

COMMUNITY FLOOD ACTION FUND (CFAF)

18-Month Review

PURPOSE OF UPDATE

1 Review performance

Assess how CFAF has performed during its first 18 months.

2 Show impact

Highlight delivery statistics, outcomes and lessons learned.

3 Improve delivery

Identify changes that will strengthen future delivery.

Why CFAF was established

1 Reason

CFAF fills a funding gap for community-led organisations to deliver works to reduce flood risk

2 Local issue

Enable practical actions to address local flooding issues

3 Community-led project

Encourage partnership working and community engagement

4 Resilience benefit

Increase local resilience to flooding and climate change

Established

December 2024

Grant range

£3,000–£20,000

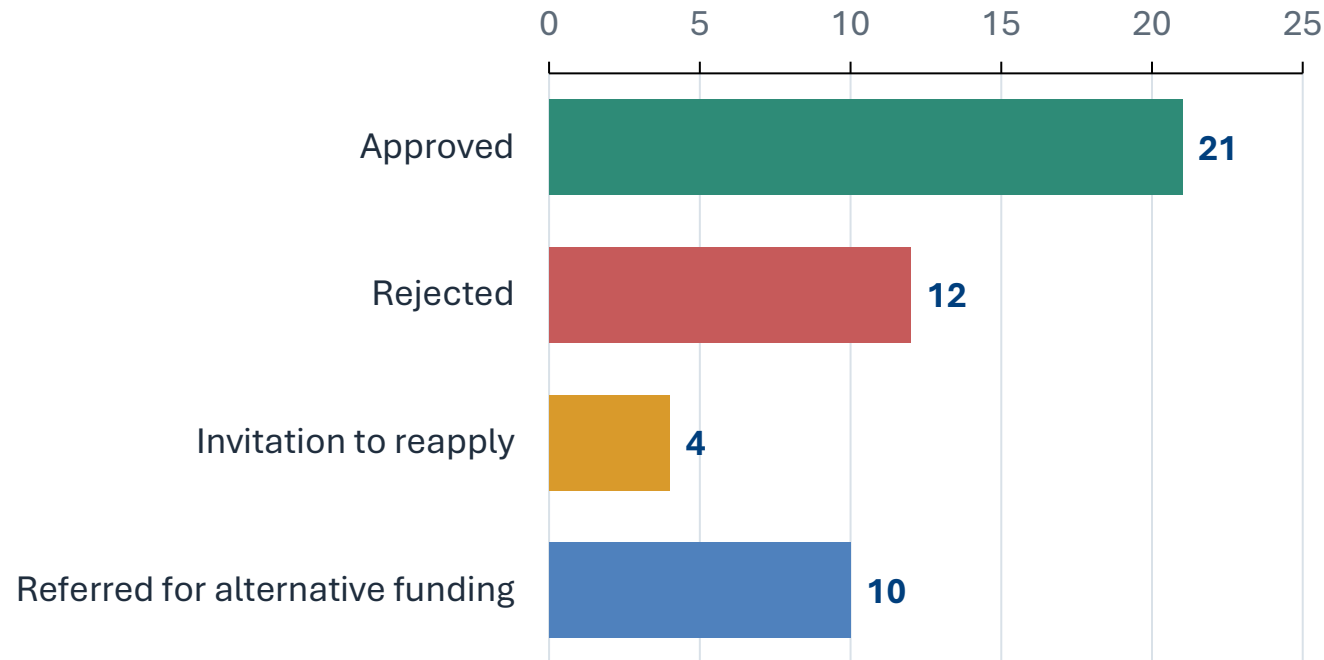
Designed for

Practical local benefit

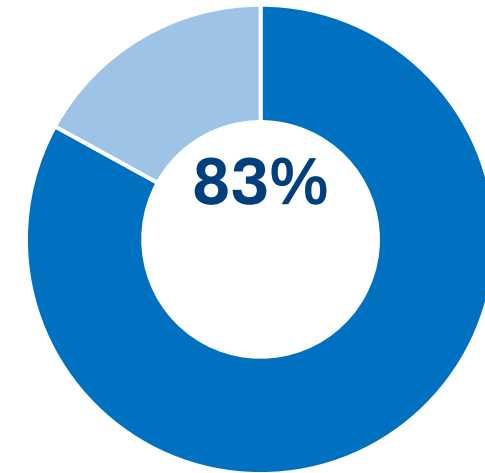
Application statistics to date

First six rounds - 47 applications and 45% approval rate

APPLICATION OUTCOMES



APPLICANT PROFILE

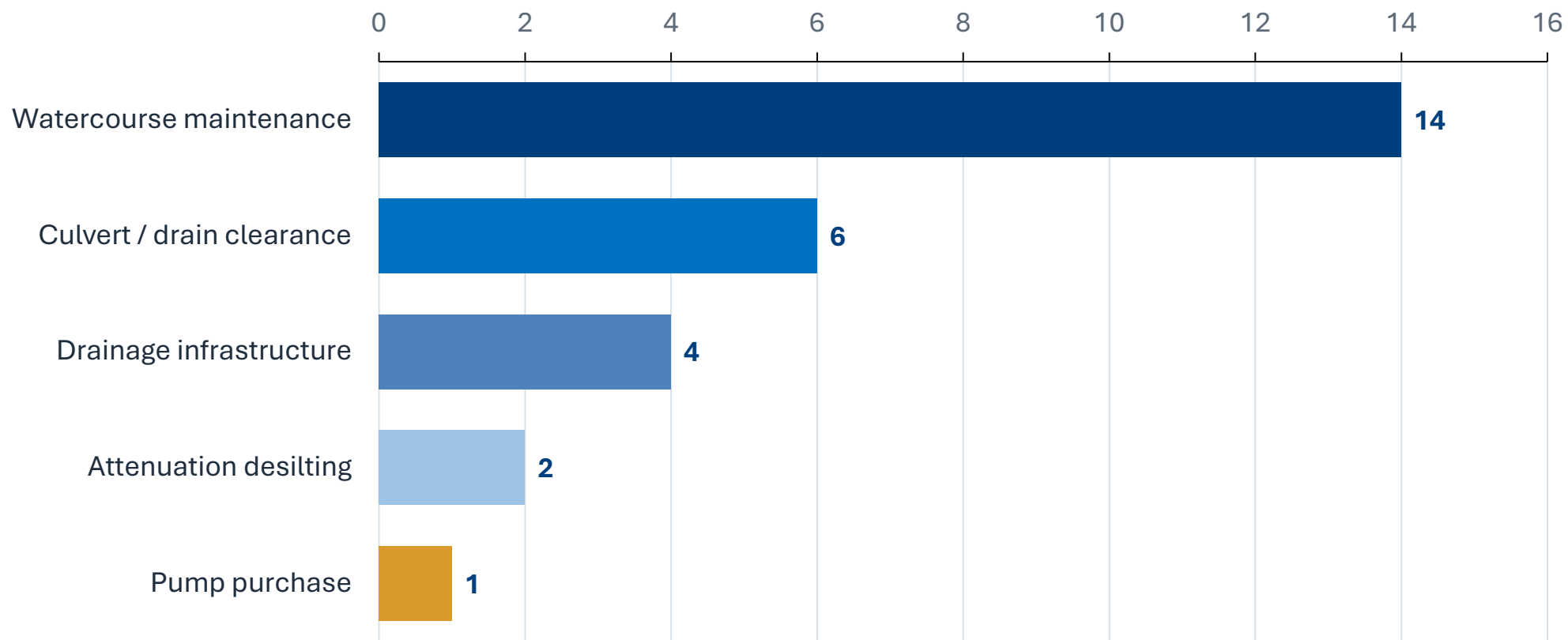


Parish or Town Councils

17% schools, community groups and charitable organisations

Type of works funded

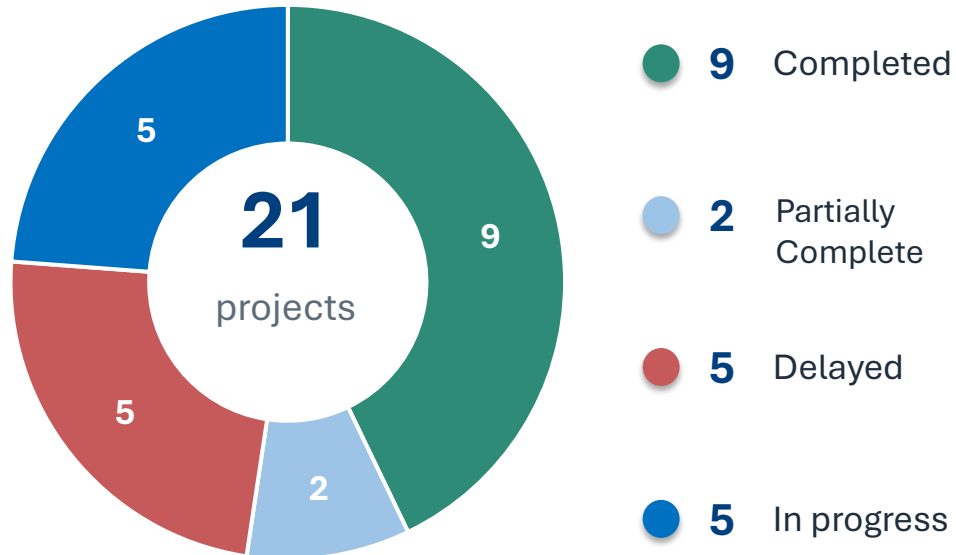
FUNDED ACTIVITY COUNT



Note: Several projects include more than one type of activity.

Delivery progress and Financial position

PROJECT DELIVERY



FINANCIAL POSITION

£520,000

total budget allocation

Awarded

£211,242

41%

