



Social Impact Report 2025

Building stronger communities
for a net zero future

Community investment is central to Drax's commitment to be a good neighbour in the communities and regions where we operate.

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Members of our UK Community & Education team at a volunteer event near in Selby.

251

local projects funded in 2025

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Find more about our communities

Visit drax.com/about-us



Foreword

This year Drax launched a new Sustainability Framework, which includes a public commitment to partner with the communities we operate in to make a positive contribution to their lives and livelihoods.

We deliver this commitment through a blend of targeted social investment and active community engagement.

The Drax Foundation is our primary vehicle to deliver social investment, underpinned by our grassroots Community Fund. 2025 has been an impactful year for these programmes. We disbursed £3.1 million in funding to 251 non-profit organisations and community groups in the UK, US and Canada. We continued to deepen our partnerships in STEM education and future-ready skills, alongside reconnecting communities with nature, and programmes that improve energy efficiency and tackle fuel poverty. These priorities reflect our belief that a just and sustainable energy transition must have people and local communities at its heart.

Our Community and Education teams were active throughout 2025, supporting local community events, participating in listening sessions, and working in partnership with local non-profit organisations. Highlights include our Education Ambassadors programme in the UK, which enables Drax employees to mentor local school children and inspire future careers in the energy sector. In North America our Community Liaison Officers participated in a wide range of community-led initiatives to strengthen trust and connection.

We have been inspired by the non-profit organisations, educators, innovators and community leaders we've worked with this year to build a brighter and more sustainable future in the communities where we operate. We are also grateful to the many Drax employees who volunteer their time to make a real difference.

What we do

Drax Foundation

Building stronger communities for a net zero future

The Drax Foundation provides grants of £25,000–£100,000 for:

- STEM education and future-ready skills;
- nature and community green spaces;
- energy efficiency and fuel poverty.

We are particularly interested in programmes that benefit underserved communities, test new ideas, and find creative ways to tackle emerging issues that relate to our funding priorities. We recognise that to be impactful, non-profit organisations need core funding to innovate, fundraise and build new programmes. That’s why the Drax Foundation often provides funding for overhead costs and other harder-to-fundraise-for areas of work, alongside traditional project funding.

