



**Community  
Foundation**  
for Surrey

Together we can



# Surrey Young People's Fund

Helping young people gain access to training and employment

**Annual Report 2020**

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# A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

Disadvantaged young people in Surrey deserve their opportunity to shine and have a real chance to fulfil their dreams. Here at the Surrey Young People's Fund (SYPF) we provide them with just that opportunity – to make the most of themselves and of what society can offer. As you will see later in this report, since we started our work at the end of 2014, we have dealt with almost 700 applicants for grants to help young people to improve their life prospects, and have awarded more than 460 grants, but there are many more who still require our assistance.

2020 presented young people in Surrey and across the country with unprecedented pressures and social challenges as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic. Financial hardship, school and college lives disrupted, significant increases in mental health and wellbeing issues, and social opportunities massively reduced have all led to increased pressures on all young people.

We are seeing more disadvantaged young people. Sometimes this is because of family circumstances; sometimes because of bullying at school or via social media; from mental health difficulties; or from disabilities. But what we also see is a spirit in these young people to overcome their issues. The SYPF team nurtures and grows this spirit and provides financial support and other guidance that makes a difference to their life opportunities. As a result, the young people benefit, and everyone involved in the programme should be immensely proud of their and our achievements.

Since the Fund's creation it has been a pleasure to work together with our talented team of panel members and CFS support staff. They have dedicated much time, effort and commitment to ensuring the best for the young people we assist. My thanks go to each and every one.

We also receive significant support from a range of Surrey agencies and organisations, without which we could not identify all the young people in need. Many of these also help us to assist the young people on their SYPF journeys, providing additional support in so many important and different ways. To each of these agencies and organisations I also add my thanks.

At the heart of our work are our Donors, without whom the Fund would not exist and the young people in Surrey could not benefit. A huge "THANK YOU" to them for their on-going support, belief in our goals and generosity, which is making such an impact to the young people we help.

To each reader of this report, I hope you will enjoy learning more from the following pages about the SYPF journey so far. To those of you already part of the team, I hope you will continue to lend us your support. And to those who are not yet engaged with our work, I hope you will consider supporting us too.

Nick Brooks  
Chairman, Surrey Young People's Fund

# FUND PANEL MEMBERS



**Nick Brooks**  
Chairman and Assessor



**Anna Briggs**  
Vice Chair and Assessor



**Simon Cox**  
Assessor



**Tim Foster**  
Assessor



**Jim Hayward**  
Assessor



**Sally Knight**  
Assessor



**Lesley Machin**  
Panel Member



**Catherine Schille-Fuchs**  
Assessor



**Karen Tuddenham**  
Assessor



**Andrew Whitby-Collins**  
Assessor

The Panel is supported by the Community Foundation for Surrey.

# FUND OVERVIEW

The Surrey Young People's Fund (SYPF) was created at the end of 2014 when the Foundation brought together four initial donors to support disadvantaged young people in Surrey gain access to training and employment. Since start-up until the end of 2020 the Fund received donations totalling over £168,000 and supported 464 determined young people who wanted to improve their prospects, awarding a total of over £110,000.

We are delighted to work alongside and channel funds from the Surrey Supported Employment Fund for a second year running, to enable young people with a disability to move towards work and training.

In 2020, the average grant size was £259 showing that just a small amount can result in a life-changing opportunity.

## Fund Priorities

SYPF supports individuals aged 16-25 at the time of application who are resident in Surrey and show the motivation to achieve their goals to gain access to training and employment.

Applicants tend to be in one of the following groups:

- People who are not in full time (16+ hours pw) employment
- People with disabilities or restricted by health conditions
- People with mental health conditions
- People in or leaving care
- Carers (including Surrey Young Carers)
- Offenders or ex-offenders
- People who are or have been in receipt of free school meals, and/or are in receipt of college bursaries.

Grants from SYPF are typically between £50 and £300 and can fund items directly related to enhancing the young person's employability skills, either through:

- Qualifications, certificates or licences
- Vocational or technical skills
- Self-development opportunities which improve social skills, motivation and confidence

Requests typically fall into one of the following categories:

- Course fees
- Travel costs (for education, training or employment)
- Childcare (for short term education or training)
- Equipment, materials or tools
- Work or training-related clothing
- Volunteering/work placement costs
- Online learning

# FUND ACTIVITY

## Donations Received

Six individual Donors, three companies and nine charitable trusts currently support the Fund, and we of course hope to see this donor family grow in the future.

