

Appendix A - Partnership Funding Applications – Sept 2022



<p>1. NAME OF ORGANISATION AND CHARITY NUMBER IF APPLICABLE</p> <p>Name: South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Partnership (hosted by South Hams District Council)</p> <p>Charity registration no. n/a</p> <p>Company registration no. n/a</p>
<p>2. LEAD CONTACT NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS: <i>PERSONAL DETAILS REMOVED</i></p>
<p>3. SERVICES PROVIDED BY YOUR ORGANISATION: (A brief summary of all services and bullet points will suffice)</p> <p>The South Devon AONB Partnership is principally responsible for undertaking a core set of functions set by DEFRA in support of the statutory purpose for AONBs, the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the South Devon AONB. These responsibilities can be summarised as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preparation of the statutory AONB Management Plan¹ for the South Devon AONB on behalf of South Hams District Council, Devon County Council, Torbay Council and Plymouth City Council. An AONB Management Plan comprises both a strategy and delivery plan.• Implementation of the South Devon AONB Management Plan, leading on securing resources and delivery of key actions for Climate, Nature, People and Place and coordinating the action of a wide range of partners in support of AONB Management Plan priorities.• Provision of advice to the local authority on the proper exercise of their statutory duties and powers in relation to the AONB generally and its Management Plan.• Provision of advice to wider partners on their work affecting the South Devon AONB. <p>Role of the AONB Partnership (taken from the South Devon AONB Partnership Terms of Reference)</p> <p><u>1. The AONB Management Plan</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">To prepare and review the AONB Management Plan on behalf of the local authorities responsible, at intervals of not more than five years. (statutory)To co-ordinate the implementation of the AONB Management Plan Delivery Plan, with actions undertaken by a wide range of organisations as well as directly by the AONB Staff Unit. (statutory, Defra policy and grant funding requirement)To monitor and publish an annual report on progress in the implementation of AONB Management Plan targets. (Defra Grant Funding requirement) <p><u>2. Geographical remit</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">To focus on the South Devon AONB while having regard for the wider hinterland and communities insofar as they interact with the AONB. (statutory)

¹ <https://www.southdevonaonb.org.uk/management-plan/>

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3. Staffing and resources (Defra and Natural England policy requirements, Defra grant funding requirement)

- i. To provide guidance and advice to the AONB Core Funding Group concerning the direction of the AONB Staff Unit and use of resources, recognising that the Core Funding Group carries responsibility for those areas.
- ii. To identify and secure the resources required for AONB management.
- iii. To provide an accountable structure for the investment of government resources in the AONB.

4. The purpose of the AONB designation

- i. To develop and promote the vision for the AONB and the objectives for its management. (statutory)
- ii. To identify, protect and conserve the distinctive environmental and cultural features of the AONB. (statutory)
- iii. To raise awareness of the AONB designation with the local community, with visitors and with all who have an influence on it. (Defra policy requirement)
- iv. To identify and address the major issues affecting the AONB through the Management Plan process. (statutory)

5. Consultation and liaison (Defra and Natural England policy requirements)

- i. To hold an annual AONB conference or open forum.
- ii. To engage with a wide range of organisations in seeking consensus about AONB management.
- iii. To forge links with other relevant fora, in particular the Local Strategic Partnerships and the community planning process.
- iv. To develop links with local estuary management projects and other local environmental partnerships and initiatives.
- v. To develop and disseminate good practice in AONB management.
- vi. To establish links with other protected landscape areas including the National Parks and the wider AONB movement through the National Association for AONBs, the South West Protected Landscapes Forum, and the Devon AONB Managers' Group.
- vii. To support community initiatives which conserve and enhance the AONB and to encourage the participation of the community in the care and management of the AONB.

6. Management structures and governance (Defra and Natural England policy requirements, Defra grant funding requirement)

- i. To maintain a management structure that is effective and relevant to the AONB.
- ii. To review and revise the governance structures for the AONB every three years alongside the review of the AONB Memorandum of Agreement, or sooner if circumstances require.
- iii. To keep under review the membership of the Partnership, introducing change as required.

7. Influencing (Defra and Natural England policy requirements)

- i. To promote the AONB and its purposes to a range of bodies and engage them in its management.
- ii. To act as an advocate for the AONB.
- iii. To advise other bodies on their role in the management of the AONB and in particular promote the statutory duty for all public bodies to have regard for AONB purposes in the conduct of their functions.
- iv. To influence regional, local and unitary planning policies affecting the AONB through the development plan process.

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- v. To seek effective linkage between the management of the AONB and its adjoining marine areas through integrated coastal zone management.

8. Information and research (Defra and Natural England policy requirements, Defra)

- i. To commission research and studies relevant to the AONB.
ii. To monitor the condition of the AONB.

9. Task groups

- i. To establish task groups or technical groups as required.

5. AMOUNT (£) OF FUNDING RECEIVED FROM SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL IN 2021/22 AND HOW THAT FUNDING WAS SPENT

£20,749 of South Hams District Council funding was provided to the South Devon AONB Partnership in 2021/22 as a core funding partner contribution toward total Core operating costs. This represented a 9.9% contribution toward to the core costs of the South Devon AONB Partnership and its Staff Unit. Operation of the Partnership and its Staff Unit is set out in its formal documentation including Terms of Reference, Defra Grant Funding Agreement, Memorandum of Agreement between funding partners and statutory AONB Management Plan. The funding and operating model is consistent with best practise and the 33 other English AONBs.

2021/22 South Devon AONB Core operating budget:

Cost Centre S9602: AONB Core - Income	2021/22 Actual
Defra	*£163,126
Devon County Council	£19,000
South Hams District Council	£20,749
Torbay Council	£3,000
Plymouth City Council	£1,000
Income earned in year	£2,414
Total CORE Income	£209,289

* Defra contribution in 2021/22 included a one-off in-year only £30,000 element eligible for spend in mid January 2022 – end of March 2022. Unusually, this element did not require 25% match funding. £11,396 of this was spent on additional dedicated AONB planning contractor support to cover AONB responses to Development Management caseload during Jan – March 2022. This level of service has not been possible since.

Cost Centre S9602: AONB Core - Expenditure	2021/22 Actual
Staff Costs	£141,217
Communication Costs	£964
Direct Office Costs	£7,927
Professional Fees & Contributions	£45,628
Hosting Recharges	£9,696
AONB Partnership running costs	£3,857
Total CORE Expenditure	£209,289

The SHDC contribution of £20,749 toward core costs has remained static since 2014/15 and after 9 years represents a substantial real terms reduction. Defra in comparison have substantially increased their contribution in the last two years, though for 2022/23 onwards this additional contribution is contingent on 75%/25% match funding being provided. Staff Costs of £141,217 support 3.31 FTE across 4 posts.

