



# RHP's Social Value Fund

Investing in communities for today and tomorrow

Progress report: 2024 - 2026



# Background

RHP Group is working in partnership with The Hill Group on the regeneration of Ham Close.

There will be 452 new affordable and private sale homes and two new community facilities replacing the existing 192 homes.

As part of the partnership, £250,000 a year over eight years will be invested in social value and sustainability to support and build stronger communities in all areas that RHP operate.

This investment in our communities will contribute towards the improvement of the economic, social, and environmental wellbeing of our customers and the communities that they live in.



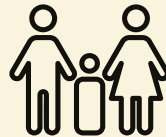
# Social impact so far

## Who we're supporting



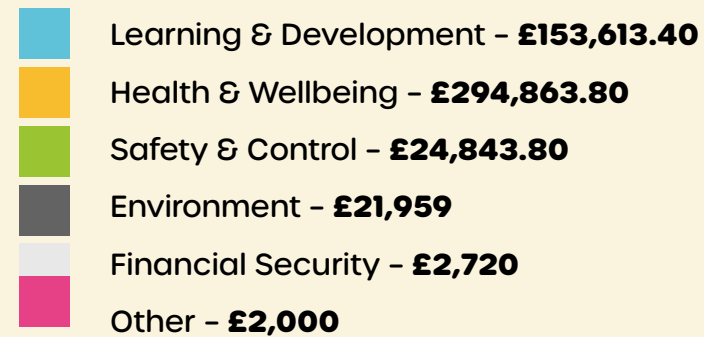
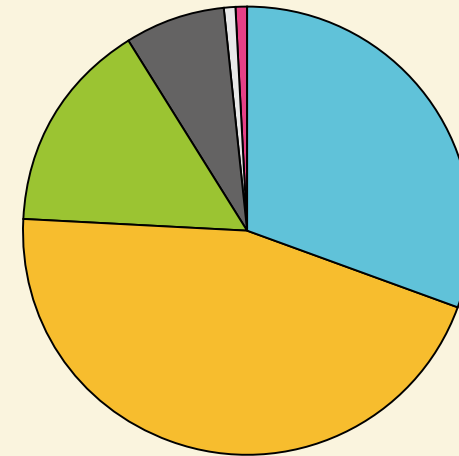
- 21** charities
- 5** not-for-profit groups
- 3** schools
- 2** social enterprises
- 5** community groups
- 1** individual applicant

## Who we are impacting



- 474** children
- 290** young people
- 194** families
- 335** older people
- 305** adults with care or support needs
- 500+** local residents

## Funding by theme



# Making a difference to local communities

You can find the full list of projects we've awarded grants to from autumn 2024 - spring 2026 at the end of this document.

Here are some case studies which show the difference the fund has made on a selection of projects in our local community so far.



## EAL Friendship Group

Learning and Development | £9,276

The Richmond EAL Friendship Group has been supporting adults across Richmond borough since 2001. It works with people whose lack of English language skills can make everyday life difficult, including many parents of children in local schools who may struggle to access services or feel part of their community.

RHP's Social Value Fund has brought this provision directly into the local community. Free, informal English language classes now run at the Ham Youth Centre on Ham Close. Local residents, including many from the estate itself, can build their confidence, improve their language skills, and connect with the people around them.

Since it was founded, the wider Richmond EAL Friendship Group has supported more than 1,000 learners speaking 66 different languages. Many go on to volunteer, find employment, or access further education. The group doesn't just build practical skills. It builds lasting friendships and connections between people of very different backgrounds.

**Cornelia Costeanu from EAL Friendship Group says:** *"The Ham Close Social Value Grant has allowed us to bring our English language classes directly into the heart of the community. We're reaching residents who wouldn't otherwise have access to this kind of support, and the impact on their confidence and daily lives has been remarkable."*

## Walnut Tree Allotment Site

Health and Wellbeing | £15,000

Walnut Tree Meadow Allotment is one of Ham's most-loved green spaces. Situated close to Ham House, it has given local residents the chance to grow their own food, connect with nature, and be part of a close-knit community of growers for decades.

