



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

The Social Investment Fund LBG (SIF) was established as a charitable company in April 2020. Its purpose is to use both public and privately donated funds to invest in the third sector and improve joint working between the government and the third sector.

This report focuses on SIF's activities during 2024, in which SIF'S support to the charitable sector was focused on providing funding through the Small Grants Programme and the Major Grants Programme which together awarded **£890,523**.

Since SIF was launched in 2020, and up to the end of 2024, a total of over **£6.6 million** has been distributed, providing vital support to the whole Bailiwick community.

SIF's board comprises of the Very Reverend Tim Barker as Chair, Bethan Haines, Andrew Ozanne OBE, Rachel Copeland BEM, with Stephen Roberts, Brent Homan and Steve Sharman being appointed in May 2024. Steve Wakelin retired as a director in May 2024.

MAJOR GRANTS PROGRAMME

The Major Grants Programme seeks to support the financial sustainability of the Bailiwick's vital charitable sector, targeting funding towards organisations and projects which are most needed or demonstrate measurable benefits for our community.

Charities must demonstrate how they will meet SIF's targeted outcomes:

- Improving the lives of people with specific needs, disadvantages or vulnerabilities
- Employment, education or training opportunities
- The protection of our natural environment, culture and heritage
- Improved health and wellbeing for our community
- An inclusive community, which challenges the barriers causing disadvantage or discrimination



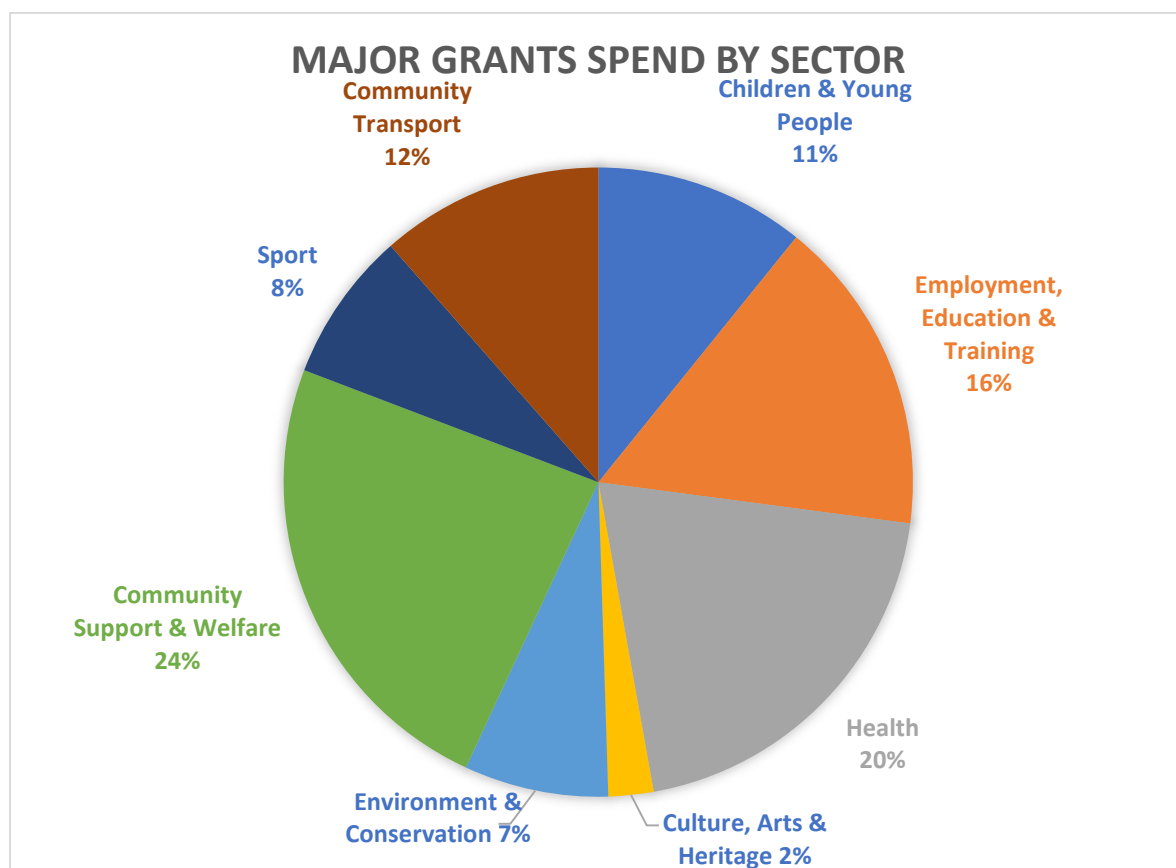
SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND

In 2024, applicants could apply for grants over £25,000 towards running costs and salaries, capital costs or multi-year funding, and applicants must be registered charities or NPOs operating within or to benefit the Bailiwick of Guernsey.

Recipients are expected to demonstrate measurable impact against outcomes by proposing appropriate outputs which are then detailed within grant agreements.

There was one round of Major Grants applications held in 2024. Applications were received from 17 organisations totalling £2.8 million with 8 organisations awarded funding totalling £572,971. A further three grants were awarded related to community transport work supported by SIF (more detail on this below) totalling £74,364. The sum total of major grants awarded in 2024 was £647,335.

Recipients represent a wide range of focus areas:



The majority of recipients received multi-year grants to enable the continuation of key services, with some organisations receiving funds to develop, expand or introduce new services, responding to different community needs.



Guernsey Conservation Volunteers received £48,000 towards salary costs over three years to continue developing and delivering practical conservation work parties and raising awareness through education, to maintain or enhance Guernsey's natural environment and biodiversity.

St John Guernsey LBG also received funding for salaries over three years, towards management costs. The £130,000 grant enables the development of the charity and its operations, including the development of the youth programme and managing volunteers.

Two years' running costs are being supported for Action for Children's new training flats for young people, which will accommodate young people at risk of homelessness and teach them the independent living skills necessary to become responsible tenants.

GO was awarded £75,411 over three years to support salary costs for their new logistics service which will increase the range of training opportunities available to trainees including opportunities for delivery, customer service and driving skills.

£30,000 was awarded to the Guille-Allès Library towards the upgrade of the Library's study facilities, for the redecoration of the Hayward Room, helping to ensure that the space has increased capacity so that more people can benefit. The grant paid for new lighting, carpets and repainting, supporting the Library's vision that everyone in Guernsey has free access to a world-class learning space.

Citizens Advice Guernsey was supported with a grant of £154,560 towards management costs over two years, to enable the charity to continue to focus on developing its services as they aim to increase accessibility for clients and attract new volunteers.

UnLtd (the Ron Short Centre) and Health Connections were both awarded grants for running costs for their community transport services, with SIF having coordinated further work in this area to explore a more collaborative solution, alongside Guernsey Community Foundation, the States of Guernsey, and other stakeholders.

A full schedule of Major Grants awarded in 2024 is attached as Appendix I.



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SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