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As the AONB Partnership and its Staff Unit is hosted by South Hams District Council, the current National Joint Councils pay offer will apply if accepted by the Unions. This has created an additional £5,547 pressure above the amount planned and budget for 2022/23 in the Staff Unit's core costs. The same pay award will result in AONB projects budgets increasing by £5,905 beyond planned for and budgeted levels.

The Council does not make a contribution to the project budgets for the South Devon AONB Partnership, but benefits significantly from the work of an additional 4.74 FTE roles across 7 posts generating project outputs and outcomes for Climate, Nature, People and Place. These aspects are covered more fully in question 6, but would not be possible without consistent Core funding as the catalyst.

NOTE for 2022/23 onwards: Discussions have taken place with SLT officers over enhancing AONB support to SHDC Development Management. An additional £8,000 per annum of funding is required from SHDC to meet this demand and unlock an additional core contribution uplift from Defra as match funding. This would result in an additional 1.5days/week dedicated AONB Planning Officer role to match the average annual caseload received over the last 5 years. This has been assessed to be a minimum viable level of requirement and would be reviewed if further funding could be provided and/or statutory consultee status (as proposed by the Landscapes Review) was actioned with a commensurate level of resources to match any new burdens.

6. WHAT OTHER INCOME/FUNDING DO YOU RECEIVE AND HOW DO YOU SPEND IT?

In addition to the AONB Core Income detailed above, a wide range of income is also secured from other sources to support direct expenditure on the delivery of actions in the AONB Management Plan Delivery Plan that are led by the South Devon AONB Unit. Though this amount varies considerably from year to year, the AONB projects operating budget for 2021/22 was £117,638. A further contribution of £10,200 is made by South Hams District Council toward an operating budget of £50,120 for the South Devon Estuaries Partnership. The South Devon AONB Unit provides hosting and secretariat functions with the South Devon Estuaries Officer embedded within the wider AONB Team.

July 2021/22 saw the start of a three year fully Defra funded Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme for South Devon AONB with a Year 1 value of £263,356 operated by the South Devon AONB Unit.

Periodically, large to very large funding programmes are developed and led by the South Devon AONB Unit on behalf of the Partnership. Once such developing programme is the coastal habitats and species, nature recovery and community engagement focused project known as "*Life on the edge*". Following a successful National Lottery Heritage Fund application in 2021/22, this is currently in its 18-month £417,000 development phase. A further bid is due to be submitted in August 2023 to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for £2m toward a 5 year delivery phase project valued at £4m.

Based on current contracts, forecasts and commitments, the total AONB Projects operating budget for 2022/23 is £579,961, though total value inclusive of volunteer time and other in-kind contributions is £732,065.

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A significant additional component of delivery is achieved through advocacy and other project work led by partner organisations where funding is directly managed by those bodies. One such example of this is the overhead powerline undergrounding project coordinated by the AONB Unit Project Officer but delivered by Western Power Distribution with a project value in 2022/23 of close to £1m.

Note that from the 2019/20 financial year onwards, South Hams District Council has not contributed financially toward any AONB project budgets, but the Council, its residents, businesses and visitors to the area benefit from the activity. This additional activity makes an important contribution to corporate strategy themes, particularly: *Adapting and mitigating climate change and increasing biodiversity; Protecting, conserving and enhancing our built and natural environment; Strengthening community wellbeing; and Stimulating a thriving economy.*

Total SHDC £20,749 Core contribution + £10,200 Estuaries Partnership contribution as a proportion of £937,286 total direct AONB expenditure in 2022/23 = 3.3% provides a funding gearing of 1:30.

A comprehensive response from government to the January 2022 Landscapes Review response is anticipated this autumn/winter and with it details of strengthened purposes, powers and resources for AONBs. This was a central strand of 2019 Landscape Review findings.

7. PLEASE EXPLAIN IN YOUR OWN WORDS WHY YOUR SERVICES ARE NEEDED BY RESIDENTS IN SOUTH HAMS.

- The high quality natural environment of the AONB, its natural beauty, natural capital and the ecosystem services it provides to residents including, biodiversity, water quality, clean air, flood regulation etc. underpins the local economy.
- National work to quantify the benefits to society including local people have been repeatedly analysed and published including the recent “Designated Landscapes (Glover) Review, England”² (Defra) and the Government’s response³ (Defra), “Heritage Coasts Review 2022” (Natural England), “So much more than the view”⁴ (NAAONB & NPE) The People and Nature Survey for England⁵ (Natural England). These analyses consistently demonstrate the importance of well managed designated landscapes to the health and well being of local residents, local economy and visitors to the area.
- Health and wellbeing surveys have consistently demonstrated the importance of high quality natural environment to quality of life, health and wellbeing, particularly for local residents, but equally relevant for businesses and visitors to the area.
- The South Devon AONB Management Plan review process has provided a variety of consultation opportunities over the last 20 years to gather issues and priorities. The impassioned feedback from a wide range of local people continues to shape Policies, Projects and Programmes.

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/designated-landscapes-national-parks-and-aonbs-2018-review>

³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/landscapes-review-national-parks-and-aonbs-government-response>

⁴ https://www.nationalparksengland.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0027/26784/So-much-more-pdf-without-navigation-bar.pdf

⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/people-and-nature-survey-for-england>

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- The AONB Management Plan including its policies, projects and programmes make a substantive local contribution to addressing the declared climate emergency and biodiversity crisis. This has been the case since the formation of the AONB Partnership in 2003 and will continue to be a heightened focus of AONB activity in the future.
- Extensive feedback including from the AONB Annual Forum, letters pages of local and regional newspapers, facebook and twitter posts, annual agricultural shows and community events unequivocally demonstrate the need amongst local people to see the South Devon AONB protected, conserved and enhanced.
- The South Hams farming community and the rural communities that depend upon farming are able to access increased resources and advice through the South Devon AONB Partnership, benefitting from funding programmes, points uplifts and targeting directly linked to the designated landscape of the South Devon AONB.
- Local communities benefit from the JLP policy set, policies on nationally protected landscapes, evidence base and AONB planning consultation responses that seek to ensure local housing needs are met with the right homes provided in the right places without unnecessary and damaging loss of land to market housing or elevated land values.

8. IN SEPTEMBER 2022 WE ADOPTED A NEW STRATEGY FOR THE COUNCIL TO SUPPORT OUR LONGER-TERM VISION FOR THE DISTRICT.

Achieving our Vision

To support us in achieving our vision, we have aligned our actions to a number of themes.

Each theme will be led by an Executive Member and supported by a senior officer.

In the following pages, we set out our Thematic Delivery Plans for each area.



Adapting & mitigating
climate change and increasing biodiversity

An environment where people and nature thrive together



Improving
homes

Better homes enabling better lives for all



Protecting, conserving & enhancing
our built and natural environment

Planning for our future, celebrating our past



Stimulating
a thriving economy

A district that attracts high quality employment opportunities and space for business to grow



Strengthening
community wellbeing

Strong and prosperous communities where residents live healthy lives and are empowered to make a positive impact



Delivering
quality Council services

Delivering quality services to our residents and communities

HOW DO YOUR SERVICE(S) ALIGN TO OUR CORPORATE STRATEGY PRIORITIES?

