

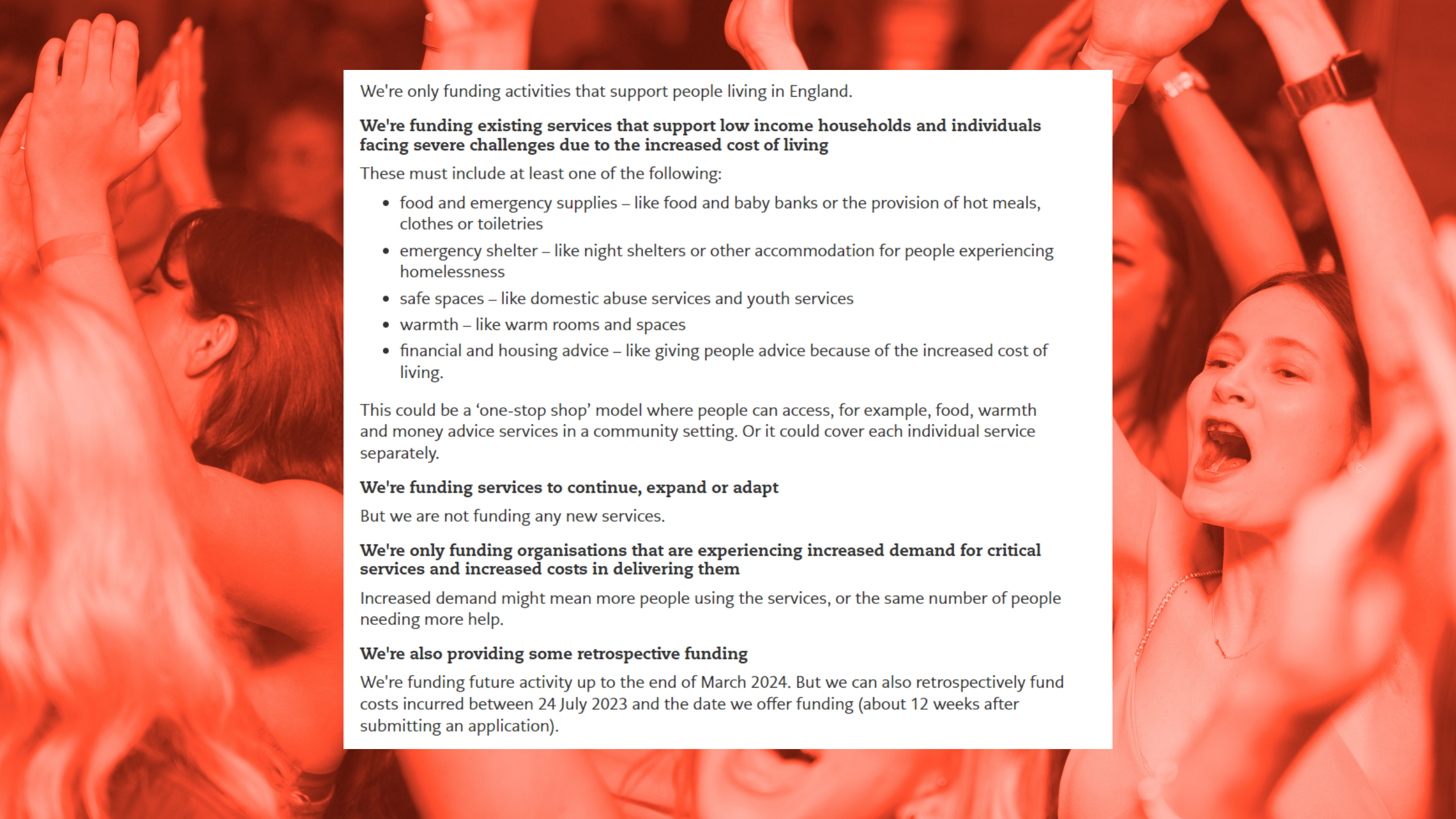
Making Every Penny Count: How Salford SU used a National Lottery Grant to Aid Student Well-being

Mollie Foster

15th August 2024 / Membership Services Conference

@SalfordSU





We're only funding activities that support people living in England.