RHP's Social Value Fund has funded the creation of a fully accessible gardening space at the site. This means residents who may previously have been unable to take part due to mobility challenges or disability can now get involved. The project has delivered raised beds, improved pathways, and adapted facilities designed to make growing accessible to everyone.

The benefits go well beyond gardening. Access to green space and the chance to grow food have well-documented positive effects on mental and physical health. This is particularly true for older residents and those living with long-term conditions. This project is helping more people from Ham and the surrounding area enjoy an activity that supports their overall wellbeing and keeps them connected to their community.

**Ian Hyde from Walnut Tree Allotment says:** *"This funding has transformed what we're able to offer. We've created a space that is truly open to everyone in Ham, regardless of mobility or ability. The response from the community has been overwhelming."*





## Cassell Hospital Charitable Trust

Health and Wellbeing | £20,000

The Cassell Hospital on Ham Common is a nationally recognised NHS specialist service. It treats adults and young people with severe and complex personality disorders and complex trauma, often people who have exhausted all other avenues of mental health support. The hospital's Charitable Trust raises funds to enhance care and the patient experience, going beyond what NHS commissioning alone can provide.

RHP's Social Value Fund has supported the Trust's Better Lives Project, which funds social and therapeutic activities for both current inpatients and those who have recently left the hospital. This includes the Better Lives Outreach programme, which supports former patients through weekly activities such as visits to galleries and museums. It gives them the chance to meet with clinical staff and other former patients in a supportive but informal setting.

For people leaving the Cassell after months of intensive inpatient treatment, this kind of continued connection isn't a luxury. It's a lifeline. The programme builds confidence, provides peer support, and helps ease the often challenging transition back into independent living.

**Maureen Miller from Cassell Hospital Charitable Trust says:** *"The support from RHP has made a real difference to the lives of people leaving the Cassell. It's allowed us to extend our reach into the local community and provide continuity of care at what can be a very difficult time."*

## Ham and Petersham SOS

Health and Wellbeing | £12,354

Ham and Petersham SOS is the dedicated neighbourhood care charity for older and disabled residents of Ham and Petersham. Run largely by volunteers, it provides a wide range of practical and social services, from transport to medical appointments and a weekly shopping bus, to befriending visits, monthly outings, and regular social activities.

RHP's Social Value Fund has funded a year-long programme of activities designed to improve the health, wellbeing, and social connectivity of older residents in the area. Loneliness and isolation among older people can have serious consequences for both mental and physical health. The activities funded through this grant, from social clubs and group outings to one-to-one befriending, play a vital role in keeping people engaged, independent, and connected.

For many of the charity's members, these services are the main point of social contact in their week. The grant has helped Ham and Petersham SOS reach more older residents across Ham Close and the wider Richmond borough. With a dedicated team of volunteers supporting the charity's work, this is community-led care at its best.

**Jill Hancock from Ham & Petersham SOS says:** *"This grant has helped us do more for the older residents of Ham than we've ever been able to before. It's allowed us to expand our activities and reach people who really need that connection and support in their daily lives."*





## St Richard's Church Ham Footpath Restoration

Health and Wellbeing | £18,000

St Richard's Church has been at the heart of the Ham community for generations. As well as its regular worship, the church provides a vital gathering point for local residents, hosting community events, support groups, and activities that bring people of all ages and backgrounds together.

RHP's Social Value Fund has funded the restoration of the footpath that runs through the church grounds. Years of wear had left the surface uneven and difficult to navigate, creating real challenges for older residents, those with mobility difficulties, and people using wheelchairs or pushchairs. The restored path means the route is now safe and accessible for everyone who uses it.

**Chris Ruse from St Richard's Church says:** *"This funding has made a real difference to everyone who passes through. The path is now safe and accessible for the whole community, and we're grateful to RHP and The Hill Group for making that possible."*

## Russell School PTA Early Years Garden and Playground Improvements

Learning and Development | £33,780

Russell School has long been an important part of the Ham Close community, providing primary education to children from the local area and beyond. The school's Parent Teacher Association plays an active role in improving the facilities and experiences available to its pupils, fundraising and advocating for investments that make a real difference to children's learning and development.