Our core services and wider project work are grouped under the four themes of Climate, Nature, People and Place. There is an exceptionally high degree of alignment between these work areas, the Council's *Better Lives for All* vision and its six themes. In particular: Adapting and mitigating climate change and increasing biodiversity; Protecting, conserving and enhancing our built and natural environment; and Strengthening community wellbeing are underpinned by our services within the District, Plymouth, Torbay and the marine setting to the AONB. Positive contributions are also made to the remaining three strategy themes, albeit it in a smaller way.

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1. NAME OF ORGANISATION AND CHARITY NUMBER IF APPLICABLE:

Name: South Hams Citizens Advice Bureau

Charity No: 1091133

Company No: 04349641

2. LEAD CONTACT NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS:

Personal data removed

3. SERVICES PROVIDED BY YOUR ORGANISATION:

(A brief summary of all services and bullet points will suffice)

Set at the heart of our community, Citizens Advice South Hams is a volunteer-led charity that gives people the knowledge and confidence they need to find a way forward with their problems. We offer free, independent, confidential and impartial advice to anyone - whoever they are and whatever their problem. Our 50+ strong workforce of trained volunteer and staff advisers are available in person, over the phone and via email. Following lockdown we have fully reopened our core services:

- Drop ins and appointments available at Follaton House, Totnes, Monday – Friday;
- Telephone advice five days/week;
- Weekly outreach at Dartmouth, Kingsbridge, Ivybridge and Totnes;
- Our [website](#) provides up to date, trusted content from national Citizens Advice 24-7;
- We provide a dedicated [email service](#) for South Hams residents.
- We recently developed a [Professional Referral Form](#) for partner agencies to contact us directly when their clients need our support.

In addition to our core services, we attract funding to run dedicated, specialist advice projects in the areas of debt, benefits, health care and energy advice. These projects provide essential additionality to clients and are an integral part of our funding model where we face a shortfall on core funding of some £100,000 each year.

4. AMOUNT (£) OF FUNDING RECEIVED FROM SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL IN 2021/22 AND DETAILS OF WHAT IT IS SPENT ON:

We are currently in receipt of three grant payments from SHDC:

- £41,867 contribution to our core services
- £10,000 to support the provision of outreaches

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- £9,000 towards an increase in rent and service charges for Follaton House, April 2019.

The first two grants have remained static since before 2012. During this period inflation has varied from 1% to its current record breaking levels. However, due to both inflation and service restructuring post Covid, our core salary costs have risen by over 30% in the same time period. This means that in real terms the grant value has depreciated 55% to what was achieved 10 years ago.

In 2021/22 our core expenditure was as follows:

Core Expenditure	2021/22
Core Salaries	130,547
Rent & Utilities*	35,556
Staff Travel & Training	6,008
Office	21,131
Governance (membership & auditing)	6,850
Other (incl marketing & fundraising)	2,742
Total	202,834
Core income**	99,021
Surplus/Deficit	-103,813

*Of the total £60,867 grant from SHDC, £36k is returned directly to the Council in rent and service charges, netting £25k towards core costs of £167k (excluding rent and utilities).

**Other core funders include Devon County Council (£35,942), the town and parish councils, and fundraising/donations.

5. PLEASE EXPLAIN IN YOUR OWN WORDS WHY YOUR SERVICES ARE NEEDED BY RESIDENTS IN SOUTH HAMS.

Our service provides an essential lifeline to those most in need in our communities. Last year our information and advice supported more than 4,700 local residents with 12,300 issues. 54% have a long-term illness or disability, 52% are living on less than £1,000/month, and 36% are families with dependent children.

Our advice is quality assured which means we can be confident the advice we give helps people move forward with their issues. National surveys show 88% of clients report they would not have been able to resolve their problems without help. Through the reduction and management of debts, and the application for welfare benefits and grants, the South Hams office records annual financial gains of around £1.4mn for our clients.

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Demand for our service is rising dramatically as the cost-of-living crisis grows. By the end of July this year, we had already seen more clients seeking charitable support and food bank referrals than during the whole of 2021. Similarly, we have seen a threefold increase in the number of people seeking help with practical energy efficiency advice, and energy debts have risen by a third and are currently the second highest debt issue after council tax arrears. We do not have sufficient resources (volunteers and support staff) to keep up with demand and are only able to answer around half the number of telephone enquiries we are currently receiving. Our expectation is that demand for our service will continue to rise.

We are actively recruiting additional volunteers to help meet this unmet demand and are working innovatively to identify and secure new sources of funding.

In the current climate, we request the Council consider the following additional grant awards:

- £17,141 in 2023/24 (rising to £18,885 in 2024/25) to reinstate the core grant to its original value
- £5,000 to support the fuel price hike - as businesses have not benefited from the energy price cap we estimate our fuel bills are likely to increase 150% this year, requiring an uplift of around £5k per annum.
- £10,000 to support the recruitment and development of additional volunteers and for further service development in response to the cost of living crisis

6. IN SEPTEMBER 2022 WE ADOPTED A NEW STRATEGY FOR THE COUNCIL TO SUPPORT OUR LONGER-TERM VISION FOR THE DISTRICT.

Achieving our Vision

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Adapting & mitigating climate change and increasing biodiversity

An environment where people and nature thrive together



Improving homes

Better homes enabling better lives for all



Protecting, conserving & enhancing our built and natural environment

Planning for our future, celebrating our past



Stimulating a thriving economy

A district that attracts high quality employment opportunities and space for business to grow



Strengthening community wellbeing

Strong and prosperous communities where residents live healthy lives and are empowered to make a positive impact



Delivering quality Council services

Delivering quality services to our residents and communities

HOW DO YOUR SERVICE(S) ALIGN TO OUR CORPORATE STRATEGY PRIORITIES?

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Adapting & mitigating climate change

Our practical energy advice helps clients save money on their bills by taking practical steps to reduce their usage, effectively use their heating and hot water systems and where possible make adaptations to their homes. Last year we helped 254 South Hams residents with 539 practical energy advice issues, helping them to reduce their emissions and manage their energy costs.

Following Covid, we have created a hybrid service delivery system, allowing our staff and volunteers to work both from home and the office. This has reduced the need for workforce travel by 60%.

Improving Homes

Last year we dealt with 910 housing issues including 67 instances of threatened or actual homelessness. We support clients in bringing issues of repair and damage to the attention of their landlords and help people to access local authority or housing association accommodation.

Stimulating a thriving economy

Core funding acts as a base from which we can attract additional funding. In 2021-22 we brought in £152k of project funding to the South Hams, and raised £10K through fundraising. This supports the employment of 18 local people in part-time roles, two of which have moved into employment following a period of volunteering with us.