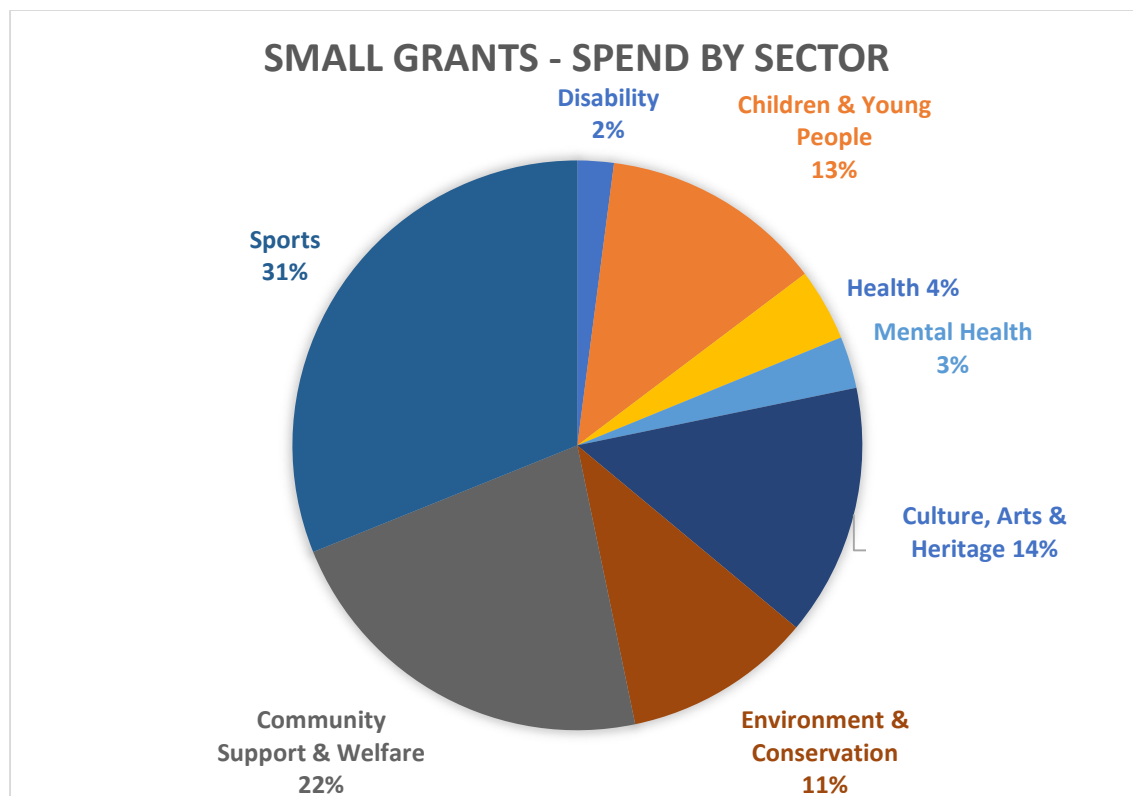
The Small Grants Programme was launched in 2021. Under this Programme, applicants were originally able to apply for a grant of up to £25,000 for one-off projects, capital expenses, or ongoing expenses, including salaries, of up to a year's duration. In 2023, criteria for small grants were updated so that ongoing salary costs were no longer supported, however, salary costs within projects, usually of up to one year's duration, could be supported. In 2024 these criteria also remained in place.

Applications are open to registered charities or NPOs operating within or to benefit the Bailiwick of Guernsey and need to align with SIF's outcomes, which are the same as those of the Major Grants Programme.

In 2024 £253,188 was donated to 25 different charities and organisations benefiting the Bailiwick, having received 56 applications totalling £840,768. The majority of funds were awarded to Guernsey based charities, with Alderney continuing to benefit from the programme.

Guernsey Community Foundation has assisted SIF with the administration of this programme between 2021 to early 2025, with SIF making the decisions on funding.

Recipients represent a wide range of beneficiaries and causes:





Guernsey Sports Commission was awarded £10,000 towards the operational costs for a Safeguarding and Welfare Task Force, so that they can develop their support and mentoring for Safeguarding and Welfare Officers within their member sports and deliver recognised safeguarding and welfare training courses, sharing good practice and providing guidance.

The Priaulx Library received £7,250 towards project support for the completion of their records digitisation project, which digitises those records which most commonly used for researching family history - in particular the civil registers of births, deaths and marriages and the parish registers of baptisms, marriages and burials.

Guernsey Art Network was awarded £12,500 towards a 'Creativity Trolley' participatory arts programme at the hospital and the Eisteddfod received £5,000 towards completion of their website development.

Guernsey Child Contact Centre was awarded £16,380 to fund a 6-month trial of increased services to support more clients on the waiting list so that children of separated families can enjoy contact with non-resident parents and sometimes other family members, in a comfortable and safe environment.

SafetyNet Guernsey received £12,500 to run training sessions for around 300 bar and venue staff in Guernsey so that venues become certified under the national Safe Place Project, improving safety for both customers and night-time economy staff and stakeholders.

Headway Guernsey received £10,000 towards annual rent and £15,000 was given to the GSPCA towards costs for architect and construction group fees for the first stage of their 'Big Build' project.

Alderney charities also benefited with Alderney Bird Observatory receiving £4,998 towards NOCMIG technology for remote sensing and identifying of bird species and the Alderney Rugby Football Union Club receiving £5,000 toward volunteer, coaching, training, insurance and equipment costs.

A full schedule of Small Grants awarded in 2023 is attached as Appendix II.