£3.1m

charitable giving during 2025

Drax Community Fund

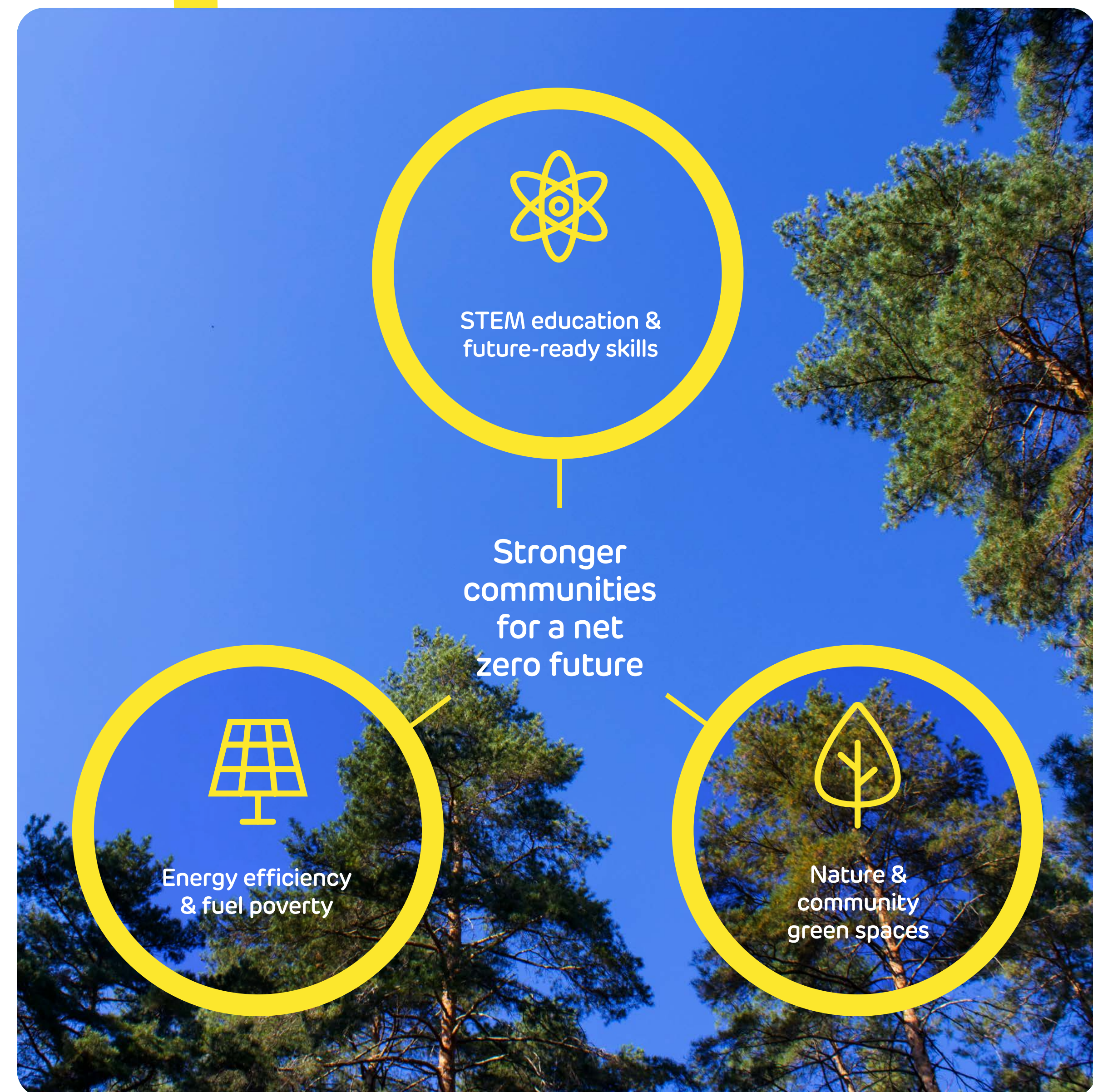
Investing in people, places and potential

Each of the communities where Drax operates has unique needs, challenges and opportunities. Our Community Fund responds to these needs by providing donations of £500–£10,000 to grassroots non-profit organisations and community groups that deliver programmes and services in the following areas:

- education, skills and employability;
- healthy communities;
- essential community services and events;
- nature and community spaces;
- low carbon communities.

We are committed to making a measurable contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We have prioritised eight intersecting goals:

Our Priority SDGs



Drax employees making a difference

There are many ways for our colleagues to make a difference in our local communities. This includes skills-based volunteering, hands-on nature restoration projects, and active fundraising for local charities.



Laura Baker
Lead Chemist,
Drax Power Station, UK

Volunteer role:
Education Ambassador

"It's so nice to feel that I am encouraging the next generation, particularly young girls, sparking their interest in science, talking about my work and the wide range of careers that are available in the energy sector."



Anna Kaufman
Forest, Nature and
Conservation Manager, Canada

Volunteer role:
Drax Foundation Committee member

"As a volunteer of our Canada Drax Foundation Committee, I bridge my professional work in conservation with community impact by guiding funding for nature projects and STEM education. It's deeply meaningful for me to help channel resources toward building resilient ecosystems and inspiring the next generation of environmental stewards."



Flavio Menandro
Facilities Administrator,
Canada

Volunteer role:
Sustainability Network member

"As a volunteer Sustainability Ambassador I have the chance to connect with colleagues from different departments and discuss what we can do to help our company, community, and the planet. There is always something new to learn!"