Strengthening community wellbeing

Our team of trained and dedicated volunteer advisers give their time, skills and experience to enable us to reach as many people as we do. During 2021/22 they contributed £346,520 worth of volunteering hours to help deliver our services. Volunteers report increased sense of wellbeing and connection to their local community. They also gain IT and other skills.

Delivering quality Council services

Our service directly reduces demand for information and advice to the SHDC frontline customer services team and specialists.

7. HOW DO YOUR SERVICE(S) MEET STATUTORY DUTY?

We support the Council's statutory duty with regard to:

- Housing and Homelessness – helping with applications to Devon Home Choice, supporting clients to challenge housing decisions, help with discretionary housing payments, working closely with Housing Officers to ensure clients' needs are met in a timely manner;

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- Government finances – we prioritise the collection of Council Tax when clients are facing debt. We work with Council Officers to avoid bailiff and court action with regard to CT arrears, we help with access to exceptional hardship payments. We support applications for Housing Benefit/Universal Credit and Disabled Facilities Grants and other funds to support the most vulnerable;
- Planning - providing information on how to access planning advice;
- Consumer information - we advise on consumer issues and actively campaign to promote Scams awareness;
- Environmental health – we work closely with EHOs to help reduce the number of cold homes, tackle fuel poverty and to help make local homes more energy efficient

8. WHAT OTHER INCOME/FUNDING DO YOU RECEIVE AND HOW DO YOU SPEND IT?

Our projected income for the current year is £371k. This includes partnership funds for a major fuel poverty project that we deliver across Cornwall and Devon, where we distribute some £95k to other local Citizens Advice.

Our normal funding is between £250- £300k per annum.

New project income to be achieved in 2022/23:

Project area	Value 2022/23
Healthcare	64,153
Energy Advice (excluding partner payments)	95,440
Service Developments & Secondments	30,590
Benefits Advice	25,121
Misc (including Covid response funding)	9,925
Debt	37,172
Caring Town Partnership	14,000
Total	276,407

From this income we will pay direct project costs (salary, rent, travel, IT, office costs) and make a contribution to our core services. We aim to breakeven at the end of the financial year, however predications at this stage indicate a deficit of some £8k for 2022/23.

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<p>1. NAME OF ORGANISATION AND CHARITY NUMBER IF APPLICABLE:</p> <p>Name: SOUTH HAMS COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY SERVICES (SHCVS)</p> <p>Charity registration no. 1124273 Company registration no. 6215893</p>
<p>2. LEAD CONTACT NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS:</p> <p>Personal Data removed</p>
<p>3. SERVICES PROVIDED BY YOUR ORGANISATION:</p> <p>South Hams Community and Voluntary Services (SHCVS) is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee. We were established in 1995 and have been serving voluntary and community organisations in the South Hams District for over twenty five years. We are a core member of Devon Voluntary Action (DEVA), under whose umbrella we are also members of the National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA) and the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO).</p> <p>Our purpose is to support and represent the local voluntary, community and social enterprise sector (VCSE) in the South Hams district. We support existing organisations to develop and help new groups to start up, by providing one to one advice, training, networking opportunities and information, and brokering collaborations and partnerships. We promote the benefits and access to volunteering opportunities through a range of different ways. We also act as a point of contact with the local voluntary and community sector for local authorities and other agencies, and seek to ensure the sector is able to engage in strategy and policy-making.</p> <p>The services we provide include the following :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organisation support<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Start up support - SHCVS supports individuals in the establishment of new charities, community interest companies, social enterprises or voluntary organisations. Having the support of SHCVS, right from the start, helps a new group provide the best possible outcomes for its beneficiaries and manage its legal and financial responsibilities properly.o Ongoing support and development, for example:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Governance advice – support to trustees and committees on governance related subjects through one to one, training workshops and tailored support<input type="checkbox"/> Funding advice - one to one support in looking for and applying for funding <input type="checkbox"/> Financial planning advice<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer management• Learning opportunities<ul style="list-style-type: none">o South Hams CVS Learning Programme - South Hams CVS provides a diverse range of learning opportunities to help groups improve their knowledge, skills and awareness to function as effectively as possible. Trainings, workshops and skill shares are held.

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- o Examples of training workshops, in 2021-22, included: Charity Trustees Roles & Responsibilities; Funding for Community Groups; Introduction to Outcomes; Introduction to Suicide Awareness; GDPR; Introduction to Microsoft Teams; Adult Safeguarding; Infection Control
- Networking opportunities
 - o Encouraging collaboration and partnerships, South Hams CVS brings organisations together to network, to learn together and from each other, to 'see the bigger picture', and to have a voice, reducing duplication, and sharing good practice.
 - o These networks include Erme-Yealm Area and Kingsbridge & District Caring Alliances which SHCVS facilitates, bringing together local VCSE partners and statutory providers. We facilitated and helped develop the Sustainable South Hams network and facilitated a South Devon Digital Alliance. These networks are a powerful means of enabling networking and sharing of knowledge and best practice.
 - o SHCVS is also a member and active participant in other locally led networks eg Caring Town Totnes, Ivybridge Wellbeing collaboration, TQ6 Partnership, South Devon Food Alliance, South Devon Social Prescribers network and is involved in various multi-agency forums
 - o In 2021-2022 South Hams CVS was involved in multi-agency working, including with the Integrated Care Partnership, Western Local Care Partnership, South Hams & South Dartmoor Primary Care Network, Team Devon, South Devon Social Prescribers Network, Devon Partnership Trust and Devon's Community Mental Health Framework
- Volunteering support
 - o Support to individuals – online and face to face, and support to organisations - including developing and promoting their volunteering opportunities, eg through volunteer recruitment platforms, and enhancing their support to volunteers
 - o Organising volunteering campaigns, promoting volunteering and community action
- Information and advice
 - o South Hams CVS website and social media
 - o Signposting to organisations
 - o Devon Connect online platform for VCSE groups in Devon

We also work on additional projects; this is varied depending on need and our capacity to bid for projects. Projects are aligned to our strategic aims, and examples are given below under Questions 4 and 5.

