

Supporting our communities.

Why It Matters.

We have a vital role to play in local communities, as reflected explicitly in our updated purpose. Through our work with local causes and our food redistribution programmes, we want to make a big difference and are proud to continue to support the projects and organisations that really matter to our colleagues and customers in the communities where we live and work.

Relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



SDG 11 Sustainable cities and communities focuses on the importance of transforming communities. We are committed to supporting projects and causes that bring benefits to the areas where we operate, working in partnership with NGOs, suppliers and the wider industry.



SDG 17 Partnership for the Goals recognises the importance of collaboration. Our community programmes and partnerships across the Group have been developed with the input, knowledge and expertise of our colleagues, charities and NGO partners, and ongoing collaboration is critical to their success. Examples of some of our most impactful partnerships include with Cancer Research UK, the British Red Cross and our health charity partnership.

Highlights.

UK

- More than £93m in grants awarded to support over 46,000 community projects since 2015.
- Over £21m donated during our five-year Health Charity Partnership.
- Over £33m raised for Race for Life over the past 20 years.

Central Europe

- Over £3.7m donated to more than 5,400 community projects in our You Choose We Help Programme since 2016.

Republic of Ireland

- €6m in donations given to more than 21,000 community projects since 2014.
- €20m raised through the Tesco Ireland Charity Partner Programme since 2001.
- €7m fundraised for Children's Health Foundation Temple Street since 2014.

Our Approach.

Community is central to our new purpose. It is at the heart of what we do, where we live and how we shop. Given our reach across towns, regions and countries, we are proud to work with a wide range of national and local organisations to deliver impactful schemes and responsive programmes to benefit the communities we serve. We use the power of these relationships and insight from our customers and colleagues to identify clear opportunities where we can help tackle social and environmental challenges and work in partnership to address them. This includes food donations and redistribution to support families and community organisations.

In 2021, Public First, an independent consultancy, produced the [Tesco economic and social impact report](#) that sets out the different ways Tesco's economic and social impacts are helping businesses and communities across the UK. The report found that Tesco stores are more than just places where people buy food: they are critical local hubs, providing essential community services such as ATMs, pharmacies, opticians and Post Offices across the UK.

Community grant programmes

Our Tesco Community Grants provide much needed financial support to smaller community groups that matter to our colleagues and customers. Through programmes in the UK, Ireland and Central Europe, we fund a wide variety of projects that our customers vote for in store. Examples of grants can range from providing sports equipment and play areas for local groups, to counselling and support services.

UK: Tesco Community Grants

Our Tesco Community Grant scheme (previously Bags of Help) provides funding for local projects across the UK. To date, we have awarded over £93m in grants to over 46,000 community projects since launching in October 2015. Here's how it works:

- **Charities, community groups and not for profit organisations can apply for one of our grants** through our charity partner Groundwork.

- **Eligible projects are put forward to shortlisting panels** where Groundwork and Tesco colleagues select the projects that will go through to a customer vote.
- **Every three months customers and colleagues can vote** with a blue token for the project that they would like to receive funding in their local community.



[Read more about our Community Grants here.](#)

Republic of Ireland: Community Fund

Since 2014, the Community Fund initiative in Ireland has donated €6m to support more than 21,000 local community projects countrywide including schools, animal shelters, sports groups, elderly care centres, health organisations and many more.

- **Customers can nominate local causes** they wish to receive a donation from the Community Fund and vote in store with a recyclable blue token to show their support.
- **Each Tesco store donates up to €2,000** between three local good causes in its community every twelve weeks.



[Read about our Ireland Community Fund here.](#)

Central Europe: You Choose, We Help

Our You Choose, We Help programme in Central Europe enables customers to vote for local projects that benefit their community to receive a grant from Tesco to support their work. Since 2016 our customers cast over 80 million votes to choose their favourite community project. The scheme, the largest of its kind in the region, has reached more than 5,400 community groups across Central Europe since 2016.

- Local organisations are invited to submit proposals for their projects.
- Projects are shortlisted and customers can vote in store.



[Read more about our You Choose, We Help programme here.](#)

Working in partnership.

We work with charities and organisations whose vision matches ours as we strive to make a big difference. We raise funds through a combination of corporate giving as well as colleague and customer fundraising to donate millions to charitable causes and community projects. Alongside our fundraising and donations, we also work with our charity partners on key strategic initiatives. Our largest beneficiaries include:

- **Health Charity Partnership:** Our 'Helping you to live healthier' partnership with [Cancer Research UK](#), [British Heart Foundation](#) and [Diabetes UK](#) aims to inspire colleagues, customers and families to make healthier food choices to reduce disease and live longer. We run several initiatives throughout the year to enable customer and colleague involvement. In 2021/22 we held two fundraising appeals across all our UK stores where customers were able to round up their shop to the nearest £1. Over the 13-day in-store appeal on both occasions, customer donations totalled over £1.8m.
- **Cancer Research UK:** We have partnered with Cancer Research UK on Race for Life for the past 20 years to raise money for vital research into over 200 types of cancer, contributing over £33m since 2002.
- **British Red Cross:** Since 1997, we have donated over £15m to support their work in providing vital support for emergencies in the UK and humanitarian aid overseas.
- **Children's Health Foundation Temple Street:** The Tesco Ireland Charity Partner Programme has raised over €20m for charities in Ireland since 2001, with the Children's Health Foundation Temple Street its chosen charity partner since 2014. To date, we have raised over €7m to fund the purchase of vital medical equipment.