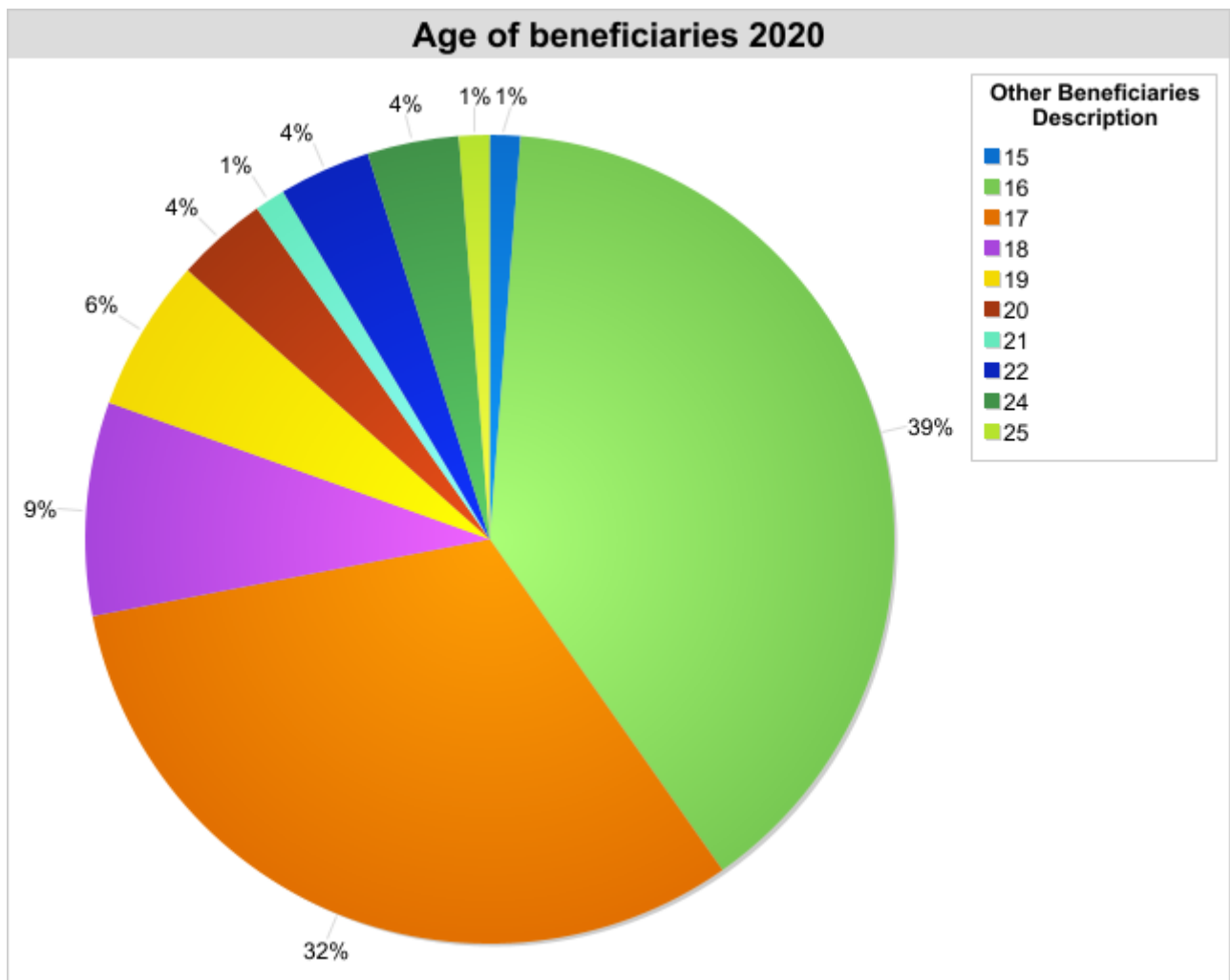
Since establishment SYPF Donors have played a crucial role in supporting disadvantaged young people across Surrey, providing the Fund with a total of £168,013 in donations, for which we are most appreciative. In 2020, donations were received to the value of £38,850. It goes without saying the generosity of our Donors enables SYPF to continue to support more young people year on year.

## Applicants the Fund has supported in 2020

Analysis of grant recipients during 2020 indicates the following spread of representation across our primary areas of focus; 50% of grantees identified a combination of these categories, demonstrating the depth of the needs we deal with.

- **79%** of applications included the category '**Educational under-achievers**'.
- **15%** of applications included the category '**Unemployed (or working less than 16 hours per week)**'.
- **16%** of applications included the category '**Aged 16 -18 and not in full-time or part time school or college education or work-based learning, such as an apprenticeship**'.
- **4%** of grantees were **offenders/ ex-offenders**.
- **30%** of grantees were **in or leaving care**.
- **11%** of grantees identified as having a **disability**.
- **10%** of grantees identified as having a **mental-health condition**.

Below is a pie chart displaying the age range of those applicants who were awarded grants in 2020. Accounting for 39% of successful grant applicants were those aged 16, the second largest age group were 17-year-olds at 32%. 14% of successful applicants were aged 20 or over.



## Nature of Grants Awarded

The average size of grant provided was £259. The widespread nature of the support which this level of funding has provided for individuals across the county is outlined below.

- **Course fees**

The Fund has supported young people to study various courses, including online training for a CSCS Card, and a Level 3 course in Health and Social care.

- **Equipment, materials and tools**

The largest proportion of grant awards were made under this category. Items which have been funded include laptops with Microsoft Office software, catering course equipment, photography equipment, and hairdressing equipment.