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4. AMOUNT (£) OF FUNDING RECEIVED FROM SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL IN 2021/22 AND HOW THAT FUNDING WAS SPENT:

South Hams CVS received £10,000 from SHDC in 2021/2022 and again in 2022/23. The funding from SHDC is spent on delivering core CVS services to communities in South Hams district, in line with our 2021-2024 strategic plan and as described in Question 3, including the following:

- staff (1.5FTE) costs allowing us to deliver our essential core services
- continuing our membership of national organisations which, using our local intelligence, inform and lobby government and funders, so policy and funding supports local charities and community groups
- professional fees to fulfil our legal obligations

Highlights of our work in 2021-2022 included the following:

- providing more than 40 VCSE organisations with one to one development support including identifying and applying for funding, development of policies and procedures, volunteer management, governance, developing new projects and activities
- held 12 training events with 122 attendances, benefitting more than 60 VCSE organisations
- more than 60 organisations benefitted from SHCVS networking opportunities
- over 150 VCSE organisations received regular bulletins, updates and newsletters
- many individuals received support in finding volunteering placements through online access, volunteers week promotion and one to one support
- more than 150 people were supported to access community resources by SHCVS Social Prescribing Link workers
- more than 35 VCSE organisations received one to one support in advertising their volunteering opportunities
- CVS worked with many individuals and partners to help support new initiatives including:
 - o support to establish a climate and biodiversity networking group which became Sustainable South Hams
 - o South Dartmoor Community Energy – Redress project to reach more people
 - o development of home help and hospital discharge support services
 - o Devon Partnership Trust to establish monthly drop ins supporting VCSE organisations and others supporting people with mental health issues
 - o bringing together VCSE organisations to provide response to SHDC consultation 'Better Lives for All'
 - o Voluntary & Community Sector Emergencies Partnership - provision of data weekly via NAVCA on needs and gaps locally

We would like to take this opportunity to thank SHDC for its invaluable support without which it would have not been possible to provide the support to community and voluntary organisations that it has done, and through the very difficult time of the Covid-19 pandemic during these past two years.

For 2023/24, in the aftermath of the covid-19 pandemic and with the looming cost of living crisis, the important role of SHCVS in supporting local community and voluntary organisations will be needed more than ever. SHCVS hopes that SHDC will be able to continue its support in 2023/24 and beyond, and indeed hopes that SHDC may be able to increase its annual funding to SHCVS, in

Appendix A - Partnership Funding Applications – Sept 2022

recognition of its important work in support of the voluntary and community sector in South Hams District. SHCVS looks forward to continued close collaboration with SHDC in the coming years

5. WHAT OTHER INCOME/FUNDING DO YOU RECEIVE AND HOW DO YOU SPEND IT?

Our income varies from year to year, depending on our communities' aspirations and projects supported in partnership with other Devon CVSs and communities. Our SHDC grant is very important to us, enabling us to maintain the foundation of our core services. SHDC funding also gives us the capacity to apply to other funders, evidencing the support from SHDC towards our

common aims of supporting quality of life for South Hams residents. As a result, some of the funds and projects which we have received extra funding for in 2021/22 were as follows:

Funder	£ received	How we spend it
South Hams Primary Care Network (PCN)	38,078	Provision of social prescribing service, including provision from Dartmouth Caring
Mewstone PCN	10,263	Provision of social prescribing service
Devon Voluntary Action (DeVA)	11,794	Delivery of DCC's Containing Outbreak Management DeVA agreement including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of Volunteering Campaigns • Promotion and Engagement of VCSE in 'Devon Connect' new online resource • Training and Resource for local VCSE
Iybridge Town Council	2,000	Provision of Iybridge Community Connector role
National Lottery – Partnership Programme	53,310	TQ6 Community Partnership Community Hub Project & employment of co-ordinator role
DCC & SHDC - Councillor Locality grants	1,220	Iybridge Hub – venues and resources for showcasing local groups and activities
DCC - Digital Champions funding	1,100	Pilot digital drop in in Newton & Noss; set up of South Devon Digital Network
Active Devon - Naturally Healthy May	200	Set up of Modbury Walking for Health Low level walking group
West Devon CVS – South Devon Food Alliance	875	Contribution to report and recommendations on West Devon & South Hams Emergency Food provision
DeVA – Community Health & Social Care Team (CHSCT) agreement	4,460	Delivery of community development supporting CHSCT
DeVA – Home Help	31,199	Resources for local organisations to deliver home help services
NAVCA	1,500	Information sharing with National Voluntary & Community Sector Emergencies Partnership

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Further information on any of the above can be provided if needed. We also received income, a total of £1,473, from donations. Membership was offered free during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Note: for all the projects listed above, the funding was largely all for the specific projects, with mostly a maximum of 10% contributing to CVS core work. Only the funding from SHDC, and from donations and membership, is totally for SHCVS core work.

Please note: The figures given in this report have not yet been examined by our accountants. Our Annual Accounts and Annual Report for 2021-2022 will be completed by the end of October 2022, and will be submitted to SHDC once finalised.

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6. PLEASE EXPLAIN IN YOUR OWN WORDS WHY YOUR SERVICES ARE NEEDED BY RESIDENTS IN SOUTH HAMS

South Hams CVS has seven overarching strategic aims. Our aims support voluntary and community organisations and individuals to play a central role in building strong cohesive communities supporting the residents of South Hams.

These aims are :

- that local voluntary and community organisations
 - o are thriving and sustainable
 - o are safe and effective in meeting community needs
 - o are inclusive and reach out to diverse communities
 - o are collaborative and connected
 - o have the ability, confidence and opportunity to influence strategic priorities, policies and decision-making
 - o are able to recruit and retain volunteers to help deliver services and support the running of their organisations
- All people have the opportunity to become active volunteers, benefitting their communities and themselves

South Hams CVS supplies a vital service to communities in South Hams and works hard towards building safer stronger communities, a sense of belonging and an appreciation of the value and diversity of people in the community.

By helping individuals in our South Hams communities to help others, by forming groups and developing volunteering, we help provide opportunities for greater community cohesion and an extra sense of purpose and value in people's lives. For the most vulnerable, having access to community support and opportunities for taking part in groups and activities can make the difference between feeling desperate and alone to being part of a positive community, getting the right support at the right time and lessening crisis and crime.

We help residents of South Hams to

- have access to activities that support positive healthy lifestyles such as volunteering and physical activity
- develop new ideas for their communities and enterprises and projects to build local resilience through using the assets of their communities to improve people's wellbeing
- try different ways of doing things
- access local community support services, by helping to develop services where need is identified
- undertake volunteering, helping them develop employability and other skills, feel valued and achieve a sense of purpose
- benefit from more joined up support as a result of our forums, alliances and networks
- improve their wellbeing, helping reduce health inequalities and social isolation

7. IN SEPTEMBER 2022 WE ADOPTED A NEW STRATEGY FOR THE COUNCIL TO SUPPORT OUR LONGER-TERM VISION FOR THE DISTRICT

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Achieving our Vision

To support us in achieving our vision, we have aligned our actions to a number of themes.

Each theme will be led by an Executive Member and supported by a senior officer.

In the following pages, we set out our Thematic Delivery Plans for each area.



Adapting & mitigating
climate change and increasing biodiversity
An environment where people and nature thrive together



Improving homes
Better homes enabling better lives for all



Protecting, conserving & enhancing
our built and natural environment
Planning for our future, celebrating our past



Stimulating
a thriving economy
A district that attracts high quality employment opportunities and space for business to grow



Strengthening
community wellbeing
Strong and prosperous communities where residents live healthy lives and are empowered to make a positive impact



Delivering
quality Council services
Delivering quality services to our residents and communities

HOW DO YOUR SERVICE(S) ALIGN TO OUR CORPORATE STRATEGY PRIORITIES?

