

Build Back Better Councillor Scheme

Summary Report April 2021 – May 2025

Introduction and Purpose

The purpose of the Build Back Better Councillor grant fund was to provide vital investment to local community groups which were key to the county's recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic. It delivered funding to community initiatives to:

- Help communities to recover, rebuild and protect themselves from the impacts of Covid-19
- Promote and encourage community health and wellbeing
- Improve digital inclusion
- Promote nature and/or the environment.
- Promote healthy lifestyles
- Encourage safer neighbourhoods

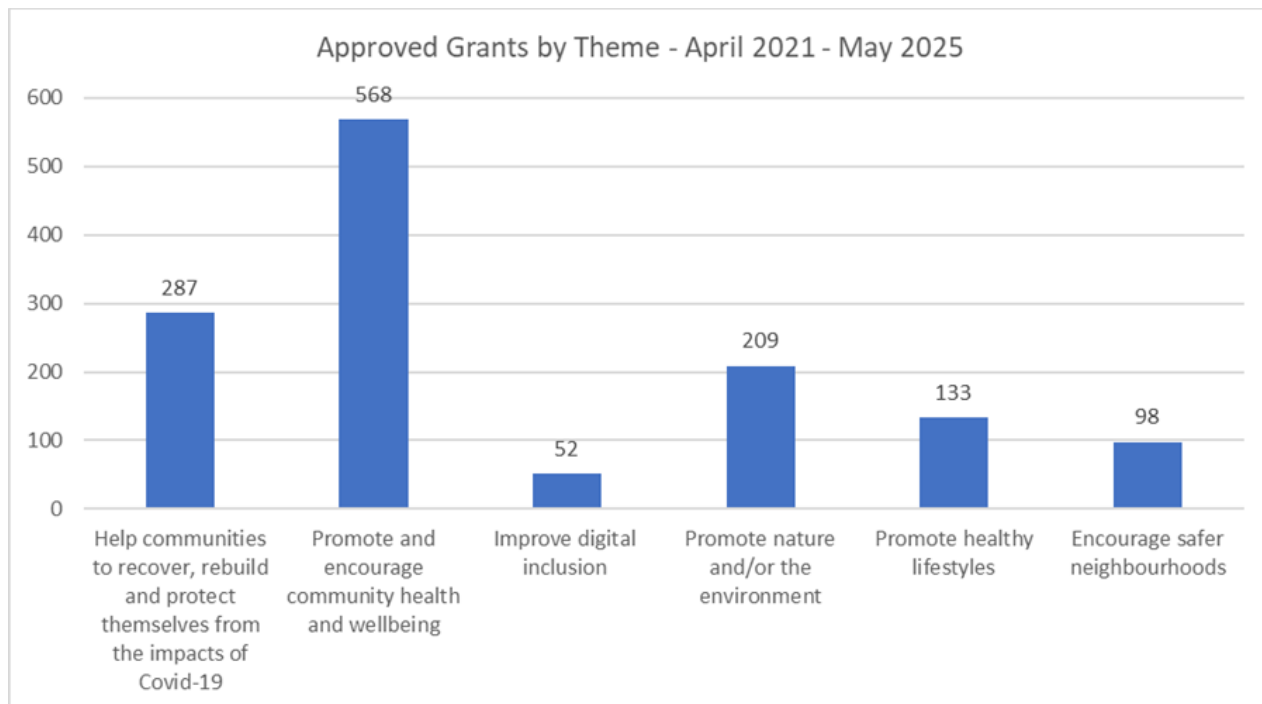
The fund was a rolling programme that opened on 31st July 2021 and the closing date for applications was the 18th of March 2025, with all grants to be claimed by 30th May 2025.

At the start of the scheme each County Councillor was allocated £40,000 for their Division, with an additional £10,000 provided in October 2023, giving each Councillor a total of £50,000. The Matson and Coney Hill Division received a supplementary £10,000 due to underspend from its previous Levelling Up Together grant allocation.

In total the scheme received 1,028 applications of which 34 failed to reach completion; 6 due to rejection and 28 were withdrawn.