SIF DEVELOPMENT

Tim Barker has been Chair of SIF since April 2023 and a director since SIF's launch. SIF recruited for new board members in May 2024, with Brent Homan and Steve Sharman joining the board, and also Stephen Roberts, replacing Steve Wakelin. Tim Barker is due to retire from the board in March 2026.

Funding for SIF's grants programmes continues to come from the net Guernsey proceeds of the Channel Islands Lottery, the Guernsey Probate Registry and a percentage of the Seized Assets Fund. SIF's income will continue to come from these sources until such time as legislation in relation to dormant accounts is finalised and enacted adding further revenues. Income from SIF's funding sources can vary substantially from year to year.

In 2024, SIF introduced a new funding allocation policy, taking a prudent approach which allows for the allocation of our reserves over a five-year term in order to give confidence and certainty to the Bailiwick's charitable sector over the sustainability of SIF's grant funding. SIF does not aim to build up our reserves but rather to allocate them sensibly and does not assume anything for future years' receipts of funding to ensure the board is spending within its means.

The amount available for funding to the charitable sector is calculated each year based on the level of reserves taking into account (a) receipts in the previous year and (b) grants committed in the previous year (whether paid or committed for future years). This ensures that there is always certainty of funding for the sector over a further five years.

In 2024, this meant that SIF awarded £890,523 in grants. Demand for SIF's funding is high, with applications for Major Grants being around 4-5 times oversubscribed and for Small Grants around 3-4 times oversubscribed, with this trend showing signs of increasing in 2025. In 2025, £1.4 million has been earmarked as available to distribute, a 52% increase compared to 2024, which has been welcomed by the charitable sector.

Criteria for grants programmes remained the same in 2023 and 2024, providing support across the whole range of charities within the charitable sector. Feedback from charitable organisations has shown that SIF's wide criteria is appreciated as it enables the majority of organisations to apply for funding.

However, in early 2025, SIF decided to change the application limits of our grants programmes, from up to £25,000 for Small Grants to £15,000; with £15,000 upwards instead of £25,000 upwards for Major Grants. This change was made to allow greater SIF oversight on grants of £15,000 upwards.

Also new for 2025, SIF decided to have a focused second round of Small Grants applications, with priority being given to applications from the sectors of sports, art and culture, although applications from all sectors would still be welcomed.



SIF continues to see increasing numbers of applications from Alderney and Sark based charitable organisations, so the impact of charitable investments is benefiting the whole Bailiwick. In March 2025 SIF board members Tim Barker and Rachel Copeland, along with Lead Officer Sadie Siviter de Paucar, visited Alderney to meet grant applicants and recipients. The aim of the trip was to learn about their work in person and understand the challenges that Alderney applicants can face, ranging from governance to funding. A well-attended presentation and drop in at the Island Hall was hosted by SIF to explain how to apply for grants and the criteria applied.

2024 saw work continuing on SIF's first identified focus area – community transport – which was brought to our attention by various grant applications. Several charities are providing community transport services, with service demand increasing, alongside the need for volunteer drivers. The States Commissioning Director, Stephen Roberts, now a member of SIF's board, has coordinated this work, which included a commissioned report from the Guernsey Community Foundation and stakeholder meetings supported by the Association of Guernsey Charities. For much of this period SIF provided running costs for community transport services run by two charities, the Ron Short Centre (UnLtd) and Health Connections. In 2025 the States approved community transport as a States commissioning priority, and a cross-Committee working group has been convened to take forward this work, working in partnership with the charitable sector and Association of Guernsey Charities.

SIF continues to host bi-annual meetings of the Grant Givers group, where the Bailiwick's main grant givers meet to discuss funding recipients and criteria, to ensure good coordination, avoid duplicating grants, discuss current trends and any concerns on issues facing the third sector.

SIF also continues to work closely with the Guernsey Community Foundation and the Lloyds Bank Foundation for the Channel Islands to liaise over grant applications and consider co-funding arrangements, where appropriate. Action for Children was awarded a co-funded grant in 2024 to support their work providing training flats to young people.

Since 2021 Guernsey Community Foundation has been supporting SIF with the Small Grants Programme, coordinating applications. In late 2024, the SIF board decided to bring that work in-house and as a result in 2025 a part-time Grants Officer was recruited and is now managing these applications as well as providing general administrative support to SIF.