- **Online learning**

Grants generally supported online GCSE courses or L1/L2 vocational courses. For instance, one grant supported a young person who experienced severe bullying, to complete GCSE English and Maths via distance learning. Another young person with acute mental health challenges received funding to enable access to a Level 3 Counselling course, with hopes to go on to study Psychology and Counselling.

- **Travel costs (for education, training or employment)**

Travel costs can be supported where there is a barrier for a young person to access training, volunteering opportunities, work experience placements and employment.

One grant supported a young person who had not achieved the desired grades at GSCE and came from a substantially financially disadvantaged family to access a training course to study at a sports coaching academy.

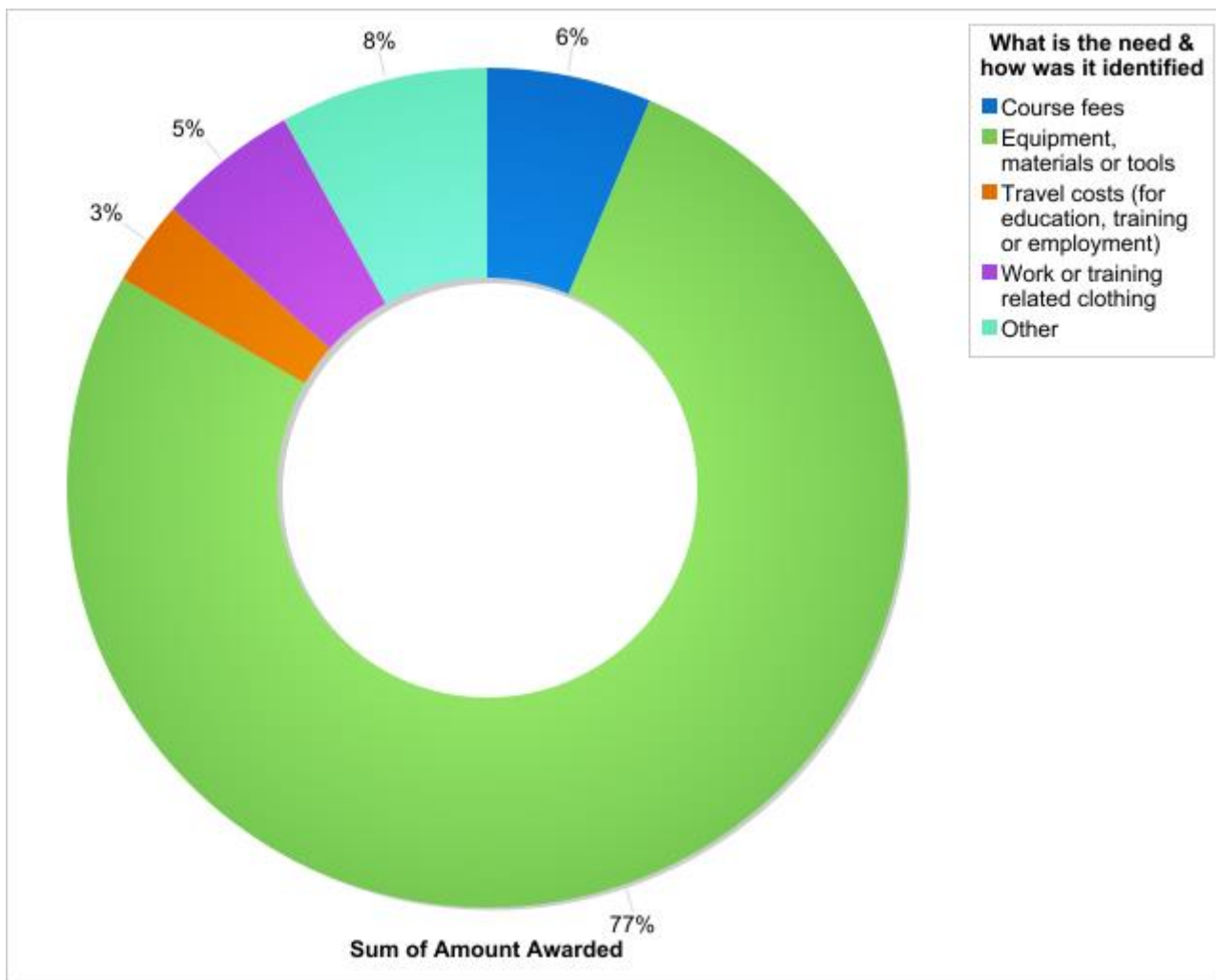
- **Work or training related clothing**

These grants have included smart clothing such as shirts and ties for interviews and office-based or similar roles, as well as suitable work boots and safety clothing for the construction industry for example.

One grant enabled a young person from a significantly disadvantaged background to purchase suitable clothing for a training course in construction.



