

Covid-19 Response Grants 2020

Keeping Larbert & Stenhousemuir Beautiful



Who are Keeping Larbert and Stenhousemuir Beautiful?

Keeping Larbert & Stenhousemuir Beautiful (KLSB) are a community group, who plant numerous flowerbeds and help carry out regular litter picks locally. In response to Covid-19, KLSB have been running a very successful community pantry, with the group offering support to over 160 households per week in the Larbert and Stenhousemuir area. The community food pantry allows individuals to carry out weekly shopping for £2.50 per shop.



How was the grant used?

- In response to increasing demand due to Covid-19 and the increasing number of people accessing the KLSB service, the grant was used to purchase additional shelving, to increase storage facilities, enabling more essential food and hygiene items to be stocked.

What had to change due to Covid-19?

- The organisation recently blended their food pantry model with the foodbank, which meant that they required more storage and shelving space for essential items. To meet the service demands, they also recruited more volunteers.
- The addition of the foodbank has meant that local people can access essential food, personal hygiene and cleaning products free of charge. The service work with local organisations to take referrals from those who are on low or no income due to being furloughed from work during Covid-19. They can offer individuals an emergency support package for up to 6 weeks at a time.

What difference has the grant made?

- The funding enabled the organisation to purchase new shelving units for their new larger premises. This has supported them to stock over a third more stock at their community food pantry, meaning that they can clear their waiting list and support more families in the local area.
- For many local people the foodbank has been a lifeline, as they have lost their jobs during lockdown and have little or no income to buy essential items themselves.
- Many people who visit the KLSB pantry and foodbank have benefited emotionally from meeting and chatting with volunteers, who have provided them with their only form of social interaction during the pandemic.

'The volunteers are brilliant and always have a natter with me when I go in, visiting the pantry is my only social life during the pandemic.'

(Family 2)

'Thank you for your support, we don't know what we would have done without you.'

(Family 1)

'I was really worried before as I had lost my job just before the lockdown, KLSB have been a lifesaver to me.'

(Family 3)

