

Comparing a Kent Community Foundation Fund with an Independently Registered Charitable Trust Fund

	Charitable Trust	Community Foundation Fund
Set-up Procedure	Must register as a charity and apply to the Charity Commission. Must appoint a Board of Trustees	Simple fund agreement
Costs	Cost likely to be from £1,000	Set-up costs from 2.5 % of Fund value depending on size
Timeframe	May take weeks or months	Can be set up within 24-48 hours
Investment, Audit Accounting and Tax	Tax status covered by registration with the Charity Commission. Must fulfil financial and administrative requirements and may incur professional fee costs	KCF handles all financial and administrative management, arranges audit and reports to the Charity Commission. Tax status is covered under KCF's charity status
Reporting to Authorities	The donor/trustees must maintain all financial records, prepare accounts, and submit these to the Charity Commission	KCF takes care of reporting to the Charity Commission, particularly the Annual Report and Accounts
Grant Making Process, Administration and Follow Up	Donor responsible for own grant making process, administration and overseeing. Must research and check activities and status of all applicants	Professional staff team promotes the Fund, identifies and assesses grantees, provides input on community needs and undertakes due diligence on applicants
Philanthropy Advice	Donors/Trustees responsible for own giving strategy	KCF provides full charitable giving and grant making know how to ensure the donor maximises the impact of their fund
Costs	May take weeks or months	May take weeks or months
Donor Control	Donor appoints Board of Trustees to control all aspects of grant making and investment	Trustees of KCF take on legal and fiscal responsibility for the donor's fund, while the donor chooses grants to organisations vetted by KCF
Donations	Often restricted to registered charities	To both registered charities and non-registered community groups
Privacy	The Charitable Trust must keep public records	Anonymity of donor can be maintained if desired. If the donor wishes, KCF can serve as a mediator between donor and grant seekers
Profile	Responsible for own profile	KCF can help the donor as much or as little as they want. We can raise the donor's profile in the community by making grants in the donor's name and featuring the donor in publications
Geography	Donor/Trustees determine their geographical reach	KCF operates across Kent but partners with other UK Community Foundations on the delivery of regional and national initiatives which may be of interest to donors
Networking	Must find own network and information sources	KCF connects donors to a variety of groups and issues in the community and connects like-minded donors through events and initiatives