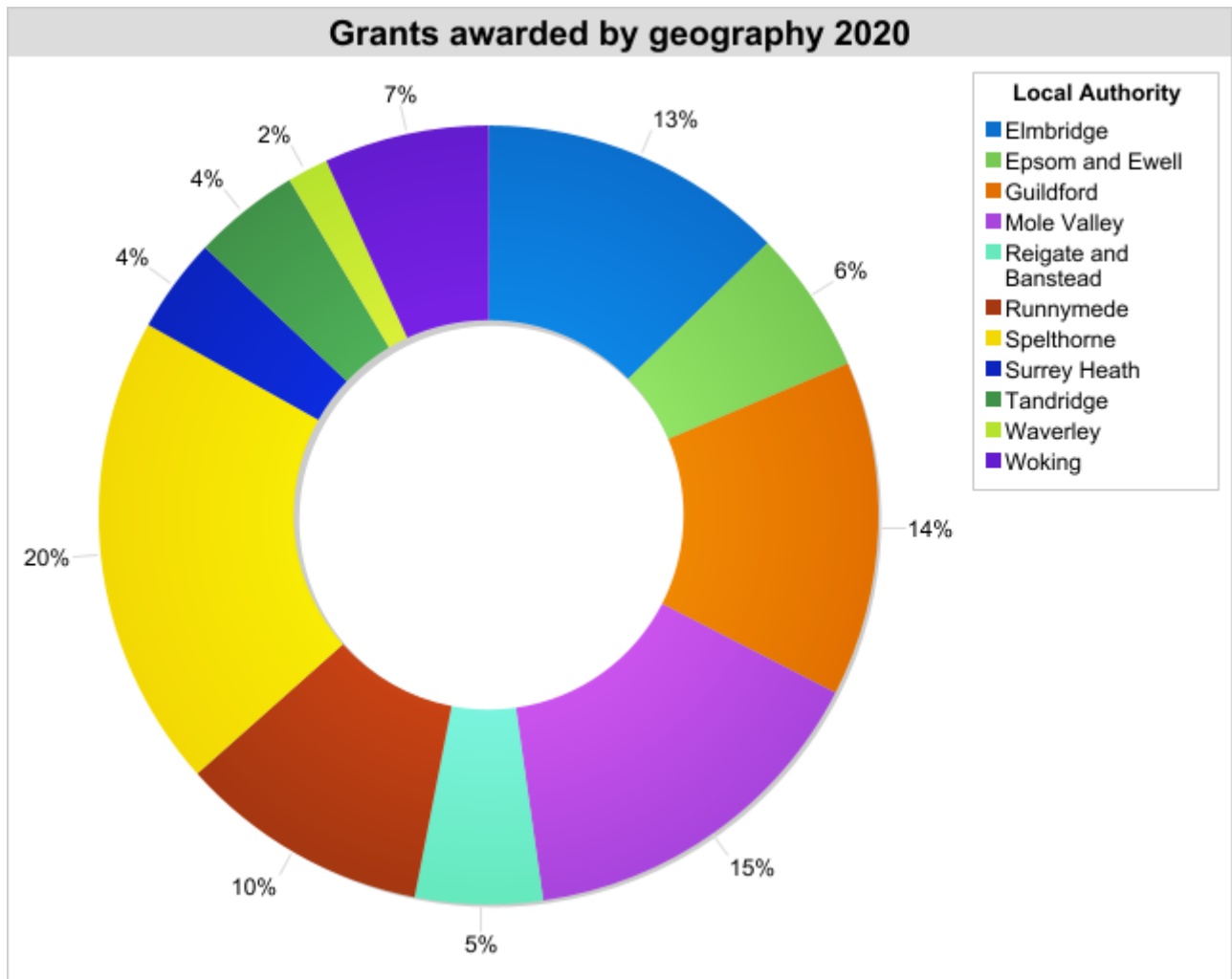
### Breakdown of nature of support 2020



## Geographic Spread of Grants Awarded

Individuals in each of the 11 Districts and Boroughs have been supported through SYPF. As shown on the graph below, the two areas in which the highest proportion of grant funding has been made to date are Spelthorne (20% of grants awarded) and Mole Valley (15% of grants awarded).

Waverley received the smallest amount this calendar year (2% of grants awarded), followed by Tandridge and Surrey Heath (each at 4%).



