

Our impact 2023-24



waltoncharity
Building a thriving Elmbridge community

£790K

of funding was committed across our priority areas: poverty, education, housing, health, and isolation.

75%

of grants to our community partners supported local children and families.

1,322

food parcels were distributed to 3,058 local people through Walton & Hersham Foodbank.

114

local families received support through The Bridge.

135

people were housed in our independent living and social housing properties.

35

local organisations benefitted from space in Charities House and our community properties.

2,132

local people used our community green spaces.

£72K

was raised through our match-funded Cost of Living and Christmas appeals.

5,500

hours of volunteer time supported our work at The Bridge, Foodbank and our green spaces.

Community



Working with our local community

“2023-24 was another challenging year. Living costs continued to rise, putting extra pressure on household budgets. But thanks to the fantastic support from our local community and our strong local partnerships, we have been able to face these challenging times head on.”

Rob Mills, Chief Executive

In 2023, Walton & Hersham Foodbank marked 10 years of operating in our local area. We challenged the community to fill 10 Minis with food donations to mark the anniversary. In total, **2.2 tonnes was donated** – enough food to fill 20 Minis!

In January 2024, **HRH The Duchess of Edinburgh** visited Burview Hall and some of our green spaces to learn more about our outdoor wellbeing projects and community partnerships.

146 volunteers from local companies and across our community generously gave their time to keep our foodbanks running and bring our green spaces to life.

Find out more about our work and grants awarded at waltoncharity.org.uk



Poverty



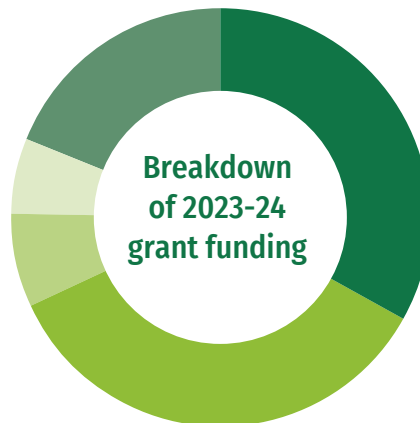
Alleviating financial poverty and hardship

As living costs continue to rise, we are seeing more people across Elmbridge struggling to make ends meet.

In 2023-24, we committed more than **£790,000** in grants to support our local community. This included over **£250,000** to fund everyday essentials such as food, clothing, and utility bills.

Working with Walton & Hersham Foodbank, we continued to provide emergency food and support. We also piloted a new approach to supporting working families struggling with the rising cost of living.

Our pilot project, The Bridge, offered food, household supplies, and practical support to working families in our area.



■ Poverty

■ Education

■ Housing

■ Isolation

■ Health



75%

of children living in poverty locally are from working families.

“For us, The Bridge was a safe space that not only offered support with food but was a place where we could ask questions and for advice. They were supportive in more ways than they will ever know.”

Bridge client



Education



Improving educational opportunity

Essentials like childcare cost more in Elmbridge than many other parts of the country and, along with uniforms and other school costs, put extra pressure on already stretched households.

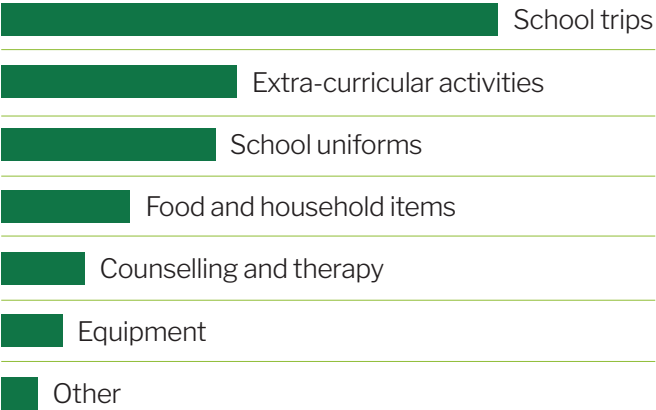
Last year, we funded £135,000 of skills training and catch-up sessions for young people from low-income families through our community grants programme.

Continuing our support for local families, we awarded £75,000 through our Opportunities Fund to 23 schools to help with the cost of clubs, trips, uniform, food, and mental health support.

“The Opportunities Fund has an enormous impact on pupils and their families, enabling them to attend residential, trips and clubs they otherwise would not be able to afford. We ensure that every penny is used to help the families who need support.”

Local Headteacher

How local schools used their Opportunities Fund



Left: Brooklands Innovation Academy inspiring young people to consider STEM careers.



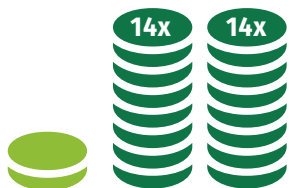
Housing



Providing affordable housing

With the demand for affordable housing continuing to grow, we have worked with local partners to offer accommodation to people at risk of homelessness.

We also provided homes for **111 people** in our two independent living almshouses.



Average house prices in Elmbridge are almost **14 times** average earnings, and rents are nearly double the national average.

Health



Improving health and reducing isolation

With funding from Your Fund Surrey, we launched a programme of physical and mental health activities at our new Tree Canopy project.

“The activities at the Tree Canopy are fantastic. My child can explore the area and be creative in ways that other spaces can’t facilitate.”

Local parent

We also welcomed **47 volunteers** at our community allotment, and continued to provide allotment plots for more than **450** local residents.

“Sitting down together over lunch is great. I hadn’t anticipated the social aspect of the allotment would be so important to me.”

Community allotment volunteer

Our community grants, totalling **£143,000**, supported health and isolation projects across Elmbridge, including sessions for new parents, activities for refugees, and telephone counselling support for people across the borough.

Left: Our almshouse residents joining in celebrations for the King’s coronation.