The Ham Close Social Value Grant has funded two significant improvements to the school's outdoor spaces. The Early Years Learning Garden has been redesigned and improved to create an engaging outdoor environment where younger pupils can explore, discover, and learn through nature. Alongside this, upgrades to the school playground have created a better, safer space for all pupils to play, socialise, and be active during the school day.

Outdoor spaces are a vital part of children's development. Access to well-designed learning environments outside the classroom supports creativity, physical health, and social skills from the earliest years. These improvements benefit not just current pupils but the many children who will pass through Russell School in the years to come, leaving a lasting legacy for the local community.

**A spokesperson for Russell School says:** *"We are really excited to show our progress. The work in our Early Years space was completed over the February half term, and it looks fantastic. The feedback from the children and the staff is really positive as well."*



# Looking ahead: the future of RHP's Social Value Fund

Looking ahead to the remaining six years of RHP's Social Value Fund, Ham will continue to be our priority, but we are excited to broaden the scope to encompass the wider Richmond borough.

This next chapter allows us to build on our strong foundation while supporting an even greater variety of innovative projects and inspiring causes. By extending our reach, we aim to amplify our impact, foster community resilience, and continue enriching lives across the borough, ensuring the fund delivers meaningful and lasting social value for years to come.



# Ham Close Social Value Grant funded projects

April 2024 - March 2026 | Total committed £500,000

Here are the other projects we've funded so far:

Organisation	Project Name	Project / Initiative Details	Focus Category	Total Amount Approved
<b>AFC Childrens Centre</b>	The Incredible Years Parenting Course	Course materials to support a parenting workshop to benefit up to 45 local families	Learning & Development	<b>£2,029.43</b>
<b>Age UK</b>	Supporting older people in Ham	A years provision to support older people in Ham - nightingale service / handyman service / connect to tech / info and advice	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£8,000.00</b>
<b>Barnfield Riding for the Disabled Association</b>	Horse-riding therapy	A year of term time, therapuetic riding sessions for local children with disabilities	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£3,900.00</b>
<b>Build School of Construction</b>	Ham Community Flat Project	Delivery of practical DIY skills workshop to transform Ham Close community flat, upskilling 12 members of the local community	Learning & Development	<b>£17,400.00</b>
<b>Cooking Up</b>	Cooking up - Ham Close	Three, eight week courses, supporting up to 50 local residents to learn valuable cooking skills	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£29,995.00</b>
<b>Dose of Nature</b>	Dose of Nature in Ham	Nature prescriptions for 25 local Ham residents to access the restorative powers of nature connection for mental health	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£10,000.00</b>
<b>Friends of Ham Library</b>	Film Club	Projector equipment and film licences to enable the library to offer free entertainment for the community	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£2,500.00</b>
<b>Friends of Ham Library</b>	Library of Sanctuary	Coffee machine to offer free coffees to assist in establishing Ham Library as one of the boroughs libraries of sanctuary	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£3,500.00</b>
<b>Grass Roots Forest School</b>	Grass Roots Forest School in Ham	Ten days forest school over school holidays, engaging 15 local children per session to engage with nature	Learning & Development	<b>£7,500.00</b>
<b>Greycourt School Education Fund</b>	Excellence Hub for Creative Media and Visual Arts	Purchase of equipment for the media department to support bridging the attainment gap	Learning & Development	<b>£20,000.00</b>
<b>Ham and Petersham Association and Amenities Group</b>	Ham Fair	Purchase of gazebo for the information point and first aid area	Safety & Control	<b>£3,185.20</b>