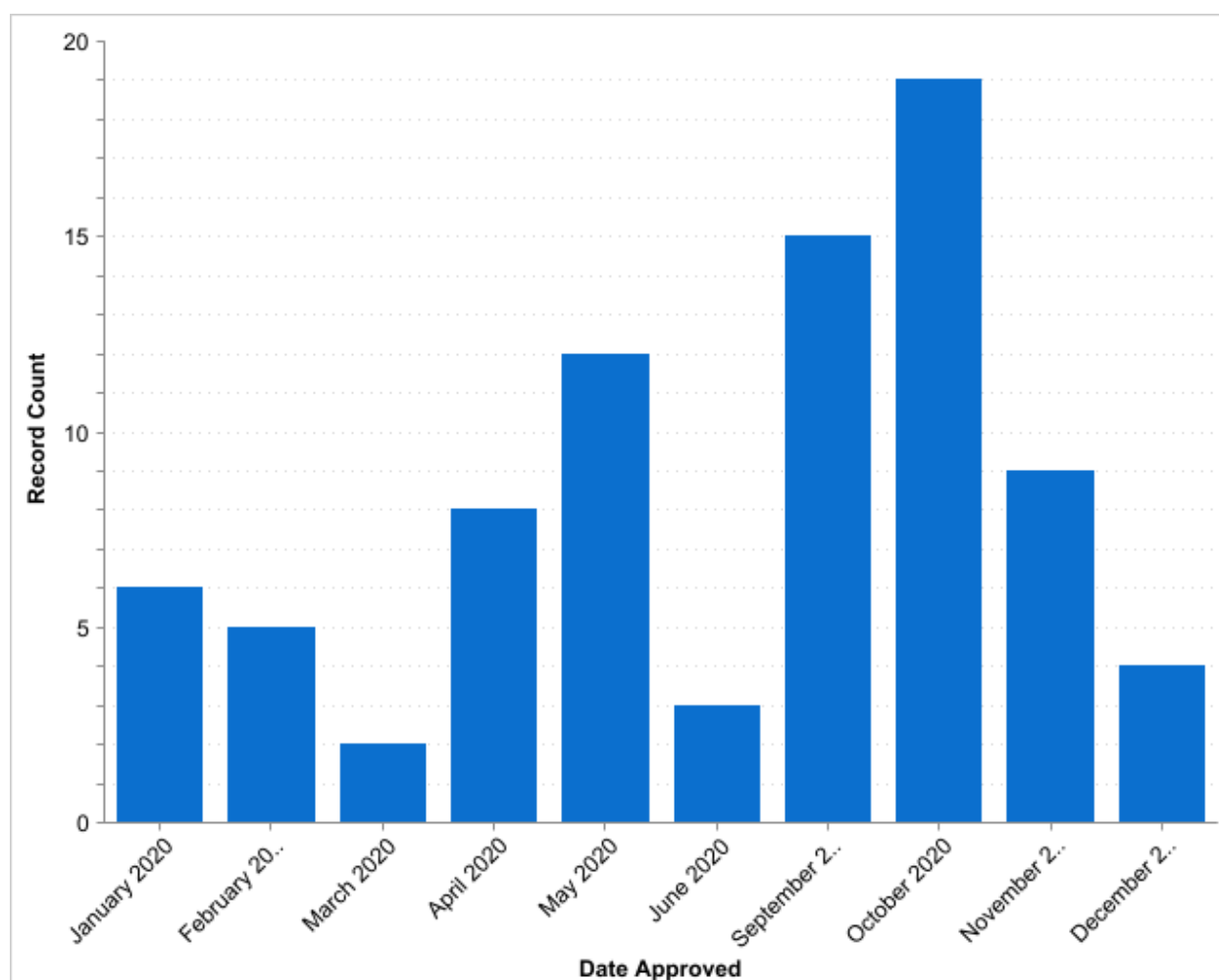
## Grants Awarded

From the time of establishment to year end 2020, 440 grants have been awarded to over the value of just over £110,000. The maximum grant award was £676, and the minimum was £15.

The Fund has increased at a significant pace from its time of establishment. The total grant-making in Year One was £2,356.86, and this has grown through the generosity of our Donors to more than £20,000 each year since 2018; the grant-making in 2020 totalled £21,592.78.

In 2020 the grant application pattern during the year changed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. An increased number of applications were received in April and May, mainly for laptops to enable young people to access online learning, as schools and colleges were closed. From June onwards, Government initiatives came into force which enabled disadvantaged young people to access laptops via schools, colleges and Local Authorities. This led to a decrease in applications to the Fund during summer.

In September and October, we saw an increase in applications, as young people began college courses and required kit and uniform to be able to take part in their chosen speciality.