Remaining

£308,758

59%

Paid to date

£80,722

16%

Grants paid relate to completed works.

Programme outcomes and impact

CFAF is helping communities take practical action to reduce local flood risk and improve resilience.

FLOOD RISK REDUCTION

Improved drainage
and watercourse
capacity

Reduced local flood
risk at known problem
locations

Better management
of local drainage
assets

Greater
awareness and
understanding of
riparian
responsibilities

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Increased local
understanding of
flood risk

Stronger community
ownership
local flood issues

Improved
preparedness for
future flood events

Improved links with
partners and RMA's

Performance review

What has worked Well?

- Simple, proportionate application process
- Accessible to smaller organisations
- Quarterly application rounds and timely decision making
- Community-led model surfaces practical solutions

CHALLENGES

- Applicants understanding the most effective intervention
- The need and time taken for consents, permissions and permits
- Capacity in volunteer-led groups
- Weather, ecology and contractor availability

DELIVERY LEARNING

- Strengthen communications and promotion
- Provide additional case studies to show benefits.
- Strengthen monitoring and evaluation framework to assess the impact of completed works.

'in their own words'



"Without doubt the desilting work has demonstrated some improvements but has not completely resolved the flood risk. Asham Lane has flooded twice in 2026, but on both occasions, it has been noticeable how much more quickly the water has dissipated."

Jill Larcombe
West Buckland Parish Council

"The project was to clear blocked ditch... completed in full... within budget... within planned timescale... The parish council working with the IDB will ensure the ditch remains free from obstruction and is maintained on an annual basis... The response from parishioners has been overwhelmingly positive..."

Cllr Philip Sharratt
Aller Parish Council

"The extent of flooding on roads and parishes around us... leaves me in no doubt that CFAF work has transformed the flood risk in the targeted area... more effective than we could have conceivably hoped... Many thanks for your support and funding."

Cllr Graeme Watt
Stoke St Mary Parish Council

Case studies

[Explore all Community Flood Action Fund successes](#)

1

WEST BUCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Asham Lane, Ham

How an SRA grant helped reduce flooding

[Read case study →](#)

2

ALLER PARISH COUNCIL

Church Path, Aller Drove

How an SRA grant helped reduce flooding

[Read case study →](#)

The SRA Board is asked to:

**Note the progress of
the Community
Flood Action Fund**

**Consider whether
any changes are
required to the
process and
programme**