: South Downs National Park Authority & Trust, Lewes District Council, Ovesco, 3VA, Community Energy South, Transition Town Lewes, Lewes Railway Land Wildlife Trust and Seaford Community Partnership
- SCDA delivering 2 community engagement roles promoting environmental expertise and active travel
- Contact made with 25 local community groups including Walk The Chalk
- Funding focuses on three key areas: nature recovery and climate resilience, people's knowledge and skills and greener energy and travel
- Delivery of initial active travel activities including a bike fix day, 8 children attended, and Learn To Ride, 12 children attended
- Development of 54 work packages, including community gardens and orchards, nature based solutions and networking and movement building
- Engagement with Ouse Estuary Nature Reserve, including tour of site and discussions around existing management, opportunities and challenges
- Public events including launch of Get Bikery in Lewes and West Quay litter pick. Public events planned for 2023-24 include a tour of local rivers and chalk streams with local environment experts

COMMUNITY GARDENS

- Denton Island Gardening Club flourishing
- New on-site composting scheme at Denton Island, ensuring food waste from food projects is turned into compost and used in community gardens
- Willingdon Trees Gardeners provide drop-in sessions every weekday. 10 volunteers involved in maintaining their patches and shared areas
- Hailsham Seeds and Weeds Allotment gifted to the local community and now run by Action Community Together CIC

Employability

Employability aims to:

- Secure funding to maintain support into employment for people disadvantaged in the labour market
- Build partnerships to address the barriers to employment and secure funding through quality assured and innovative delivery
- Support employers to recruit and retain staff in a diverse labour market
- Address people's physical health and mental wellbeing by supporting them into employment, training, volunteering and education

WE DELIVER

- Sustained employment (including self employment) for anyone over the age of 18 through 1 to 1, virtual and group work, supporting families, adults and the local community
- Meaningful voluntary work, work trials and work placements enabling participants to gain confidence and new skills
- Support to access training and education improving the skills in the local work force to meet employers' needs online, face to face and in group activities

WORK AND HEALTH PROGRAMME (WHP)

- Delivered in partnership with Shaw Trust supporting people with health issues and disabilities to access sustained employment. A DWP funded project, extended to October 2024 (with a 15 month roll on)
- WHP team is the best performing supply chain partner across the two Shaw Trust CPAs (Contract Provision Areas) contract to date
- Working with partners on the next programme delivery model

LET'S GET WORKING (LGW)

LGW is a National Lottery Community Fund and ESF funded project. This action research social prescribing project finished in March 2023 and supported over 1,757 people with long term conditions and disabilities to get into work, training, volunteering and community engagement. Working across East Sussex and Kent with our partners Social Enterprise Kent (SEK) and Royal British Legion Industries (RBLI). Completion and dissemination of evaluation research

ASPIRATIONS

Aspirations is a National Lottery Community Fund and ESF funded project. Aspirations is a specialist mental health project delivering 1 to1 support for people not accessing mainstream mental health services to overcome barriers to work, training and volunteering, and works across East Sussex. This project ceased delivery in March 2023 and supported over 250 participants in the past 5 years

GET SOCIALLY ACTIVE

Get Socially Active (GSA) is a National Lottery Community Fund and ESF funded project. GSA supports people to find sustainable employment and access training, volunteering and education in the Lewes District area. This project ceased delivery in March 2023 and supported over 179 participants in the past 6 years. We deliver:

- Recycle - our bicycle workshop, refurbishing donated bikes for sale in our local charity shops or online



- We support development of cooking skills as a stepping stone to volunteering, training and employment

ESTAR (EMPLOYABILITY FOR SUPPORTED AND TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION AND REFUGES) EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL PROJECTS: MOVING ON UP & GROW YOUR FUTURE

Moving on Up

This project supports people in temporary and insecure housing into apprenticeships or employment with training, and to gain independent rental accommodation. Partners include the East Sussex College Group, SCTP (Sussex Council of Training Providers) and ourselves. Finishing initially in March 2022, this project has been extended to March 2024

Grow Your Future

This project is aimed at people far from the labour market who want to gain experience working in an outdoor environment. Partners include Plumpton College and Ideverde (local horticultural employer). This project ceased in March 2023

MINDING THE GAPS

A UK Community Renewal Fund (UK CRF) Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) funded project, one of 5 UK CRF projects running across East Sussex and managed on behalf of DLUHC by East Sussex County Council. This project supported 450 people to gain a qualification or 'ticket to operate' and/or support to become closer to the job market in a 9 month period. This is a research project which initially aimed to inform the UKSPF (UK Shared Prosperity Fund). Minding the Gaps is a partnership with the East Sussex College Group, 3VA and HARC with SCDA as the lead partner



Count Me In – Multiply

Count Me In is a Multiply, Department for Education funded national project. We are delivering Count Me In across East Sussex on behalf of East Sussex County Council. Our project aims to support anyone over 19 who does not have a maths GCSE C/4 or above with 3 hours of budgeting support and help with the basic maths that underpins this. We can support both the unemployed and those on a low income. We successfully met our January – March 2023 target to ensure delivery in the second year.