## **Referral organisations:**

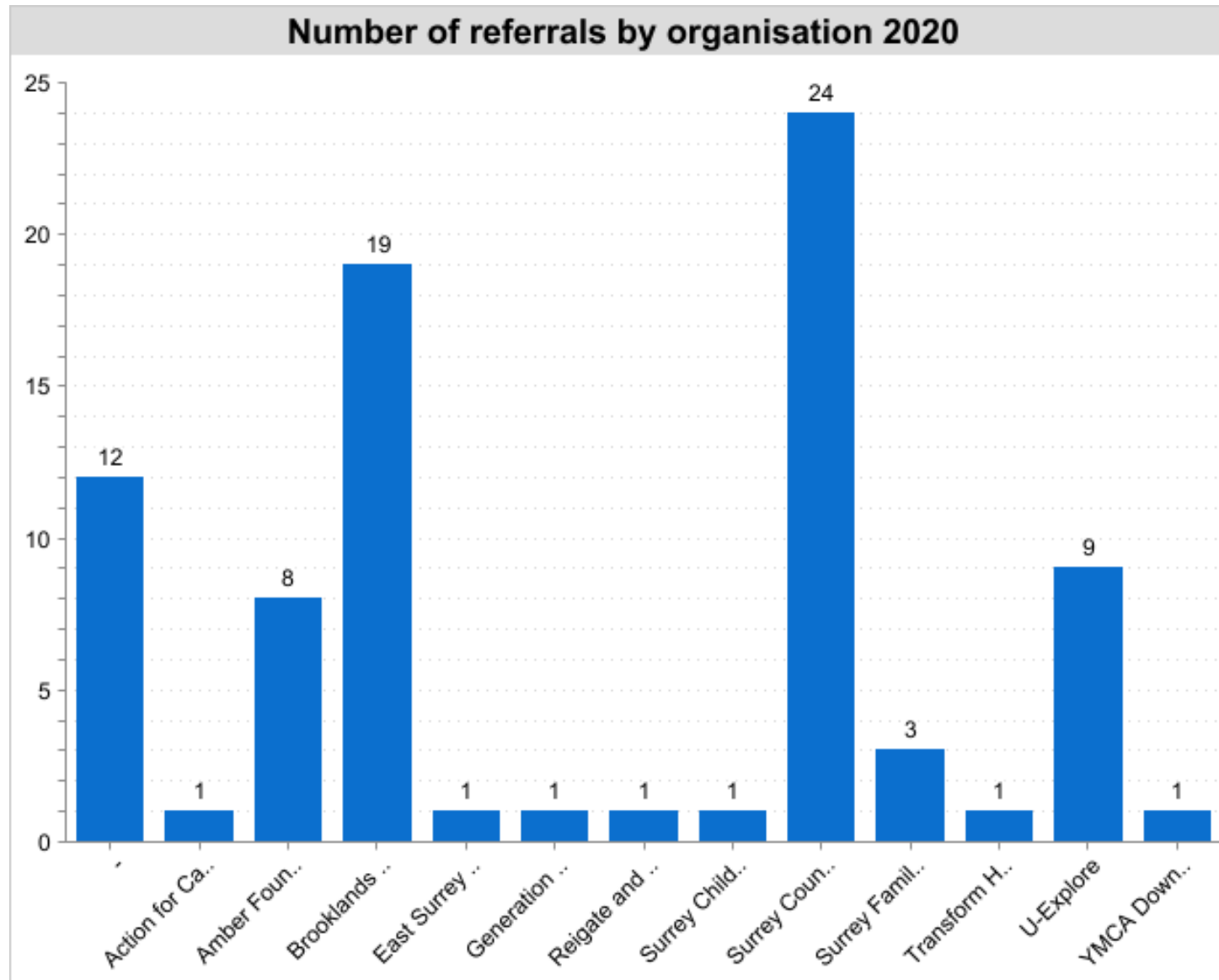
SYPF works with a wide range of referral organisations to support as many disadvantaged young people as possible.

Page 13 features a bar graph that provides a breakdown of the number of referrals each organisation has made in the calendar year 2020. Referrals made from Surrey County Council included those from SE Looked After Children's Team, Surrey Virtual School for Looked After Children and other teams like these.

U-Explore were the highest referrer outside of the County Council bodies and it is also interesting to note there were 12 parent/self-referrals.

A focus point for the Fund's work moving forward will be to maintain the strong relationship with Surrey Family Services and the County Council but also to increase our outreach to other organisations

List of referring agencies:



- Action for Carers (Surrey)
- Amber Foundation
- Brooklands College
- East Surrey College
- Generation Church
- Reigate and Banstead Women's Aid
- Surrey Childrens Services
- Surrey County Council
- Surrey Family Services
- Transform Housing & Support
- U-Explore
- YMCA DownsLink

# END OF GRANT CASE STUDIES

Individuals who have received funding are asked to complete an end of grant report, designed to help evaluate the beneficial impact of the grant award.

This section of the report provides details of the end of grant reports which have been received and reviewed.

Names of individuals referred to in these case studies have been removed for the purposes of this report.

## **SYP381**

Received funding so he could carry out and complete his CSCS card, which would enable him to enter building sites and access work. The funding allowed him to book his CSCS exam, which he passed with flying colours, a short time after he applied for and received his CSCS card. Within 2 weeks of receiving his CSCS card he had acquired a full-time position as a labourer working on a big contract at Gatwick Airport. He leaves for work every day at 0530 to get to his place of employment and works an 8-hour day 5 days per week. Now that he has a full-time job he has not been involved in anti-social behaviour or come to police attention. Without the financial support from SYPF he would not have been able to obtain work in this field, having no formal qualifications, which were proving to be an obstacle to further education or employment. This funding led to opportunities for him, which has given him financial independence and a sense of self-worth.

## **SYP491**

Had a challenging childhood, and was in care for many years, moving regularly between foster parents, with significant disruption to her schooling. She struggled with her mental health, and with conventional learning environments, but having experienced at first hand the care system she was drawn to the caring services. She applied for a grant to purchase a laptop to assist her with her job and training courses search. The laptop not only enabled her to search for work but also to undertake some rewarding side activities, and she worked alongside staff in the Council's UVP programme. This experience plus her abilities have led to her being offered an apprenticeship with the Civil Service.