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Appendix I: 2024 Major Grants Recipients

	Organisation	For	Agreed amount
1	Citizens Advice Guernsey	Towards management salary costs for 2 years	£154,560
2	Victor Hugo Centre	Towards salary costs for 1 year	£15,000
3	Guernsey Conservation Volunteers	Towards salary costs for 3 years	£48,000
4	Guernsey Velo Club	Towards the development of the Delancey pump track (design and build)	£50,000
5	St John	Towards management salary costs for 3 years	£130,000
6	Action for Children	Towards running costs for new training flats for 2 years	£70,000
7	Guille Allès Library	Towards the upgrade of the Library's study facilities: for the Hayward Room redecoration - to fund the new lighting, new carpet, and repainting of the room	£30,000
8	GO	Towards Logistics Service salary costs for 3 years	£75,411
9	Health Connections	Second grant - towards 6 months' salary costs for the Health Connections transport service	£21,243
10	Health Connections	Third grant - towards 6 months' funding salary costs for the Health Connections transport service	£21,243
11	Ron Short Centre	Third grant towards a further 6 months' funding of current Ron Short transport service	£31,878
TOTAL MAJOR GRANTS FUNDING AWARDED			£647,335



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Appendix II: 2024 Small Grants Recipients

	Organisation	For	Agreed amount
1	Alderney Literary Trust	Air fares and accommodation for visiting authors	£10,000
2	Eisteddfod Guernsey LBG	Towards the completion of website development	£5,000
3	Guernsey Art Network	Towards costs of the 'Creativity Trolley' participatory arts programme at the PEH	£12,500
4	Guernsey Bereavement Services	50% of counsellor supervision costs	£7,137
5	Guernsey Child Contact Centre	Towards staffing costs and premises costs to fund a 6-month trial of increased services	£16,380
6	Les Cotils	Towards a chef for the community café for the pilot scheme of six months.	£20,000
7	SafetyNet Guernsey	10 training sessions for approx. 300 bar and venue staff in Guernsey, to become certified under the national 'Safe Place Project'	£12,500
8	Vazon Elim Church	Stainless Steel professional oven, delivery and installation	£3,900
9	Guernsey Sports Commission (for Up Climbing project)	Towards a Community Climbing Project with Up Climbing, tailored for early years children from 3-5 years, 6-7 years and individuals with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND): free sessions for 3-5 years, additional staffing for SEND sessions, free sessions for SEND individuals or groups and transportation subsidy	£10,000
10	Guernsey Disability Alliance	Towards running costs for 2025	£5,000
11	St Peter's Church	Heating, utilities and a contribution to food costs for community events	£9,000
12	Alderney Bird Observatory	Equipment related to NOCMIG technology	£4,998



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13	GSPCA	Architect and construction group fees for the first stage of the 'Big Build' project	£15,000
14	Association of Guernsey Charities	Towards the costs of an upgraded website	£2,500
15	Alderney Rugby Football Union Club	Safeguarding, police checks, coaching, travel, insurance and equipment costs	£5,000
16	Guernsey Netball Association	Contribution to one year's salary costs of Guernsey Netball Development Officer	£10,000
17	Guernsey Sports Commission	Operational Costs for a Safeguarding and Welfare Task Force	£10,000
18	Guernsey Football Association Youth Council	Aztech soccer arena hire for fun football sessions	£3,120
19	Headway Guernsey	Rent for 2024 at the KGV	£10,000
20	Vive La Vallette	Towards costs of chair yoga sessions over 12 months	£6,000
21	Youth Commission – Guernsey Skateparks	Creation of a wooden skate park within the old swimming pool area of St Andrew's Primary	£14,403
22	Bowmen of Guernsey	Provision of a concrete foundation for the new equipment store	£12,500
23	Elizabeth College	Improved drainage at the Memorial Field, as part of the development of the sporting facilities used by hockey, rugby, cricket and football clubs	£25,000
24	Alderney Bird Observatory	Equipment, storm petrel and Continuous Effort Scheme projects	£6,000
25	Priaulx Library	Project support/admin for the digitisation programme	£7,250
TOTAL SMALL GRANTS FUNDING AWARDED			£243,188