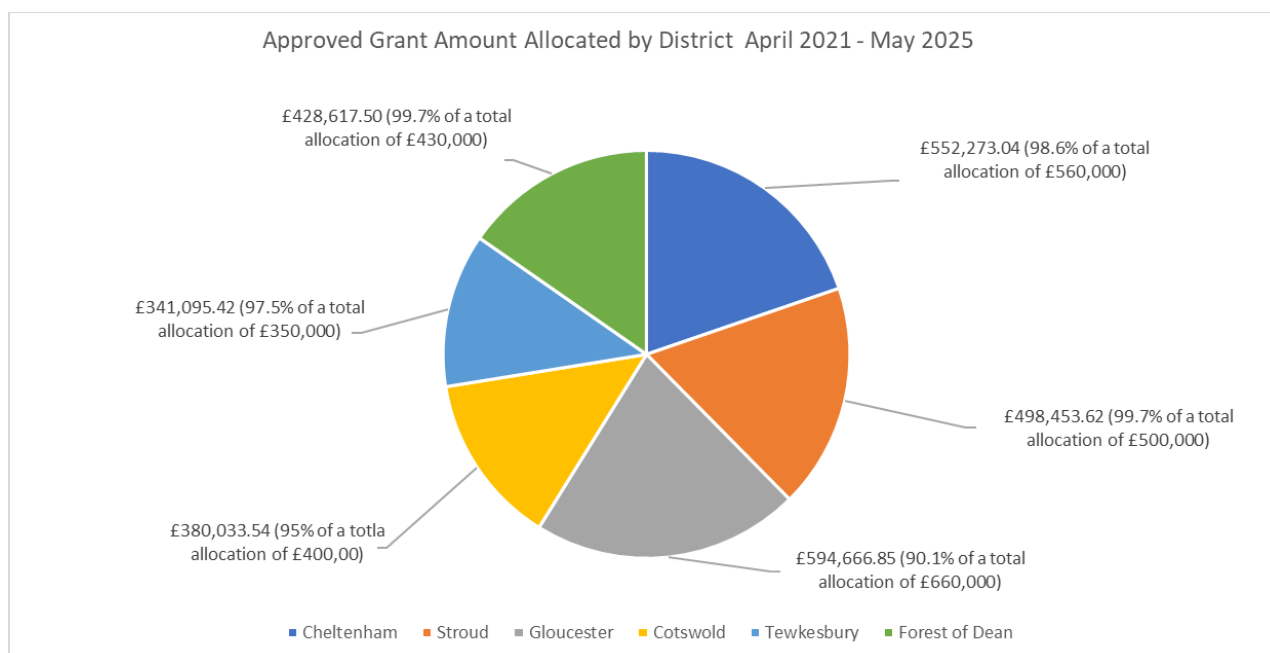
Grant Allocation by Theme

Applications can meet one or more of the criteria themes listed above.



Grant Amount Allocation by District

The total value of grants approved was **£2,795,139.97**, which represents **96.4%** out of a total allocation of **£2,900,000.00**.



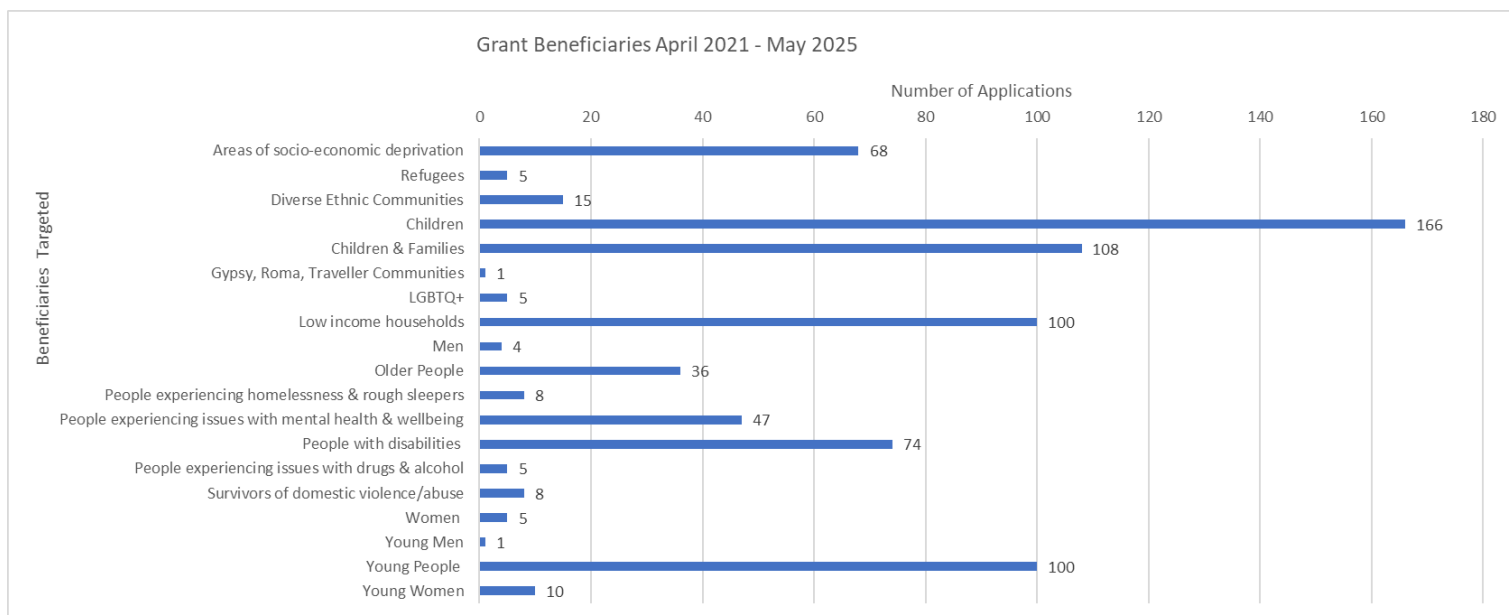
Grant Beneficiaries

Whilst the criteria for the scheme was deliberately broad to provide the maximum flexibility for organisations and Councillors to apply, the main aim of the programme was to reduce health inequalities and level up opportunities.

Applicants were required to indicate who the key beneficiaries were of their initiative and if it specifically targeted groups who might be more vulnerable, including:

- Areas of socio-economic deprivation
- Diverse ethnic communities
- People with disabilities
- Gypsy, Roma, Traveller Communities
- People experiencing homelessness and rough sleepers
- Low-income households
- Survivors of domestic violence/abuse

The below provides an overview of the beneficiary groups targeted.



Monitoring

An online questionnaire was sent to all organisations awarded a grant, with the objective of obtaining general feedback about the grant process and primarily to ascertain further information on how the grants may have benefitted under-represented and disproportionality impacted groups. Monitoring visits of high value projects have also been carried out with some currently being scheduled.

A full list of projects supported can be found here: [build-back-better-grants-awarded-mar-2021-may-2025.xlsx](#)