## **SYP496**

A young man who was unable to complete conventional schooling due to his complex conditions. Having undertaken supported learning at Brooklands he enrolled on a Level 1 catering course to pursue his passion for cooking, and needed catering uniform and equipment to undertake the course, but family circumstances made the purchase of these very difficult. SYPF were delighted to fund this grant, and he successfully completed his Level 1 course and has moved onto Level 2, keeping his dream of moving into a catering job very much alive.

## **SYP524**

Is a young carer for her mother, and has had a number of mental health issues to deal with. As with many young carers, school was a struggle, however thanks to her efforts and some great support she managed to achieve several GCSEs. Her passion for the beauty sector led her to study for L1 and L2 Beauty in order to work towards her objective of running her own beauty business whilst continuing to care for her Mother. SYPF were able to help her by contributing to her course costs, and she is now well on the way to achieving her ambition.

## Testimonials from applicants

**SYP478:** I'm still on my apprenticeship in a nursery and loving it. Thank you for your help.

**SYP501:** I have moved onto Level 2 catering and hospitality, and it's going good, thank you.

**SYP516:** I am now working full time as a nursery practitioner at a private young children environment, after having my son in July last year.

**SYP524:** I'm doing great thank you! I've ventured into opening up my own wax melt business. I've completed all my theory for my beauty course and some of the practical work, however to finish the practical work I need models which is a lot harder at the moment! But I'm so glad I had the option to do this through SYPF or I would not have been able to do it! Thank you so much!

**SYP538:** I have been working but since coronavirus I stopped for a bit, but back to work next month so it has been good thanks – appreciate the help.

**SYP590:** Thank you and your helpful team very much for helping me to progress and do my work with this precious laptop. I really appreciate it. God bless you and your team.

**SYP657:** I'm doing good thanks. I'm planning on finding a full time job in a salon and then hopefully move on to starting up my own business sometime in the future.

**SYP675:** Had nearly a year out because of Covid, but back now, can't thank you people enough for the grant, feel like part of the team now.



# FUND STATEMENT

## Grants Fund Statement

<b>Opening Balance at 01 January 2020</b>			<b>£41,194.12</b>
	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Payments</b>	
Donations	£38,850.00		
Gift Aid	£3,525.00		
Grant from Surrey Supported Employment Fund	£3,000.00		
DBS Check		£19.20	
Fund Expenses		£9.60	
Contribution to Community Foundation		£4,187.50	
Grant Payments		£21,592.78	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£45,375.00</b>	<b>£25,809.08</b>
<b>Balance available for grant-making at 31 December 2020</b>			<b>£60,760.04</b>

## Statement of Grants Given 01 April 2020 to 31 December 2020

Date	Applicant	Amount	Note
10/01/2020	SYP542	£246.57	Hairdressing kit
14/01/2020	SYP558	£500.00	1:1 tutoring for YP with complex mental health conditions
23/01/2020	SYP553	£318.00	Travel costs for college course trip
23/01/2020	SYP554	£124.90	Travel costs to apprenticeship
23/01/2020	SYP550	£225.00	Work clothing for new employment
24/01/2020	SYP564	£228.98	Laptop to support course at college
10/02/2020	SYP573	£206.50	Clothes for interviews and work placements
21/02/2020	SYP565	£300.00	Training and test for CSCS card
21/02/2020	SYP574	£200.00	Equipment to become a Dog Groomer

24/02/2020	SYP571	£268.99	Laptop and MS Office for course
24/02/2020	SYP575	£268.99	Laptop and MS Office Student for online course
30/03/2020	SYP585	£228.99	Laptop and software to assist with studies
30/03/2020	SYP583	£249.00	Laptop and software to help young person complete college training
01/04/2020	SYP577	£228.99	Laptop and software to assist a young person with her college training
02/04/2020	SYP588	£332.97	Laptop for a young person to continue studies from home
06/04/2020	SYP590	£249.00	Laptop to assist with studies from home
15/04/2020	SYP593	£228.99	Laptop and software to help a young person with online training
20/04/2020	SYP595	£228.99	Laptop and software for a disadvantaged young person to aid them with their college course
20/04/2020	SYP592	£228.99	Laptop and software for a disadvantaged young person to complete a college course
23/04/2020	SYP598	£228.99	Laptop and software for a disadvantaged young person to help with a training course
30/04/2020	SYP612	£249.00	Laptop for a disadvantaged young person to aid with distance studies
01/05/2020	SYP614	£228.99	Laptop for a disadvantaged young person to aid with work experience
05/05/2020	SYP604	£249.00	Laptop for a disadvantaged young person to aid with distance studies
11/05/2020	SYP609	£279.00	Laptop for a disadvantaged young person to access online training
11/05/2020	SYP610	£279.00	Laptop for a disadvantaged young person to access online training
11/05/2020	SYP603	£279.00	Laptop for a disadvantaged young person to access online training
11/05/2020	SYP597	£308.49	Laptop for a disadvantaged young person to access online training
11/05/2020	SYP617	£301.78	Laptop and software for a disadvantaged young person to access online training
12/05/2020	SYP605	£279.00	Laptop for a disadvantaged young person to aid with distance studies
12/05/2020	SYP578	£334.09	Laptop, printer and travel card to aid studies