SHCVS's three year strategy 2021-2024 for supporting local voluntary and community action in the South Hams sets out our vision for "South Hams to be a place where voluntary and community action thrives and where voluntary and community organisations are dynamic, resilient, sustainable and inclusive, playing a central role in building strong cohesive communities, and improving the quality of life and environment for all".

Aligning with SHDC corporate strategy priorities, the core purpose of the CVS is to make a positive impact on the lives of local people through the promotion and development of valued and accessible services, helping communities meet their needs and achieve their aspirations, helping build better lives for all.

South Hams CVS supports the aspirations laid out in SHDC's corporate strategy and particularly views itself as an important partner in the area of 'Strengthening Community Wellbeing'. South Hams CVS plays a vital role in contributing to improving health and wellbeing outcomes for residents, through our support in strengthening communities and volunteer led action as well as our projects such as Social Prescribing.

Our locally based staff understand local issues and we can identify ways to grow communities and work together to make a positive difference for South Hams residents.

South Hams CVS:

- influences and coordinates local activity supporting community wellbeing through community development, networking and training opportunities
- acts as our local VCSE sector's voice in strategic discussions and amplifies the voice of the sector, local organisations and people from across the different communities in South Hams. Specifically, we work closely with the Local Care Partnerships (LCPs), Team Devon, and Community Mental Health Framework
- supports frontline organisations to deliver effective services and collaborations helping towards the vision of safe and strong communities
- our national body NAVCA contributes to national forums, policy and strategy development

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NAME OF ORGANISATION AND CHARITY NUMBER IF APPLICABLE

Name: Ivybridge & District Community Transport Association

Charity registration no. **1123577**

Company registration no. **6519453**

Personal data removed

SERVICES PROVIDED BY YOUR ORGANISATION:

(A brief summary of all services and bullet points will suffice)

We are a not for profit charity providing transport services to enable residents to maintain their independence and dignity. We help to support people remaining able to continue living in their own homes whilst alleviating isolation & loneliness.

We provide

Dial – a –ride, wheelchair accessible (door to door) (Section 19) minibus services to the areas of :

Bickleigh P.C., Brixton P.C., Cornwood P.C., Dartington P.C., Ermington P.C, Harford P.C., Ivybridge P.C., Newton & Noss P.C., Shaugh Prior P.C., South Brent P.C., Sparkwell P.C., Ugborough P.C., Wembury P.C.& Yealmpton P.C.

We provide a timetabled service which provides eligible residents within each parish covered an opportunity to go on at least a half day trip at least once a week to a local town or shopping centre. This service is charged at a fixed price per passenger. This service is run under the guidance of Devon County Council Community Transport Co-ordination Service.

Eligible residents are those who are 'Inhabitants of the area who are in need of such service because of age, sickness or disability (mental or physical), social exclusion, or poverty, or because of a lack of availability of adequate and appropriate public passenger services.

We provide a volunteer car service to enable those with no transport of their own to access primarily medical and healthcare appointments but also some social and wellbeing events.

We provide this service to

Bickleigh P.C., Brixton P.C., Cornwood P.C., Diptford P.C., Ermington P.C, Harford P.C., Ivybridge P.C., Modbury P.C., Newton & Noss P.C., Shaugh Prior P.C., South Brent P.C., Sparkwell P.C., Ugborough P.C., Wembury P.C. & Yealmpton P.C.

We also provide (Section 19) scheduled minibus services for access to the local towns to

Blackawton P.C., & Dittisham P.C. through the West Dart Community Bus

We also provide Telephone befriending.

AMOUNT (£) OF FUNDING RECEIVED FROM SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL IN 2021/22 AND HOW THAT FUNDING WAS SPENT: £5,710

This money is spent on vehicle running costs and administrative costs of the Ivybridge & District Community Transport Dial a Ride minibus services.

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Our Total Scheme expenditure last year came to £115,309 of which SHDC contributed 4.95%, Devon County Council contributed 22.42% and Town & Parish Councils contributed 2.06%.

Total Running Costs (not including depreciation) £102,308

WHAT OTHER INCOME/FUNDING DO YOU RECEIVE AND HOW DO YOU SPEND IT?

Income

Grants - Devon CC	£25,854
Grants –SHDC	£5,710
Grants - Other Councils	£2,375
Grants HM Govt	£990
Grants & Donations	£5,066
Fundraising	£1,590
Devon County Council Contracts	£21,589
Fares	£9,207
Fuel Duty reclaimed	£688
Deposit Interest	£3,415
Other Income	£13,223
Total Income	£89,707

Expenditure

Scheme Costs (Fuel, vehicle maintenance, vehicle insurance and lease charges)	£21,424
Wages, tax & Nat Insurance	£70,340
Office rent & Services	£2,992
Consultancy & Advertising	£1,006
Accountants & Payroll & Computer Services fees	£2,518
Telephones	£1023
Insurances	£542
Stationary & Postage	£286
Sundry expenses	£933
Travel expenses	£1,045
Vol Car Driver expenses	£199
Depreciation	£13,001
Total Expenditure	£115,309

PLEASE EXPLAIN IN YOUR OWN WORDS WHY YOUR SERVICES ARE NEEDED BY RESIDENTS IN SOUTH HAMS.

Our services enable the elderly, infirm, disabled, disadvantaged, socially and rurally isolated to remain independent, able to remain in their own homes, strengthening community bonds and reducing isolation and loneliness. By increasing mobility and reducing isolation and loneliness we improve dignity, health and wellbeing.

We achieve this by enabling those with restricted mobility or lack of access to transport to be able to access essential services such as health care, shops, banks and other services as well as undertake

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their regular weekly shopping. We also create a supportive community with day trips enabling the availability of social interaction through pop up lunch clubs, access to social groups such as Age Concern and independent access for the disabled to some other activities such as art courses at Seale Hayne.

We provided much needed public transport in rural parishes where there is little or in some cases no other public transport available as well as providing a friendly and support network.

9. IN SEPTEMBER 2022 WE ADOPTED A NEW STRATEGY FOR THE COUNCIL TO SUPPORT OUR LONGER-TERM VISION FOR THE DISTRICT.

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Strengthening
community wellbeing

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Delivering
quality Council services

Delivering quality services to our residents and communities

HOW DO YOUR SERVICE(S) ALIGN TO OUR CORPORATE STRATEGY PRIORITIES?

As a not for profit Charity we provide a very cost efficient transport service for those other whys excluded for a very modest cost to Councils. In 2013/14 (the last time such an analysis was undertaken by Devon County Council) we were the second most cost efficient of all the 16 DCC funded Dial a ride services in Devon at the time by cost per passenger and third by cost per mile so delivering **efficient and effective services**.

We help those with limited mobility and those without access to other public transport to remain in their homes when they might otherwise be forced to move to supported accommodation, reducing the demand for supported accommodation by those who would rather remain in their own homes for longer, allowing those who need it most to access supported housing we thereby contribute to **Enabling Homes that meet the needs of all**.