Alongside our fundraising and donations, we also work with our charity partners on strategic initiatives, including our four-year partnership with [WWF](#) which aims to halve the environmental impact of the average UK shopping basket.



[Read more about our charity partnerships here.](#)

Supporting communities through food redistribution.

Good food should never go to waste and we're committed to getting good food to those who need it, when they need it most. In line with our efforts to combat food waste, we have redistributed over 140 million meals in the UK to those that need it most with the help from our partners FareShare, Trussell Trust, FoodCloud and OLIO. We support communities through food redistribution in a number of ways:

- **Customer food collections:** Our customers in the UK, ROI and Central Europe can donate long life food to charity through our annual food collections.
- **Stronger Starts Programme:** In November 2021, Tesco Ireland launched a new [pilot programme](#) that will provide thousands of meals to feed children and families experiencing food insecurity. The programme is in partnership with the Good Grub Initiative, an Irish not-for-profit that distributes food for families through the DEIS school network. In May 2022, we [announced an expansion](#) of the Stronger Starts programme, aiming to provide one million free, healthy nutritious meals to primary school children and their families by May 2023.
- **Buy One to Help a Child:** In March 2022, we launched our second [Buy One to Help a Child](#) event where we provided a donation when customers purchased healthy fruit and vegetables in store or online during the campaign. The cash donated - £2.03m - enables our food redistribution charity partner FareShare to help thousands of children's charities across the UK who rely on regular donations to help families and young people in communities get the food and help they need. Through our first Buy One to Help a Child campaign, which ran in August 2021 over a three-week period, FareShare received the equivalent of over three million meals' worth of food, which was redistributed to charities and community groups working with children.



[Read more in our food waste and redistribution factsheet here.](#)

Supporting those affected by the war in Ukraine.

We are committed to supporting humanitarian relief efforts through our partnerships with the Red Cross, food banks and other relief organisations.

In response to the Ukraine crisis, combining our own donations and matching those of customers, we have raised almost £4m across the Group to support the vital work of the Red Cross, as well as more than £500,000 for humanitarian organisations in Central Europe as of April 2022. Here are just a few examples of how we have supported across our markets:

Central Europe

Our colleagues in Central Europe have worked alongside the Red Cross and other humanitarian organisations in Hungary, Slovakia and the Czech Republic to help in very practical ways, donating food, clothing and hygiene items for refugees, as well as offering logistical support and helping to move supplies at the Ukrainian border. For example, we sourced over 1,000 pallets of food and clothing which was supplied to humanitarian organisations in the first 7 weeks of the crisis.

We have created job opportunities in Central Europe and supported applications from Ukrainian refugees with language translation tools.

UK & ROI

- In the UK, customers have been given the opportunity to donate their Clubcard vouchers to help support Red Cross Ukraine Crisis Appeal.
- In the UK, over £1.5m has been raised through customer round up at checkouts.
- In ROI, we matched customer fundraising with over €500,000 given to the Irish Red Cross Ukraine Crisis Appeal.
- In the UK & ROI, Tesco Mobile calls to the Ukraine have been made free for those trying to reach friends and loved ones.
- Tesco Bank has removed all send fees, so customers can send money direct to a bank account for free using Moneygram at Tesco's International Money Transfer service.

Awards and Benchmarks.

2021 Most Admired Corporate-NGO Partnership - C&E

We were named joint winners for our Health Charity Partnership with British Heart Foundation, Cancer Research UK and Diabetes UK. Since 2018 we have been working to help our customers and colleagues make sustainable lifestyle changes and adopt healthy habits.



Performance.

Group data					
Commitment	KPIs	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Support the projects and causes that matter to the local communities where we operate	Corporate giving (£)	£83.1m	£73.9m	£109.2m	£89.2m
	Number of local projects or causes supported	25,848	17,406	23,192	18,043

2020/21 was an exceptional year as a result of COVID-19 and our corporate giving and support to local projects and charities increased significantly as a result.

Methodologies.

How we measure our progress

To track our progress in making a positive difference to the local communities where we operate, our KPIs track our total corporate giving and the number of local projects supported. A brief description of both can be found below.

Corporate giving (£)

Defined using '£' corporate giving aggregates the direct financial contribution Tesco makes to support external community projects and charities. Here, "direct financial contribution" refers to cash donations, gifts in kind, time (e.g. volunteering in work hours) and management costs. This is collated and reported annually across all markets.

Number of local projects or causes supported

The breadth of charities, community groups and organisations which provide support to children and families such as food banks, breakfast clubs and holiday hunger groups are all included in this KPI. We also include the national organisations that are supported by local level community groups.

This year we are also asking our colleagues to nominate groups, charities or organisations that may be important to them as part of our Tesco Community Grant vote every three months.

Fundraising for these or other charities outside our main charity partners are recorded as part of our corporate giving figures

Support includes cash donations, food donations, gifts in kind and/or colleague volunteer time.

Looking ahead.

We are committed to supporting causes that our colleagues and customers care about on a local and national level. We will continue to provide much needed financial support to smaller community groups through our community grants programmes and continue to work with our charity partners, helping to raise much needed funds for causes that matter.

Commitments and targets

To help build stronger communities through food and support for other projects or causes that matter in the towns and cities where we operate.

Read more about our approach

More Information

[Community grants \(UK\)](#)

[Our community champions at our UK stores](#)

[Group charitable donations policy](#)

[Our charity partnerships](#)

[Tesco Economic and Social Impact Report](#)

Highlights of our journey to date.