18/05/2020	SYP608	£228.99	Laptop for a disadvantaged young person to access distance learning
18/05/2020	SYP626	£249.00	Laptop for a disadvantaged young person to access distance learning
27/05/2020	SYP613	£311.38	Laptop for a disadvantaged young person to access online training
01/06/2020	SYP622	£238.99	Laptop for a disadvantaged young person to gain an apprenticeship
18/06/2020	SYP621	£300.00	Funding for a disadvantaged young person to gain a qualification for tree surgery
18/06/2020	SYP635	£193.99	Payment for a bike and equipment for a disadvantaged young person to access employment
04/09/2020	SYP637	£298.99	Funding for a laptop for disadvantaged young person to access online training
04/09/2020	SYP631	£299.00	Funding for photography equipment for a disadvantaged young person to access photography training and employment
07/09/2020	SYP654	£360.18	Funding for a laptop for disadvantaged young person to access online training
08/09/2020	SYP660	£360.18	Funding for a laptop for a disadvantaged young person to access online training
14/09/2020	SYP665	£224.69	Funding for the kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to complete a Level 2 Beauty course at college
21/09/2020	SYP643	£60.00	Funding towards uniform for a disadvantaged young person attending college
23/09/2020	SYP664	£246.00	Funding for a Level 1 Beauty course kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person
23/09/2020	SYP675	£306.95	Funding for Sports Technology kit to enable a disadvantaged young person to access college training
23/09/2020	SYP667	£250.00	Funding for travel costs to enable a disadvantaged young person to access college
24/09/2020	SYP678	£246.92	Funding towards clothing for interviews and employment for a disadvantaged young person
28/09/2020	SYP650	£321.83	Funding toward kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to attend college
29/09/2020	SYP651	£116.84	Funding toward kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to attend college
29/09/2020	SYP656	£593.14	Funding toward kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to attend college

29/09/2020	SYP655	£305.89	Funding toward kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to attend college
29/09/2020	SYP672	£231.41	Funding for equipment for a disadvantaged young person to access a college course
02/10/2020	SYP657	£169.78	Funding toward kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to attend college
02/10/2020	SYP674	£300.69	Funding toward kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to attend college
02/10/2020	SYP671	£321.83	Funding toward kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to attend college
02/10/2020	SYP670	£365.00	Funding toward kit for a disadvantaged young person to attend college
02/10/2020	SYP669	£365.00	Funding toward kit for a disadvantaged young person to attend college
02/10/2020	SYP668	£116.84	Funding toward kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to attend college
02/10/2020	SYP663	£305.89	Funding toward kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to attend college
02/10/2020	SYP662	£116.93	Funding toward kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to attend college
02/10/2020	SYP661	£321.83	Funding toward kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to attend college
02/10/2020	SYP659	£116.84	Funding toward kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to attend college
05/10/2020	SYP646	£321.83	Funding for kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to access a Level 2 Beauty Course at college
09/10/2020	SYP680	£199.00	Funding for a bicycle, lock and helmet for a disadvantaged young person to access a college course
09/10/2020	SYP681	£321.83	Funding for kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to access a college course
09/10/2020	SYP682	£270.70	Funding for kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to access a college course
09/10/2020	SYP683	£321.83	Funding for kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to access a college course
09/10/2020	SYP685	£321.83	Funding for kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to access a college course
09/10/2020	SYP686	£60.00	Funding for clothing and trips for a disadvantaged young person to access a college course
22/10/2020	SYP693	£107.75	Funding for kit and uniform for a disadvantaged young person to access a college course

02/11/2020	SYP700	£249.00	Funding for a laptop and software for a disadvantaged young person to access online training
05/11/2020	SYP687	£225.00	Funding for a disadvantaged young person to attend an online course
05/11/2020	SYP689	£259.50	Funding for a disadvantaged young person to purchase protective clothing prior to commencement of employment
05/11/2020	SYP701	£285.00	Funding for a disadvantaged young person to access online learning
05/11/2020	SYP692	£100.15	Funding towards uniform for a disadvantaged young person to attend a college course
05/11/2020	SYP697	£305.89	Funding for kit and uniform to enable a disadvantaged young person to access training at college
05/11/2020	SYP694	£321.83	Funding for uniform and kit for a disadvantaged young person to attend a college course
05/11/2020	SYP695	£270.70	Funding for uniform and kit for a disadvantaged young person to attend a college course
05/11/2020	SYP684	£220.48	Funding for work-related clothing for a disadvantaged young person to access volunteering and training opportunities
19/11/2020	SYP702	£135.99	Funding for a course and test for a disadvantaged young person
08/12/2020	SYP704	£300.00	Funding for a clothing and equipment for a disadvantaged young person to access training
15/12/2020	SYP712	£169.80	Funding for a disadvantaged young person to complete training and testing for CSCS card
15/12/2020	SYP709	£379.00	Funding for a disadvantaged young person to access a Level 3 training course
21/12/2020	SYP705	£320.48	Funding for a disadvantaged young person to train and gain a CSCS card