We're funding existing services that support low income households and individuals facing severe challenges due to the increased cost of living

These must include at least one of the following:

- food and emergency supplies – like food and baby banks or the provision of hot meals, clothes or toiletries
- emergency shelter – like night shelters or other accommodation for people experiencing homelessness
- safe spaces – like domestic abuse services and youth services
- warmth – like warm rooms and spaces
- financial and housing advice – like giving people advice because of the increased cost of living.

This could be a 'one-stop shop' model where people can access, for example, food, warmth and money advice services in a community setting. Or it could cover each individual service separately.

We're funding services to continue, expand or adapt

But we are not funding any new services.

We're only funding organisations that are experiencing increased demand for critical services and increased costs in delivering them

Increased demand might mean more people using the services, or the same number of people needing more help.

We're also providing some retrospective funding

We're funding future activity up to the end of March 2024. But we can also retrospectively fund costs incurred between 24 July 2023 and the date we offer funding (about 12 weeks after submitting an application).

Securing the Grant

Key information needed:

- ⚡ Finances
- ⚡ People
- ⚡ Account details
- ⚡ Personal details

Clear vision:

- ⚡ What would you like to do and fund
- ⚡ How has CoL impacted demand/cost of services?
- ⚡ How does your idea fit with other local activity?
- ⚡ How does it involve the community?
- ⚡ Why are we the best organization to deliver this?

Budget template:

- ⚡ Monthly breakdown

TOP TIPS:

1. Complete ASAP
2. Ask any questions
3. Spend ASAP

Cost of living – short term funding bid (Cost of living support for Salford Students)

Your project
Your idea
What would you like to do?
We want to fund from the organisations that:

- serve communities facing severe challenges because of the increased cost of living, and
- have increased demand for their services and increased costs in running them.

Tell us
How the increasing cost of living has affected your organisation including the increase in the:

- demand for your services, and
- cost of delivering your services.

What you'd like funding for
For example:

- the core costs of running your service
- if you'd use the funding to continue your existing service, or adapt or expand your service. We can fund both, but we cannot fund a totally new service.

Our website has more information on what.you.can.spend.the.money.on

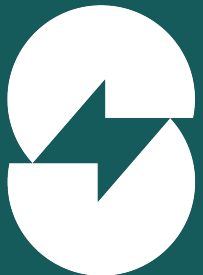
What kind of critical service your project provides
We can only fund projects delivering at least one of the following critical services:

- food and emergency supplies – like food and baby banks or the provision of hot meals, clothes or toiletries
- emergency shelter – like night shelters or other accommodation for people experiencing homelessness
- safe spaces – like domestic abuse services and youth services
- support – like mental health and legal
- financial and housing advice – like giving people advice because of the increased cost of living.

What difference your work will make
How you will keep this work going after our funding ends.
You can write between 50 and 500 words for this section.

We would like to expand our wellbeing hub to develop a community space for our 28,000 student members. Students are one of the biggest communities impacted by the cost-of-living crisis with 92% of students saying their cost of living has increased and 46% of students reporting that their mental wellbeing and health has worsened due to the cost-of-living crisis. University of Salford Students' Union has seen an increase in advice work by 52% in the last academic year meaning we supported even more students than ever. The cost-of-living crisis not only impacts students' finances, but also stops students taking part in social activities, negatively impacts students learning experiences and causes housing concerns. This means that students are more likely to become lonely, 51% of students already reports they are 'often' or 'always' lonely. The cost of the advice and Wellbeing services at the Students' Union has increased 504% compared to the previous financial year due to more student staff being employed to deliver more activity around reducing student loneliness and raising awareness of Students' Union activity and support.

This funding will be used to expand the service offered from the Students' Union Wellbeing hub. The Wellbeing hub already acts as a warm space for students who can engage in wellbeing activities and receive advice. We would like to use the funding to also offer students refreshments, hot drinks and hygiene products such as toiletries and period products. This will prevent students from skipping meals as we are able to provide this for them as nearly 28% of students have said they skipped a



Delivering the Project



Reporting



Tracking Expenses



End of Grant report



Impact report

The difference your work has made

Using the table below, please tell us for the period between the date of your grant offer, to the 31 March 2024:

	Total Number
How many people (beneficiaries) has your project directly supported in total?	2485
The number of volunteers you worked with on this project	0
The number of hours your volunteers spent on this project	0
The number of your staff that worked on this project	7
The number of hours your staff spent on this project	122

We'd also like to understand what additional activity your funding has provided and how many more people you have been able to directly support because of your grant.

