**Evidencing need in your grant application**

We expect that strong grant applications will demonstrate that the project proposals are based on sound research and have clear evidence to show why they are needed. In a competitive funding environment, applications that show they will best meet local need are most likely to secure support. Bids under the ‘Stronger Communities’ priority in particular will be expected to show that they are responding to a local need and delivering an impactful service.

To support your research we have included a link to the page on the website that provides links to mapping and below links to a range of publicly available data sources. Please note, we will only fund projects that they will primarily support Chichester District.

* [**Community maps: Chichester District Council**](https://www.chichester.gov.uk/communitymaps) The maps on this page will show you all the wards, parishes and Lower Super Output areas (LSOA) in Chichester District. There are also maps showing the South Downs National park area.
* Information from the most recent Census is available to view [**Census - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)**](https://www.ons.gov.uk/census) . There are some custom tools that would enable you to build a profile of your local area, comparing key demographic information including age, disability, housing tenure etc, which might be relevant to evidence your beneficiaries. You can also compare your local area to others, e.g. the wider District, South East region or the whole country.
* [**English indices of deprivation 2019**](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2019)This data set released by Central Government looks at deprivation in small areas in England called lower super output areas, across a range of topics.  These include income, employment, health and disability, education skills and training, barriers to housing and services, crime and living environment.  This data is available at local authority and lower super output area.  This data set can be ranked within Chichester District as well as nationally.
* [**Nomis**](http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/)You can use this tool to help you find snapshot data at ward level about the local population. It also covers labour market statistics and unemployment data.
* [**Reports - Sussex Community Foundation**](https://sussexcommunityfoundation.org/insight/reports/) The Sussex Community Foundation create reports that include relevant overviews and some local data highlighting issues relevant to communities in Chichester District.

* Parish and Town Councils also often have local information, contact details of the local councils covering the district are available [here](https://www.chichester.gov.uk/parishandtowncouncils)
* Talking to the potential beneficiaries, clients or the relevant local community and having evidence of their feedback is always useful to support bids. There are various online survey tools that make this easier to do but you can use whatever approach will work best for the people you want to engage.
* [**Voluntary Action Arun & Chichester**](https://www.vaac.org.uk/) – organise local networking events where groups can share information and build partnerships. They can also advise around impact tools and there is information online e.g. [**Resource hub (thinknpc.org)**](https://www.thinknpc.org/resource-hub/)