Support into Work

Support into Work is a Home Office funded project supporting Ukrainians settled in East Sussex under the Home for Ukrainians government scheme. Support into Work is a partnership with People Matter and Refugees Employment Project and East Sussex County Councils ESTAR team. We support participants with up to 15 hours employability skills, knowledge and job sector information and regional and national accommodation information, and refer participants onto other locally based projects

OUR IMPACT:

- 1,555 participants supported across all projects
- Wide range of online activities continue, ranging from counselling, confidence building, stress management, finding work online, driving theory, customer service, photography and the arts, to support participants to feel less isolated, build online relationships, gain work, access training and volunteering
- Less than a 5% drop out across all our projects
- Transformational blended approach to dealing with stress, anxiety or low confidence
- 90% of Employability participants have access to debt and benefit advice
- 80% of participants referred have a health or physical disability
- 17 volunteers supported delivery through Recycle and LGW Community Messengers
- Quality assurance and high performance: passed to a high standard all external audits across Employability programmes

- Research continues into the impact of social prescribing supporting health referrals into employability support
- 6 Occupational Therapy university placements successfully placed across Employability teams

WORK AND HEALTH PROGRAMME

- 424 participants supported
- 282 new participants joined the programme
- 208 jobs starts in last 12 months
- 15 participants have started a self employed business
- 403 Digital College Courses completed by participants
- 7,345 appointments delivered by the team
- 155 completed health assessments by Shaw Trust Health Professionals

LET'S GET WORKING

- A total of 1,757 participants supported across East Sussex and Kent since LGW started in March 2017
- 40% were unemployed including long term unemployed (2 years+)
- 59% were economically inactive
- 86% had a disability
- 19% moved into education or training on leaving the project
- 22% moved into employment including self-employment on leaving the project

ASPIRATIONS

- 37 new participants supported
- 84 active participants in total
- 12 started work
- 15 moved into training or education
- 16 economically inactive participants supported into job searching
- 10 training/wellbeing activities funded
- 28 supported with access to counselling or other wellbeing therapies
- 5 supported with access to sports or fitness activities

GET SOCIALLY ACTIVE

- 21 new participants
- 64 participants and volunteers in total
- 303 sessions delivered in the bike workshop
- 114 refurbished bikes have been sold back to people in the local community
- 90 donated bikes from the local community
- Delivered 223 kitchen workshop sessions
- 140 IAG sessions delivered
- 175 bikes donated from Govia

ESTAR – MOVING ON UP & GROW YOUR FUTURE

- 118 participants enrolled
- 33 job starts (26%)
- 14 participants helped to secure accommodation

MINDING THE GAPS

- 450 participants supported January – October 2022
- 76 participants gained a qualification/participated in education

SUPPORT INTO WORK

- 79 Participants supported from August 2022 – March 2023

COUNT ME IN - MULTIPLY

- 183 participants referred January – March 2023

Community Advice

£5,882,001 ANNUALISED BENEFIT INCOME REALISED FOR RESIDENTS

SCDA Community Advice aims to:

- Work in partnership with specialist advice providers to coordinate securing funding and maintain delivery to meet changing needs
- Provide holistic, joined up service delivery for all clients
- Ensure access to free, quality assured, confidential, impartial advice
- Ensure advice provision holistically addresses the wider social determinants of health and wellbeing

EAST SUSSEX WELFARE BENEFITS PROJECT AND ADDITIONAL MEASURES ADVICE SUPPORT

OUR IMPACT:

- £5,867,689 annualised benefit income realised for residents
- 10,377 people received benefits advice
- 7,762 referrals to Welfare Benefits Helpline
- 18,831 household members benefitted from benefits and debt advice:
 - 1,996 older people
 - 2,082 families with children
 - 7,967 with long term health conditions
- 10,258 people contacted the helplines:
 - 21,369 different benefit enquiries dealt with
 - PIP and Universal Credit most common benefit enquiries
 - 65% of callers lived in the most deprived wards