We help local businesses thrive by transporting people to those shopping centres. In November 2018 we undertook a passenger spend survey for Devon County Council & it was estimated from the extrapolation of those surveys that passengers spent £4,600 as a result of the transport service Mostly in South Hams shopping areas and cafes thus enhancing **South Hams enterprises to thrive and business to grow**.

Our services create a community of their own and allow people to access the greater community thus very much **creating strong and empowered communities**.

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Community public transport by transporting groups together provide relatively low emissions per capita transport and reduce the number of vehicles on the road (were family & friends to be called on to transport our passengers individually). Thereby causing **less damage than otherwise to our natural environment**. We would of course be able to provide considerably more environmentally friendly transport were funds available to provide alternative fuel vehicles.

Our Services particularly help contribute to **positive safe and healthy lifestyles for those most in need** by enhancing independence, enabling access to healthy shopping alternatives thereby improving diet, reducing loneliness and isolation and allowing access to social and wellbeing activities. We find that our services often enable the only outing and social interaction some passengers access in the week. Our weekly outings also encourage some movement and exercise to by excursions to the coast or moors.

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<p>NAME OF ORGANISATION AND CHARITY NUMBER IF APPLICABLE</p> <p>Name: Newton Abbot Community Transport Association</p> <p>Charity registration no. 1124719 Company registration no. 6508034</p>
<p>LEAD CONTACT NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS:</p> <p>Personal data removed</p>
<p>SERVICES PROVIDED BY YOUR ORGANISATION: (A brief summary of all services and bullet points will suffice)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Wheelchair accessible vehiclesRing & Ride door to door shopper minibusesMinibuses for community groups, clubs and schoolsShopmobility scooter, wheelchair and walker hireAids to Daily Living NHS/DCC ApprovedLocal Scheduled Bus Services
<p>AMOUNT (£) OF FUNDING RECEIVED FROM SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL IN 2021/22 AND HOW THAT FUNDING WAS SPENT</p> <p>£7,370 received in 2021/22, which helps with running costs of the Ring & Ride door to door minibus service which NACTA operates for passengers in Totnes, Dartmouth and surrounding areas. Running costs include maintenance, servicing, MoT tests, insurance, fuel, Road Fund Licence, etc. of the minibuses and employment costs, salaries, training, etc. for the drivers. Over time, NACTA also aims to build up sufficient reserves to help towards the cost of purchasing replacement specialist wheelchair-friendly vehicles, required to keep the service running.</p>
<p>WHAT OTHER INCOME/FUNDING DO YOU RECEIVE AND HOW DO YOU SPEND IT?</p> <p>Devon County Council helps fund our Ring & Ride service for Totnes, Dartmouth and surrounding areas each year and in 2022 contributed £14,755, which also helps with the running and vehicle replacement costs listed above.</p>
<p>PLEASE EXPLAIN IN YOUR OWN WORDS WHY YOUR SERVICES ARE NEEDED BY RESIDENTS IN SOUTH HAMS.</p> <p>Newton Abbot Community Transport Association stepped in around five years ago to help provide an essential wheelchair friendly door to door minibus service, when the former Totnes & Dartmouth Ring & Ride charity was in financial difficulty and closed. Our services are needed by residents in South Hams because they are often the only means whereby less mobile, elderly or disabled people can escape their homes, speak to other people and tackle their own shopping. Our drivers are trained and able to help passengers with walkers, wheelchairs, shopping trollies and bags of shopping, often carrying shopping into passengers' homes.</p>

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Better homes enabling better lives for all



Protecting, conserving & enhancing our built and natural environment

Planning for our future, celebrating our past



Stimulating a thriving economy

A district that attracts high quality employment opportunities and space for business to grow



Strengthening community wellbeing

Strong and prosperous communities where residents live healthy lives and are empowered to make a positive impact



Delivering quality Council services

Delivering quality services to our residents and communities

HOW DO YOUR SERVICE(S) ALIGN TO OUR CORPORATE STRATEGY PRIORITIES?

Adapting and mitigating: Our fifteen-seat Ring & Ride minibuses encourage passengers to share transport, rather than trying to arrange solo journeys.

Stimulating a thriving economy: Passengers are able to shop locally, supporting independent, small businesses, rather than shopping on-line with large supermarkets.

Strengthening community wellbeing: Passengers often tell us that the only time they see anyone to talk to is on their Ring & Ride journey, they look out for each other and some keep in contact between trips. Shopping is a reason to leave the house and encourages passengers to walk and socialise, particularly important post-Covid.

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NAME OF ORGANISATION AND CHARITY NUMBER IF APPLICABLE

Name: The South Hams Museums Group:

Britannia Museum, RNC Dartmouth. (Not a registered charity)

Dartmouth Museum. Charity no. 306635

Kingsbridge Cookworthy Museum. Charity no. 20631R

Salcombe Maritime Museum. Charity no. 268909

Totnes Museum. Charity no. 296684

Totnes Costume Museum Charity no. 277327

2. LEAD CONTACT NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS:

Roger Barrett, Curator and Vice-Chairman, Salcombe Maritime Museum

rogbarrett@btinternet.com. Tel. 01548 854108, mob. 07717 662 667

For further information on the data contained within this report please contact

Victoria.harding@bristol.gov.uk Programme Manager, [South West Museum Development](#)

3. SERVICES PROVIDED BY YOUR ORGANISATION:

(A brief summary of all services and bullet points will suffice)

- Museum, Heritage and Cultural services in five towns within South Hams
- Educational services including outreach to schools and community organisations
- Provision of all-weather tourist facilities supporting the local economy and the viability of town centres and post-pandemic recovery
- Provision of opportunities for volunteering, strengthening community wellbeing
- Preservation, access to and celebration of our cultural heritage for future generations

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5. AMOUNT (£) OF FUNDING RECEIVED FROM SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL IN 2021/22 AND HOW THAT FUNDING WAS SPENT

South West Museum Development has previously received £4,000 of funding from SHDC in each year 2020/21 and 2021/22. This funding has enabled the museums and heritage organisations in the South Hams to access grants and specialist museum development services from South West Museum Development with a value of at least £18,000. The range of support services received has included:

1. £11,951 in Local Museum Development Officer provision for South Hams (match funding investment by SWMD in the Officer).
2. £1,064 in specialist consultancy advice and support to museums (e.g., qualified conservation and collection care along with resources and equipment for collection management)
3. £3,327 awarded in SWMD grant funding in the South Hams museums
4. £335 in delegate training places for staff and volunteers working in South Hams museums
5. £1,195 investment from externally funded projects – Historic England funded Pest Partners project to support post pandemic priority collections care activity.

Additionally a further £4,000 was invested by SWMD on behalf of museums across Devon to assess their specific development needs following the Pandemic and the most effective approach to providing dedicated local MDO support to achieve sustainability and development in the future.