Please provide an estimate of what those same numbers are likely to have been for your existing services if you had not received this funding from the date of your grant offer, to the 31 March 2024

	Total Number
How many people (beneficiaries) do you think you would have been able to support through your existing service(s) without this funding?	96
How many volunteers do you think you would have been able to work with you through your existing service(s) without this funding?	0
How many hours do you think your volunteers would have spent on your existing service(s) without this funding?	0
How many staff would have worked on your existing service(s) without this funding?	3
How many hours do you think your staff would have worked on your existing service(s) without this funding?	26

Assessment Weeks Food Give Away

Background:

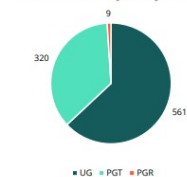
During the weeks commencing April 22nd and April 29th, 2024 (week 1 and week 2 respectively), a free food distribution initiative was implemented for students across campus. The chosen model for food delivery was a grab-and-go approach. Recognizing that students prioritize their time during the assessment period for studying and revising, the aim was to provide support without disrupting their schedules. Hence, the grab-and-go model was preferred over sit-down meals. Food distribution occurred at two key points during the day: breakfast time, starting at 9:30am, and lunchtime, beginning at 12pm. Week 1 took place at Allerton, primarily targeting students on the Frederick Road campus, while Week 2 was held at the Clifford Whitworth Library, catering mainly to students on the Peel Park campus. This selection ensured distribution across multiple locations, reaching a diverse student body across all schools.

The initiative was a collaborative effort between the students' union and the university, pooling budgets to maximize support for students. To minimize costs, Atmosphere was selected as the vendor on campus for food delivery due to their competitive pricing and availability of student staff to facilitate distribution.

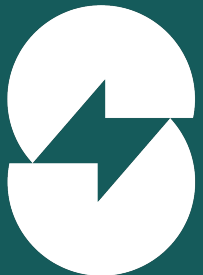
Engagement:

We distributed approximately 2,660 meals, with 1,372 students registering for the service and providing their student details. Additionally, there were 64 data entry errors from students, so these have been discounted from the analysis. Data from students was collected using a Microsoft form and relied on students to input the correct data, due to the high demand on the service some students did not input their data or did not input their data correctly. Without a tap-in system (or similar) for students this is unfortunately unavoidable.

No. Students by Study Level



Feedback on the data input process has been collected below. From the analysable data, students received 864 breakfast portions and 500 lunch meals. The most engaged school was Health and Society, with 455 students participating. This high level of engagement is likely due to the availability of the offer for



Impact

2660

Assessment
week meals

825

Community Support
Stop meals

9272

Period Products

2128

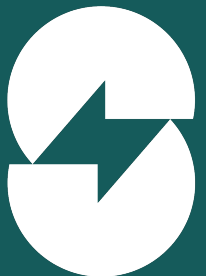
Toiletries

Community Support Stop events:

- ⚡ **35%** helped with overall wellbeing
- ⚡ Improvements in academic performance and focus due to reduced stress from financial worries
- ⚡ Helped feel more connected to students

Assessment week food giveaways:

- ⚡ **15%** helped with time management
- ⚡ **23%** helped with financial relief
- ⚡ Helped prevented students skipping meals
- ⚡ **62%** helped with stress reduction

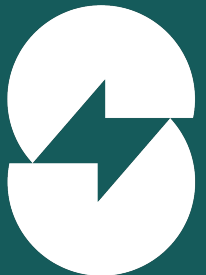


Benefits:

- ⚡ Proactively decisions quickly
- ⚡ Supporting students
- ⚡ Achieving officer objectives
- ⚡ Matched funding

Challenges faced:

- ⚡ Small time scales
- ⚡ Spending quickly
- ⚡ Academic year calendar
- ⚡ University engagement



Activity: On your tables, you have some example scenarios. I would like you to find some funding which fits this project and start to draft a proposal ...



Get Grants



National Lottery



Advice UK



Any Questions?

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