

SUPPORTING SOMERSET FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

Leaving a gift in your Will
to Somerset Community Foundation



THANK YOU

If you're considering leaving a gift in your Will to SCF, thank you.

It's a wonderful way to make a lasting impact on the places and causes you care about in Somerset. Many people want to support small, local charities in Somerset, but it can be difficult to know which charities to support or how you can best make a difference.

That's where we can help.



With over 20 years experience and having awarded over £25 million in grants since 2002, we can expertly direct your future gift to make the most impact possible.

Many of those who leave a legacy to our charity have supported local charities in Somerset for many years and want their support to continue after they pass away. For others, leaving a gift in their Will may be the first opportunity they have had to make a contribution to a cause or a community they care deeply about.

We provide simple, rewarding and impactful ways for donors to give locally, guided by research and our unrivalled local knowledge.

We'll make sure your legacy gift helps to build
a brighter future for Somerset.

“I'm passionate about building stronger and more sustainable communities in Somerset, having lived in the county for most of my life. I wanted to leave a legacy to help with this mission and could think of no better place to leave my gift than to SCF.

I wanted to rely on SCF's knowledge and expertise to direct my gift so it makes the most impact possible over the years.”

SCF LEGACY PLEDGER

HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

We offer 2 ways for you to support Somerset communities with a gift in your Will. You can choose to either donate to one or more of our [Collective Giving Funds](#) or create your own [Charitable Fund](#).

If you choose to donate to one of our Collective Giving Funds you will join with other donors. Together, you'll either make a bigger impact to a cause you care about, or support good causes across the whole county.

For these options, donations of any size can be made and will help provide long-term, reliable funding for our communities.

Support one of our Collective Giving Funds

- The **Somerset Youth Fund** helps to enrich the lives of children and young people, and helps ensure all young people have the support and opportunities to overcome challenges and build a brighter future.
- The **Somerset Older People's Fund** supports work that reduces loneliness and isolation and improves physical health to help older people age well.
- The **Somerset Arts Fund** provides funding for local, grassroots organisations to nurture creativity and culture, and widens access to the arts.
- The **Somerset Environment Fund** supports local initiatives working to protect and preserve our environment, inspires community action on climate change, and helps create more sustainable communities.
- The **Somerset Wellbeing Fund** supports vital work that improves the mental and physical health of people in Somerset and helps to create happier, healthier communities.

You can also opt to join others and give collectively in a way that will support communities for generations to come through our **Somerset Forever Fund**.

Donations to the Somerset Forever Fund are professionally invested to provide us with flexible, sustainable income every year, providing vital grants to a diverse range of good causes across Somerset, wherever the need is greatest.



Create your own Charitable Fund

Charitable Funds are a simple and impactful alternative to a charitable trust.

Building your own Charitable Fund gives you access to our expert philanthropic advice to create a strategy for your giving. Together, we'll build a bespoke Fund that aligns with your values and the causes and places you care about.

You could choose a [Forever Fund](#), where your donations are invested and the income is used to provide sustainable funding for our communities today and for generations to come.

Or you could choose an [Immediate Impact Fund](#), and we'll invest your funds into our communities straight away, meaning you can either top up your Fund when it runs out, or make regular donations that align with your giving strategy.

You can start your Forever Fund with a gift of £100,000 or more or an Immediate Impact Fund with a gift of £20,000 or more. We'd always recommend meeting with us if you'd like to create your own Fund so we can make sure any restrictions on the gift aren't too narrow and that we'll be able to carry out your wishes.

Whichever Charitable Fund you choose, either Immediate Impact or Forever, we provide expert philanthropic advice to make local giving easy, rewarding and impactful. Through our unrivalled breadth and depth of local knowledge, we direct your generous gifts so they drive change in our communities. We'll take care of all the administration, carry out careful due diligence, and share inspiring stories and opportunities so you can see the difference you've made.

"I was looking for a way to give that would allow me to focus the money towards small charities dedicated to key areas of need that I cared about.

I talked to the team about the options open to me through SCF and how the whole process works. It was a great decision to go with SCF.

They allowed me to do exactly what I wanted with very little administrative work and give me easy access to suitable and vetted charities – much more than I could have done myself. I know there's a high degree of professionalism and diligence behind that, ensuring that my giving is used ethically and as I agreed."

JOHN, SCF FUNDHOLDER

SUPPORTING SOMERSET WITH AN UNRESTRICTED LEGACY

By naming Somerset Community Foundation as a beneficiary in your Will with an unrestricted legacy, your gift will be used to support a diverse range of causes across the county and directed wherever the need is greatest at the time.

What type of gift can I leave in my Will?

Residuary legacy: You can gift the balance of your estate, or a percentage of this, after all the debts, expenses and other legacies have been paid. This allows the value of your gift to stay in proportion to the size of the estate as it changes over time.

Pecuniary legacy: A fixed sum of money which is made explicit at the time of writing a Will.

Specific legacy: A gift of goods which is made explicit at the time of writing a Will, for example property or shares. A property, for example, will usually be sold by the executors of your estate on behalf of SCF, and the funds used to make the charitable gift.

Legacy gifts and inheritance tax

Charitable gifts are exempt from inheritance tax. That means a gift to SCF in your Will would ordinarily be free of tax and deducted from the estate before the tax is calculated. A gift in your Will to SCF could help reduce the total amount of tax paid on your estate. Anyone leaving at least 10% of their estate in their Will to charity benefits from an effective inheritance tax reduction from 40% to 36%.

The rules are complex, so we would always recommend speaking to a qualified solicitor for expert advice when writing or updating a Will.



CHAT TO ONE OF OUR FRIENDLY TEAM

If you're thinking of leaving us a gift in your Will, especially if you want to create your own Forever Fund, we recommend contacting us to discuss how we can best fulfil your wishes.

We're always happy to visit you at home, welcome you to our offices in Shepton Mallet, or meet with you and your solicitor together.

KELLY HALL, PHILANTHROPY DIRECTOR:
kelly.hall@somersetcf.org.uk | 01749 597125



LEGACY GIFTS AND INHERITANCE TAX

You might like to ask your solicitor to include a paragraph like the one below:

In addition to any legacies given in my said Will, I give X to Somerset Community Foundation, Yeoman House, The Bath and West Showground, Shepton Mallet, Somerset, BA4 6QN (registered charity number 1094446).

I wish that my gift is added to the X Fund [choose from the list of Fund names above - a Collective Giving Fund, a Charitable Fund or The Somerset Forever Fund], which is held and managed by Somerset Community Foundation for the purposes of making grants to voluntary sector organisations in Somerset.

This is an example of the type of information you may want to ask your solicitor to include. Please note that we cannot provide legal advice. We always recommend speaking to a solicitor about making or updating your Will.