Crystal Murray
Office Administrator,
United States

Volunteer role:
Community Liaison

"Having the opportunity to serve as a vital link between Drax and my local community involves listening, learning and building trusted relationships. It means collaborating with schools, charities, councils and community groups, to deliver projects that create long-term social value."



Jon Kilby
Security Risk and
Compliance Manager, UK

Volunteer Role
Volunteer with Canal & River Trust

"We cleared a stretch of Selby canal of floating pennywort, a fast-growing invasive species that damages the canal's biodiversity. It's very positive for Drax and the local community that we have the opportunity to help improve the health of Selby canal for the wider community."



We recognise the importance of understanding the impact of our programmes. This year we joined Business for Societal Impact (B4SI), which is the international standard for measuring corporate social impact. We completed our first year of B4SI impact measurement for 2024, so we now have a baseline against which to measure our performance in the coming years. Our 2025 B4SI data will appear in our 2026 Social Impact Report.

2024 corporate community investment

Inputs	
Type of contribution made	
Cash	£3.86m
Employee volunteer hours	3,240 hours
Donations as a % of profit-before-tax	3.6%
Charitable gifts	20%
Community investment	80%
Funding in support of Indigenous communities	7.65%
Donations by focus area	
Education	£1,174,529
Environment	£1,793,335
Health	£267,100
Social welfare	£288,938
Arts & culture	£16,526
Emergency relief	£11,538
Economic development	£3,205
Other community support	£310,843
Donations by geography	
Europe	£2,797,465
North America	£1,068,550

Outputs	
Community outputs	
Number of beneficiaries	318,649
Number of organisations directly and indirectly supported	1,146
Employee engagement	
Number of Drax employees participating in community activities	561
Number of volunteer hours contributed by Drax employees	3,240
Leverage	
Employee payroll giving (GAYE)	£361,637
Drax 50th Anniversary fundraising	£43,541
Impacts	
Depth of impact reported by beneficiaries	
Connection (better awareness of an issue)	98,461 people
Improvement (better ability to manage an issue)	6,164 people
Type of impact reported by beneficiaries	
Experienced a positive change in behaviour or attitude	7,574 people
Developed new skills or an increase in personal effectiveness	104,238 people
Experienced a positive impact on quality of life	230 people
Impacts on community organisations	
Organisations that improved or delivered new services	15
Organisations that increased their profile	12
Organisations that could employ more staff and/or take on more volunteers	12
Organisations that improved their management systems	7

Our impact: 2025 in focus

During 2025, we disbursed £3.1 million through the Drax Foundation and Community Fund to support 251 non-profit organisations and community groups.

The programmes we funded during 2025 are projected to reach more than 118,000 members of our local communities and regions.