Organisation	Project Name	Project / Initiative Details	Focus Category	Total Amount Approved
<b>Ham and Petersham Association and Amenities Group</b>	Bench & Lectern	Funding to install bench and lectern on Ham green	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£3,010.00</b>
<b>Ham and Petersham Association and Amenities Group</b>	Ham Parade - Shop Planters	30 planters installed outside the shops and restaurants of Ham Parade	Environment	<b>£6,000.00</b>
<b>Ham and Petersham Association and Amenities Group</b>	Annual contribution towards Ham community	Three year contribution towards social value initiatives in the Ham community	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£30,000.00</b>
<b>Ham United Group</b>	Ham A-Z Mosaic Tile Art Trail	Installation of flora and fauna mosaic art trail for Ham Riverside Lands Estate	Environment	<b>£6,459.00</b>
<b>Ham Youth Centre</b>	AFC - Curriculum Enrichment	Weekly coached football, cooking, filmmaking, gym and boxing sessions, engaging 100 local children	Learning & Development	<b>£10,700.00</b>
<b>Ham Youth Centre</b>	French Trip	Trip for 15 young people to travel abroad and experience a different culture	Learning & Development	<b>£5,770.00</b>
<b>Ham Youth Centre</b>	Health and Fitness Project	Health and fitness projects - parkour, football, cookery, boxing	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£5,960.00</b>
<b>Individual</b>	Art & Nature Stone Carving	Creative nature craft workshop for 16 local young people	Health and Wellbeing	<b>£2,002.00</b>
<b>Intergenerational Music Making</b>	Ham Close Harmonies	A years provision of intergenerational music and wellbeing workshops for all generations to build community connection	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£6,000.00</b>
<b>Kick.org</b>	KICK Football Camps - Ham	Seven week long Kick camps held to benefit 30 children per session at local Ham schools	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£34,950.00</b>
<b>Kingston Camera Club</b>	Enhancing Accessibility and Engagement in Ham	Renewed equipment - portable PA system, new laptop and screen to support the clubs sessions held in Ham	Learning & Development	<b>£1,477.97</b>
<b>Lets Go Outside &amp; Learn</b>	Grow wild in Ham	Program consisting of conservation volunteering, nature awareness sessions and group nature walks, to benefit up to 100 local people of all ages	Environment	<b>£9,500.00</b>
<b>Off The Record</b>	Ham Counselling Service -Young People	12 months of counsellings sessions to support 16 local children	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£9,000.00</b>

Organisation	Project Name	Project / Initiative Details	Focus Category	Total Amount Approved
<b>Redknapp House</b>	Accessible Outside Area	Improving the outside area to be accessible for residents with reduced mobility	Safety & Control	<b>£3,658.60</b>
<b>RHP</b>	Ham close Kindness Shop	Supplies for the pop up kindness shop, supporting initial event to promote the Social Value Fund in Ham	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£690.00</b>
<b>Richmond Council for Voluntary Services</b>	Community group training for grant funding	Two free workshops for the Ham community to build confidence in set up and running of community groups	Learning & Development	<b>£2,630.00</b>
<b>Richmond Park FC</b>	Club House Improvements	Contribution towards the refurbishment of pavillion club house	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£5,000.00</b>
<b>River Thames Boat Project</b>	School on the River	Five educational School on the River sessions for local schools and youth groups in Ham	Learning & Development	<b>£5,000.00</b>
<b>Riverbank Trust</b>	Riverbank Ham	To support a years provision for Riverbank Ham supporting local mothers	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£30,000.00</b>
<b>Spear</b>	Facility improvement	Decorating supplies	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£240.00</b>
<b>St Richards C of E Primary School</b>	Upgrade to school resources	Upgrade school resources including IT resources, musical instruments and breakfast trolleys	Learning & Development	<b>£17,350.00</b>
<b>St Richards C of E Primary School</b>	Lime Tree Garden	Renewal of the Lime Tree Garden play area for early years and key stage one pupils	Learning & Development	<b>£20,700.00</b>
<b>St Richards Church Ham</b>	Christmas Boxes	Gift boxes to support local families at Christmas with supplies and supermarket vouchesr	Financial Security and Support	<b>£2,720.00</b>
<b>St Richards School</b>	Festive Event	Led by RHP and Hill, a festive event for all the pupils of the school to meet Father Christmas	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£2,068.80</b>
<b>St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church</b>	Acoustic Absorption panels	Installation of acoustic absorption panels to the ceiling of the church hall - to enable better, inclusive use of the space	Health and Wellbeing	<b>£4,500.00</b>
<b>The Real Junk Food Project</b>	The Real Junk Food - Ham	To support the opening of a second community café session for the local people of Ham	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£13,224.00</b>
<b>Vineyard Community &amp; Richmond Foodbank</b>	Community Crisis Support Outreach	Three year funding to support the Vineyards Ham outreach services	Health & Wellbeing	<b>£44,970.00</b>