

Together we can

The Surrey Poverty Fund - Winter 2021 is funded by a donation of £185K from Surrey County Council to award grants to projects across Surrey in need of emergency and crisis funding. The purpose of the funding is to support an increased number of people facing poverty by strengthening community initiatives, including a focus on activity that helps address the root causes of food poverty.

Grants are awarded at the discretion of CFS.

Grants will be prioritised for projects dealing with urgent issues arising from what is anticipated to be a tough Winter, in particular:

- Support for organisations tackling the impact of rising costs and falling benefits including crisis provision e.g. measures which improve the sustainability of food banks or increase the ability of debt advisors to provide support.
- Support for organisations that tackle the root causes of poverty.
- Priority will also be given to initiatives that support those parts of the community that may have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

Some examples of what could be funded are:

- To support organisations to access, store and distribute additional supplies of good quality food, including good food surplus, in particular, e.g. purchasing fridges, freezers and cooking equipment.
- Purchasing IT equipment to help facilitate a system of electronic referrals and contact with customers.
- Development of projects such as social supermarkets, community cafes, lunch clubs and community cooking classes.
- Development and strengthening food partnerships with a view to creating healthy, sustainable local food systems to help tackle food insecurity.
- Providing specialist support for initiatives such as outreach work, training for volunteers and development of community hubs which co-locate a range of support services.
- Skills workshops to enhance employment opportunities.
- Provision of 1 to 1 debt advice and support to vulnerable clients.