£3.1m

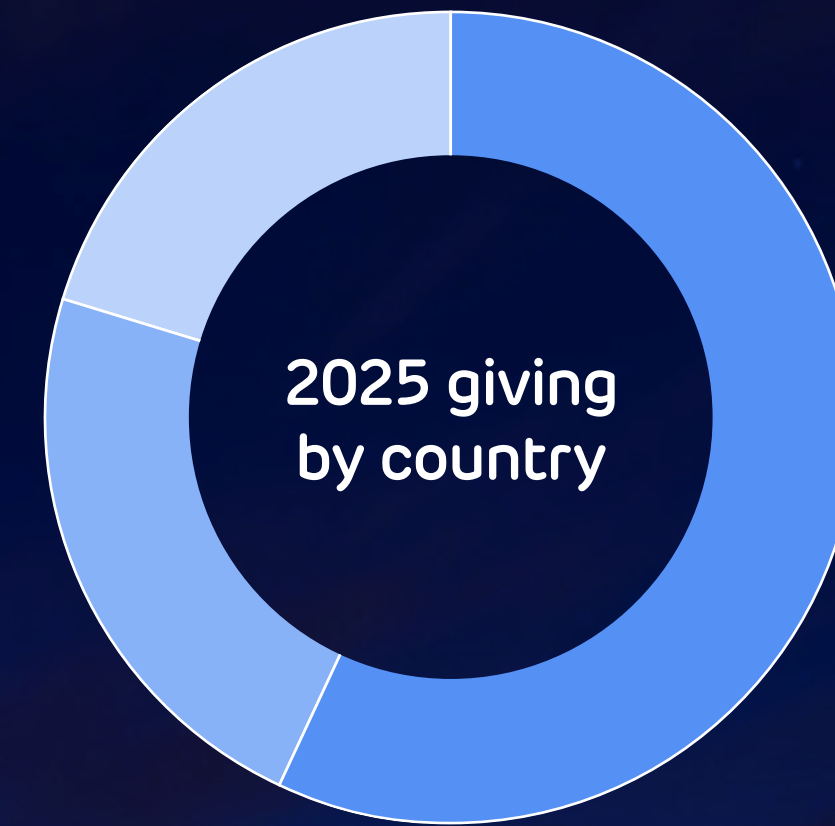
in charitable giving during 2025

118,148

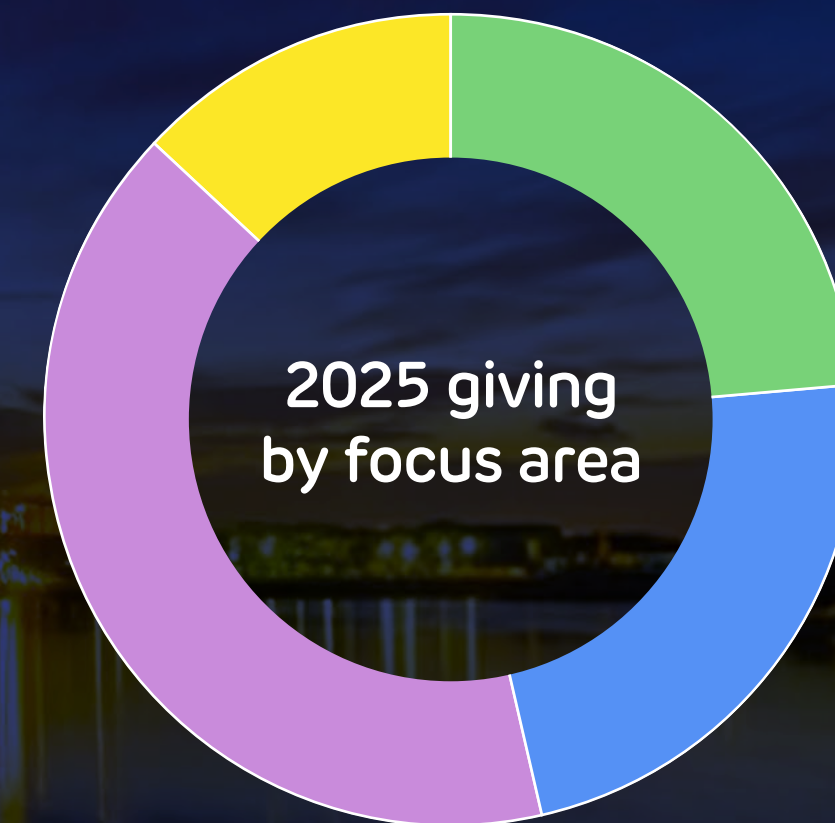
beneficiaries

251

non-profit organisations and community groups supported



- £1,778,500 United Kingdom
- £704,700 United States
- £629,300 Canada



- £743,500 STEM education and future-ready skills
- £707,600 Nature and community green spaces
- £1,262,200 Energy efficiency and fuel poverty
- £399,200 Local communities (Community Fund)

We've fuelled another year of STEM learning in our Scottish communities in partnership with the Glasgow Science Centre.

How we made a difference this year

The projects and programmes supported during 2025 are projected¹ to deliver the following outcomes in our communities for climate, nature and people.