WE DELIVER

- Free, quality assured, confidential and impartial specialist advice through quality assured partners addressing the wider determinants of health and wellbeing and the practical needs of local residents
- Specialist welfare benefits advice in partnership with: Eastbourne Citizens Advice Bureau; Eastbourne Age Concern; Hastings Advice and Representation Centre (HARC)
- Collaboration to meet specialist advice needs with: Age UK East Sussex; Amaze; Brighton Housing Trust; CA1066; Eastbourne Age Concern; Eastbourne CAB; Hastings Advice and Representation Centre (HARC); Lewes District CAB; Possability People; Wealden CAB
- Quarterly summary report on community advice needs and insights
- Havens Information and Advice Hub: Accessible, cost effective information and advice through Navigators and volunteers
- Hosting specialist advice provision: Brighton Housing Trust; East Sussex Credit Union; Hastings Advice and Representation Centre; Lewes District CAB; Money Advice Plus; Stop Loan Sharks
- Coordination of advice training for effective information giving and signposting to specialist advice

- 85% of callers had long term health conditions
- For every £1 invested in our Expert Services we generated £33 in financial gains for each of our clients
- Depression and physical issues most common long term health conditions
- 84% of respondents reported improved mental wellbeing
- 2,066 people received face to face casework support:
 - 60% of casework clients lived in the most deprived wards
 - 80% of casework clients had long term health conditions
 - Addressing socially determined health and social care issues:
 - 1,151 referrals from health and social care professional
- Delivery of training to 70 East Sussex front line workers in 7 sessions about specialist advice and effective information giving and signposting delivered by HARC January to March 2023
- Quarterly insights reports collated from advice partner input on advice and community needs feeding into strategic oversight and commissioning



- Active participation in Collaborate report on Welfare benefits and debt advice needs in East Sussex as selected representative from East Sussex VCSE Alliance
- Planning for Advice Insights training 2023-2024 including Money and Pension Service accredited training
- SCDA co-chair of East Sussex Multi-agency Financial Inclusion Partnership

HAVENS INFORMATION AND ADVICE HUB

OUR IMPACT:

- Twice weekly Community Navigation drop-in service at the Community Supermarkets in Newhaven and Peacehaven
- 256 referrals to our Community Navigators
- 121 clients supported by our dedicated Citizen's Advice Generalist Advisor, realising £14,312 in income gains
- Feedback from clients:
 - 95.2% of clients reported low wellbeing *before* intervention
 - 4.8% of clients reported moderate wellbeing *before* intervention
 - 42.1% of clients reported low wellbeing *after* intervention
 - 52.6% of clients reported moderate wellbeing *after* intervention
- Distributed £573,084 in food, essential items and utility vouchers to 1,845 households across East Sussex as part of the Household Support Fund scheme, on behalf of SCDA, BHT, HARC, Southdown Housing, Amaze and Possability People
- 45 volunteers recruited, trained and supported. Volunteer roles include: Information Volunteer, Community Supermarket Volunteer, Social Media Volunteer
- Delivered a training programme to over 40 volunteers including: Induction, Signposting and Information, Citizen's Advice training, Adverse Childhood Experiences and Trauma, Domestic Abuse, Mental Health Awareness, Social Isolation Awareness, Suicide Awareness
- Through the Community Supermarket, volunteers have recorded 167 conversations that utilised their training, resulting in 46 referrals to a Community Navigator and 23 referrals/signposting to another service.
- Information Volunteers can provide information and signposting through wellbeing phone calls to clients, or refer a client back to a Community Navigator if necessary. This year 473 calls have been made to 107 clients by these volunteers

- Social media engagement reaching 3,000 people each month
- Delivery of a Digital Inclusion Project, supporting SCDA clients with basic digital skills and use of digital healthcare tools
- 370 individuals reached through Digital Inclusion Project - 204 in group sessions and 166 individuals through one to one sessions within locations such as the community supermarkets, food banks and library sessions
- 6 digital skills workshops run at Denton Island Community Centre
- 10 digital skills sessions delivered in other community settings
- Trained three community supermarket digital champions
- Funding secured for additional Community Advice Services: Move On Homes for Ukraine, Mental Health and Money – Community Navigation, continuation of Household Support Fund
- 7,762 referrals to Welfare Benefits Helpline



Food Security

Food Security aims to:

- Provide an emergency food response in Newhaven and Peacehaven
- Promote healthy affordable food choices across all age groups
- Establish a sustainable Lewes District Food Partnership
- Create East Sussex and Brighton and Hove links for those issues which cannot be addressed locally

OUR IMPACT:

EMERGENCY FOOD PARCELS

- Food parcels delivered to 101 unique households
- 642 food parcels delivered
- Decline in deliveries as members access community supermarkets to benefit from signposting and other support, and the social element

COMMUNITY SUPERMARKETS

- Peacehaven Community Supermarket has 297 active households (450 adults and 206 children)
- Newhaven Community Supermarket has 402 active households (660 adults and 416 children)
- 92 households attending Peacehaven Community Supermarket and 74 households attending Newhaven Community Supermarket each week
- Peacehaven supported on average 583 adults and 163 children – over 700 bags of food.
- Newhaven supported 362 adults and 219 children - 500 bags of food in a 4 week period
- Specialist training delivered to dedicated volunteers
- 'Pay as you feel' ethos within supermarkets and café spaces
- Delivered a Warm Space during colder months provided warmth, a social element, food and refreshments
- Project aims to reduce stigma and provide dignity and choice for members
- Service evaluated in partnership with Kingston University
- Social eating spaces in both venues

WE DELIVER

- Community-based, sustainable emergency food response across the Newhaven & Peacehaven area
- Two community supermarkets, which provide food on a pay as you feel basis
- Coordination of 62 volunteers
- Signposting to other SCDA services, including strong links with the Community Advice team
- Coordination of Denton Island Community Kitchen
- Free and affordable cookery courses
- Development of Social Eating Spaces
- Coordination and chairing of Lewes District Food Partnership
- Development of sensitive delivery and national best practice in emergency food provision: trauma informed practice and lived experience
- Coordination of Lewes District annual Food Summit
- Active participation in the East Sussex Food Network, the partnership of District and Borough food partnerships

DENTON ISLAND COMMUNITY KITCHEN

- 13 cookery volunteers, 3 volunteer cookery leaders
- Community Food Project Manager overseeing kitchen development and environmental health
- Retained five star food hygiene rating
- Nutritious frozen meals, to average 166 households per week
- Fresh salad boxes, soups and baked goods produced
- Emphasis on using surplus food and reducing waste
- Free plant-based cookery, pickling and fermentation courses delivered

OTHER COMMUNITY FOOD PROJECTS

- Denton Island Community Fridge redistributes surplus food
- Volunteer-led 'Friends of Newhaven Food Bank' continues to support through fundraising
- Over 200 Christmas presents and dinners distributed with support from Newhaven and Peacehaven Town Councils, local businesses and community donors
- New on-site composting scheme. Food waste turned into compost and used in the Children & Families Garden

LEWES DISTRICT FOOD PARTNERSHIP

- Raised over £6,000 through joint Emergency Food Network Christmas Fundraiser
- Quarterly steering group meetings from January 2023
- Facilitated Mental Health First Aid training for 27 volunteers
- Monthly Emergency Food Network meetings
- Distributed further £17,000 of small grants through the Household Support Fund Round 3
- Continued attending ESCC Healthy Weights and Healthy Start Working Groups and Forums
- Received £10,000 of funding from Sustainable Food Places to develop our Grow Cook Eat coordinator
- Received £10,000 funding to run a participatory project looking at the impacts of food insecurity on residents of Lewes District
- Development of a Charter for Dignified Food Support with Community Psychologist, Carl Walker and Kingston University Lecturer, Ronald Ranata and a number of community food projects
- Continuing to work with ESCC, Food Matters and the four East Sussex food partnerships on county-wide strategies for food security through the East Sussex Food Network

Social Enterprise

Social Enterprise aims to:

- Maintain the viability of existing SCDA social enterprises
- Identify and realise opportunities for SCDA to extend and initiate new social enterprises
- Identify and realise opportunities for SCDA to extend existing social enterprises
- Realisation of social enterprise incubator including building conversion
- Realise the SELEP Social Enterprise Working Group Prospectus

WE DELIVER

- Sustaining SCDA social enterprises
- Chairing the SELEP Social Enterprise Working Group
- Securing funding and development of initial business planning for Social Enterprise Incubator in Newhaven

OUR IMPACT:

DENTON ISLAND NURSERY

- 100 children registered
- Rated Good by Ofsted inspection 2019. Quality maintained through management plan
- 29 children supported in transition to school in September 2022
- Supporting 8 children with English as a second language
- Supported 10 children with high functioning additional needs being supported by external agencies
- 1 nursery volunteer supported the nursery management team, 8 volunteers helped improve the nursery garden
- Ensuring the business model maintains sustainability and supports parent access to childcare subsidy

SUSSEX COMMUNITY COUNSELLING

- 18 volunteer counsellors whose delivery is quality assured and their practice supported
- 187 referrals and 124 clients aged 16 to 90 assessed
- 82 went on to receive support
- Restructure of the business model to develop sustainability and support access

RECYCLE

- 21 new participants
- 64 participants and volunteers in total
- 303 sessions delivered in the bike workshop
- 114 refurbished bikes have been sold back to people in the local community
- 90 donated bikes from the local community
- Delivered 223 kitchen workshop sessions

SHOPS

- 22 volunteer staff, covering a variety of retail roles and developing and sustaining skills
- 12,375 volunteer hours donated
- Thousands of items of household goods and clothing recycled by being sold, helping our communities to access good quality items at affordable prices

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE COLLABORATION

- Local Enterprise Partnership Social Enterprise Prospectus reviewed and endorsed
- Meetings of South East Local Economic Partnership (SELEP) working group held to promote collaboration of promoting social enterprise as an inclusive business model supporting community wealth building and the local circular economy

NEWHAVEN SOCIAL ENTERPRISE INCUBATOR

- Business plan and feasibility studies completed for development of a Social Enterprise Incubator on Denton Island
- Initial designs and costings completed for delivery of works for refurbishment of the building within the funding envelope of the Newhaven Town Deal programme 'Building our Economic Strength'





SCDA Board members:

John Cornish
Helen Macaulay
Anneke Langford
Sean Williams
Maria Aguilar
John Bell
Ioni Sullivan
Dan Osborn
Andrew Shields
Ruairi McCourt
Edward Wagstaff

SCDA Patrons:

David P Allam DL
Hugh T Burnett OBE, DL
Caroline Mayhew
Sir Peter Field
Lady Margaret Field
Violet Hancock DL
Derek Stevens DL

Sussex Community Development Association Ltd

Denton Island Community Centre
Denton Island
Newhaven
BN9 9BA
Tel: 01273 517250
Website: www.sussexcommunity.org.uk

SCDA Member groups:

1218 (Newhaven) SQN Air Training Corps
Access in Seaford & Newhaven
Bambino Beatz
Boomerang Klub
Breakwater Academy PTFA
Castle Hill Group
Churches Together in Newhaven
Community Spirit
Community Transport Lewes Area
Denton & Newhaven Guides
Denton & South Highton Junior Football Club
Eastbourne Blind Society
East Sussex Recovery Alliance
Force Basketball
Friends of Sompriti
Friends of West Quay
Furniture Now!
Growing Together Community Garden

Hastings Advice and Representation Centre (HARC)
Haven Harmonies
Hillcrest Amateur Boxing Club
Hillcrest Community Partnership
Home Start South Downs
House Project
Ignite Theatre
Lewes District Churches HOMELINK
Lewes & Seaford CAB
Meeching Amateur Dramatics
Meeching WI
Meridian Mature Citizens' Forum
Munchkins Parent & Toddler Group
National Coastwatch Institution
Newhaven & District Lifeboat Society
Newhaven & District Mencap
Newhaven & District Model Railway Club
Newhaven Families Forum
Newhaven & Seaford Cadet Unit 442
Newhaven & Seaford Sailing Club
Newhaven Baptist Church
Newhaven Chamber of Commerce
Newhaven Cricket Club Senior Section
Newhaven Cricket Club Youth section
Newhaven Football Club
Newhaven Historical Society
Newhaven in Bloom
Newhaven Karate Club
Newhaven Tennis Club
Newhaven Twinning Association
Newhaven Yacht Club
Newhaven Young People's Forum (NYPF)
Newhaven, Peacehaven & Seaford Lions Club
NIPPERS
Noah's Ark Nursery School
Nomads

Old Town Community Association
Old Town Community Library
Our Newhaven
Ouse Valley Cycle Network
Rotary Club of Newhaven
Seahaven Academy Governing Body
Seahaven Bird Rescue
Seahaven Harriers Fundraising Committee
South Coast Bounty Hunters' Fishing Club
St Leonard's Church, Denton
Start Art & Smart Art
Supporters of Southdown PTA
Tenants of Lewes District (TOLD)
University of the Third Age (U3A)
Wave Leisure Trust
West Quay Residents Association