6. WHAT OTHER INCOME/FUNDING DO YOU RECEIVE AND HOW DO YOU SPEND IT?

Due to the impact of the pandemic on museum operations the following data applies averages from the two years 2020/21 - 2021/22 for 5 out of 6 museums providing data. Totnes Fashion and Textiles Museum did not provide data due the closure of the building for repair. The combined income and expenditure reported by the group of 5 museums (Britannia Museum, RNC Dartmouth, Dartmouth Museum, Kingsbridge Cookworthy Museum, Salcombe Maritime Museum and Totnes Museum), was as follows:

Total income £110,390	Total expenditure: £145,804
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Most income is derived from visitor entry fees (or donations from the public where 'free entry' is operated), shop sales, member's subscriptions and other contributed income. Expenditure is typically on directed at core operational costs including rent, services, insurance and energy costs, special displays and projects, collection care and conservation.

During the Pandemic, museums and other cultural venues were subject to enforced closure for much of 2020 which extended into 2021. When it was possible to return to opening, there had been a marked change in the levels of visitor capacity (often around 20% due to Covid measures) as well as visitor confidence. Across England visitor numbers fell by an average of 88% on previous 2019/20 levels leading to an 75% drop in admission income levels – critical income for many museums across England. Museums also experienced a 50% drop in volunteering capacity. Whilst there were several national Government financial support measures in place, only a third of museums were to receive funding and those who did, were predominately larger, urban based museums.

It should be noted that the support provided by local authorities such as the Retail Hospitality Leisure Grant provided a life line to many smaller, community heritage organisations and museums. Notably these reached over 61% of the sector and were delivered swiftly and simply. This demonstrates the value of devolving such programmes to local government where support can be targeted and responsive, reaching the beneficiaries at a time of critical need.

Key museum statistics:

- The total number of visitors received over the year* ⁶ across 4 of the museums was 7,735.
- 134 volunteers across 4 of the 6 museums contributed 4,736 hours. ⁷
- Only 3 museums employ staff, a total of 4 members of staff are employed equivalent to 3 FTE.

In addition to the grants received by 4 museums over 2020/21 and 2021/22 from South West Museum Development, these museums have also reported successfully securing in the region of a further £92,968 from other funders which demonstrates how these organisations are proactive in securing and delivering programmes of work for the benefit of local communities as well as their own organisational resilience.

⁶ [Average of 2020/21 and 2021/22](#)

⁷ [Average of 2020/21 and 2021/22](#)

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7. PLEASE EXPLAIN IN YOUR OWN WORDS WHY YOUR SERVICES ARE NEEDED BY RESIDENTS IN SOUTH HAMS.

More than 150 volunteers undertake the role of governance and the workforce of these six museums are also themselves residents of South Hams. They give their time, dedication, and expertise to ensure the preservation of engagement with and appreciation of the heritage of the South Hams. Beyond telling the stories of people and place, these volunteers operate the museum services at a professional level, achieving and maintaining sector standards in governance, collection care, audience engagement and organisational development. [The UK Museum Accreditation Standard](#) is both rigorous to achieve but also to maintain. The delivery of heritage services by the independent charity sector provides an important and highly beneficial service to both the public and government which delivers social and economic benefit.

The museums provide are an important feature in engaging visitors and extending their dwell time leading to economic benefit ranging from parking ticket income and increasing secondary spend for other businesses in the area. There is no doubt that the preservation and access to historic buildings and collections enabled through this time, dedication and expertise of the South Hams museums provides a significant enhancement to the towns in which these museums are located.

The museums are provided services for residents by:

- providing cultural and heritage services which are of educational benefit and which enhance a sense of belonging and civic pride
- providing opportunities for volunteering and community engagement, digital engagement for many '3rd age' volunteers
- supporting the local economy by attracting visitors to our town centres
- celebrating and preserving our cultural heritage for the benefit of future generations

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8. IN SEPTEMBER 2022 WE ADOPTED A NEW STRATEGY FOR THE COUNCIL TO SUPPORT OUR LONGER-TERM VISION FOR THE DISTRICT.

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Delivering quality services to our residents and communities

HOW DO YOUR SERVICE(S) ALIGN TO OUR CORPORATE STRATEGY PRIORITIES?

Adapting & mitigating climate change and increasing biodiversity

Museums and heritage organisations can provide a space for, and contribute to, the wider debate on the impact of the climate crisis through their collections on topics such as the reduction in biodiversity, increase in waste materials and sustainable energy use.

As trusted cultural and civic spaces museums can communicate the challenges facing society at a local level and beyond, to inspire and motivate residents and visitors alike to play their part in reducing emissions and waste, as well as supporting biodiversity in their local area. Historic Buildings and collections can provide important insights on how changes over time have affected local places across a wide range of contexts such as social history that illustrates the changes to local domestic life or the changes to agricultural practice to provide just two examples.

Improving homes

Cultural infrastructure within our towns and villages encourages regeneration and development of place supporting local people to stay in their area.

Protecting, conserving & enhancing our built and natural environment

Museums and heritage organisations and sites form an important connection to our past through their buildings and their collections. They celebrate our heritage and protect it for future generations – a key focus for SHDC ‘Celebrating our heritage and protecting it for future needs’. Engagement in heritage supports social cohesion, sense of place and belonging and a powerful educational factor for children and young people in understanding their local heritage.

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Stimulating a thriving economy

Museum and heritage organisations are all weather attractions. Heritage plays a vital part in South Hams £260m per year tourism economy and it's the important need for ongoing recovery from the pandemic. The average museum in Devon's pre-pandemic (2019/20) economic impact was £131,796 and had the equivalent of 2FTE staff and 50 volunteers contributing an average of £37,710 worth of volunteer hours per annum. Museums are striving to build back to these prepandemic levels of visitors, income and volunteer capacity.

Strengthening community wellbeing

Museum and heritage spaces play a key role in strengthening a community's wellbeing. They provide unique, safe, engaging places to connect residents with their heritage and distinct local area creating a sense of place and instilling civic pride. Engaging with heritage builds skills, confidence and empowers residents to make positive impacts for their communities.

Museum and heritage organisations provide opportunities to connect with others through volunteering opportunities - supporting residents to connect with others, mitigating social isolation, supporting mental and physical health, and allowing residents to learn new skills including employability skills, returning to work opportunities, as well as giving back to their local community.

Delivering quality council services

This application outlines the wide range of ways in which museums in South Hams have contributed to the delivery of quality council services by caring for, preserving and providing access to important historic buildings and heritage collections.

By securing this funding from South Hams District Council it has, and will continue to, enhance the collaboration and partnership of museums across the South Hams. The £4000 per annum will act as seed funding, unlocking access to regional Arts Council England funding (maintained at levels of

2020-22 through to 2024) and provide valuable access to sector expertise in areas such as

Conservation and Collection Care, Sustainable Volunteer Management, Technical Museum Accreditation advice, further grant programmes administered by South West Museum Development. This SHDC funding equates to a 2.5 return on investment.