Energy efficiency

22

schools with new LED lighting and/or solar panels

114,005

tonnes of CO₂ saved

Reconnecting with nature



34,862

people participating in nature-based learning

15,000

people with improved access to nature

STEM education and future-ready skills

28,140

children participating in STEM education

2,260

adults in skills programmes



Fuel poverty



1,060

households in fuel poverty with financial support

Our communities

Community Fund

190

grassroots organisations supported through our Community Fund

Community engagement

Participation in

937

community events, meetings and listening sessions



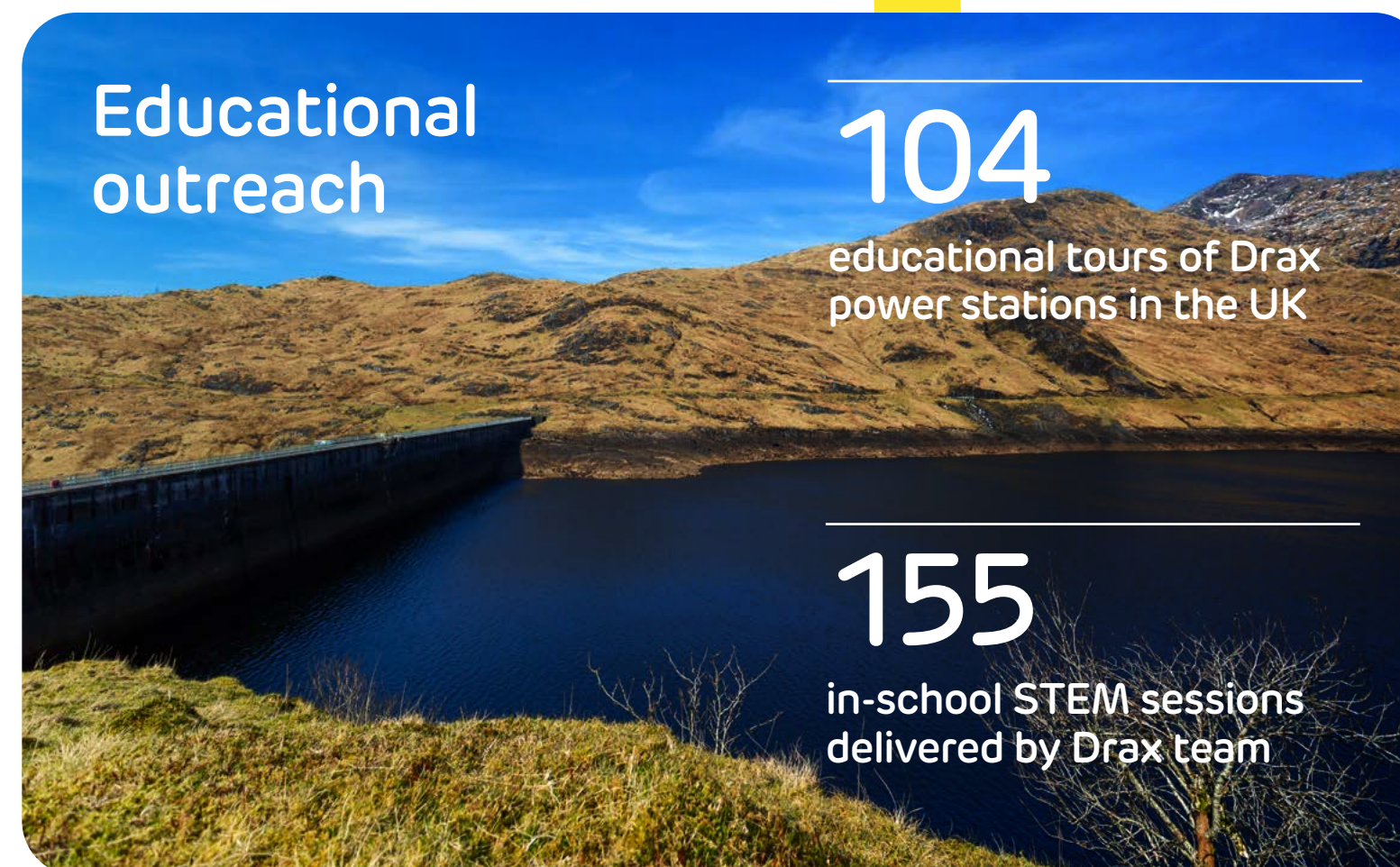
Educational outreach

104

educational tours of Drax power stations in the UK

155

in-school STEM sessions delivered by Drax team



Employee engagement



20%

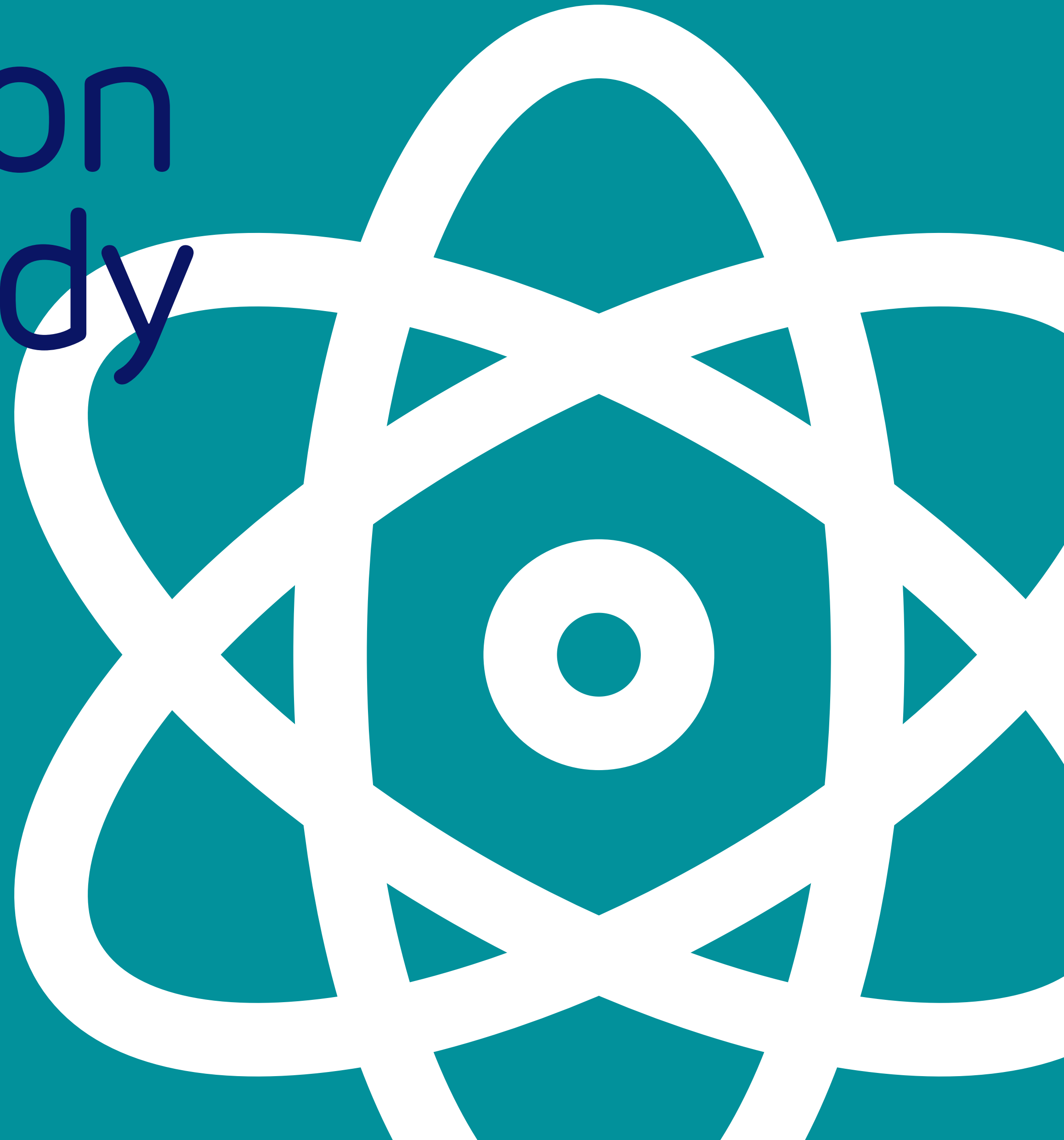
increase in employee volunteering compared to 2024

¹ Drax Foundation and Community Fund data for 2025 is projected based on information provided by grantees in their application forms. This will be verified in 2026 using the B4SI framework, once the projects have been implemented.



STEM education and future-ready skills

Meet some of
our 2025 grantees



STEM education in underserved communities

STEM education and skills in Yorkshire and the Humber

Country: UK

Teach First trains talented teachers in some of the UK's poorest areas. 40% of STEM teachers in disadvantaged schools in England are Teach First trained.

We're working with Teach First in Yorkshire & the Humber to fund 12 high potential STEM trainees to complete their Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE). This is creating inspiring role models, particularly for girls and minority pupils.

“Drax Foundation’s investment in teacher development will have a lasting impact – strengthening leadership in schools and improving outcomes for young people in the communities that need it most. Together we are helping to build a fairer future through education.”

Russell Hobby
Teach First CEO

Teach First
www.teachfirst.org.uk/

Our SDGs

1,500
children from underserved communities with improved STEM education

12
teachers trained in STEM subjects



Developing youth skills in urban forestry in Louisiana

Country: US

Southern University is an HBCU (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. We have been working with Southern since 2024.

This year we supported a programme to enable more school children from underserved communities to access hands-on learning in agriculture and urban forestry. Participating students will develop practical skills, helping to prepare them for careers in agriculture, forestry and environmental conservation. This programme is strengthening partnerships between schools and universities and helping to grow an inclusive and sustainable workforce pipeline for the future.

Drax employees also participated in a capacity building day for under-graduate and graduate students at Southern, focused on preparing them to enter the workforce.

Southern University, Louisiana
www.suagcenter.com/

Our SDGs

“The capacity building day with Drax helped to equip students from all majors with highly transferable, and career-ready competencies. This reinforced a critical message: agriculture is more than farming, more than animals, and more than trees – it is innovation, sustainability, and leadership for the future.”

Robert Easley, Jr.
Director of Advancement at the Southern University Ag Center



100+
school children from underserved communities participating

100
university students refining leadership and workforce skills

5-10
faculty mentors guiding the students



We're working with Gulf Coast Center for Sustainability and Ecotourism in Alabama, US supporting nature-based learning for local children.



Future-ready skills and work experience

Employability skills and work experience for Indigenous youth in Canada

Country: Canada

The Outland Youth Employment Program (OYEP) delivers work-integrated learning and training opportunities that support Indigenous high school-aged youth to build skills, confidence, and pathways to future success.

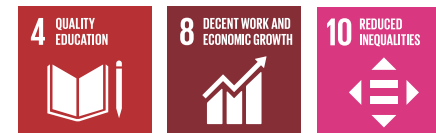
Programming is developed in collaboration and partnership with Indigenous communities, employers, and educators, ensuring learning is locally relevant, culturally connected, and responsive to regional workforce needs. We are working with OYEP to support paid summer employment and training for 25 Indigenous youth in British Columbia. The funding targets critical gaps in employment readiness, mentorship, and education.

25

Indigenous youth participating in employability programmes

www.oyep.ca/

Our SDGs



"I learned that I'm much more hard working and capable than I thought. I have a lot of determination and if I put my all into everything I do, the chances of it working out are almost 100%. I can't put into words how much OYEP really means to me, I'll be grateful for the rest of my life."

Testimonial from OYEP participant



Drax team with OYEP participants in British Columbia

Skills and mentoring for youth in Yorkshire

Country: UK

SKILLZ provides bespoke workshops and employability skills for youth at-risk of disengaging from education. In North Yorkshire the rate of young people not in education, employment or training stands at 5.5%, which is above the national average.

We are working with SKILLZ in North Yorkshire near the Drax Power Station to provide weekly mentoring sessions for groups of teens. Each session covers employability skills and career talks delivered by Drax mentors. The students also participated in workplace visits to the Drax Power Station to understand the careers available locally within the energy sector.

1,890

young people engaged

17

Drax mentors

3

workplace visits

100%

of participants reporting increased knowledge and confidence

"Support from the Drax Foundation enabled us to run our first 10-week employability group mentoring programme for Year 9 and 10 students across three schools. With mentors mostly from Drax, young people developed employability and soft skills, including teamwork, problem-solving, confidence, job searching, CV writing and interview skills."

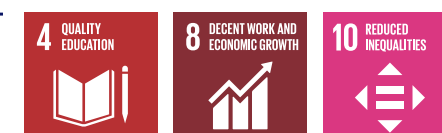
Kirsty Copley
Company Director, SKILLZ



Drax employees volunteering with SKILLZ

<https://skillzcic.co.uk/>

Our SDGs





Nature and community green spaces

Meet some of
our 2025 grantees



Reconnecting with nature

Nature-based learning for children in Alabama

Country: US

The Gulf Coast Center for Ecotourism & Sustainability promotes sustainable tourism and environmental awareness in Alabama. They deliver this through conservation programmes for school-aged children and local residents.

This year we supported the launch of the Gulf Coast Eco Center campus. This campus seeks to be a leader in environmental education, place-based learning, and community-led conservation. Our funding is supporting core costs during a critical time.

1

full time Coordinator position funded

20

youth bicycles and safety gear

6

kayaks for watershed education

2025 was a pivotal year for us as we opened our new Gulf Coast Eco Center campus and launched new programs. Drax Foundation funds have supported key education personnel and enabled us to invest in equipment vital to our mission to connect people with the natural environment."

Travis Langen
Executive Director, Gulf Coast Center



Gulf Coast Center for Ecotourism & Sustainability

Gulf Coast Center for Ecotourism & Sustainability
<https://gulfcenter.org/>



Our SDGs

Community-led conservation in Selby, Yorkshire

Country: UK

Canal & River Trust is the UK's largest canal charity, caring for a 2,000-mile network of rivers and canals.

We are partnering with the Trust along the Selby Canal, which has seen an increase in highly invasive floating pennywort. This threatens native species and reduces light and oxygen levels in the water. We are funding a team of local volunteers (the 'Towpath Taskforce') to assist with the removal of pennywort. We are also supporting a six-week forensic removal programme and installing new bird boxes.

We have been able to significantly reduce the impact of pennywort along the Selby Canal. This funding has enabled us to bring in a specialist team and equipment earlier than usual – stopping the weed before it took hold – and to purchase a floating pontoon, enabling safe access to hard-to-reach areas."

Sean McGinley
Regional Director for Yorkshire & North East, Canal & River Trust

Canal & River Trust
<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/>



Our SDGs



Drax employees volunteering with Canal & River Trust

24

Towpath Taskforce volunteering sessions

900

volunteer hours tackling invasive species

6-week

forensic removal programme completed

10

bird boxes installed

Making space for nature

Community support for forest restoration in British Columbia

Country: Canada

The Raincoast Conservation Foundation is a team of conservationists and scientists who use peer-reviewed science and community engagement to protect the habitats of British Columbia's coastal umbrella species.

This year, we are supporting Raincoast's Land Healing Stewards Initiative. This partnership uses relational approaches to deliver forest restoration and education, and reinvigorate community connections.

35

youth participants engaged

8

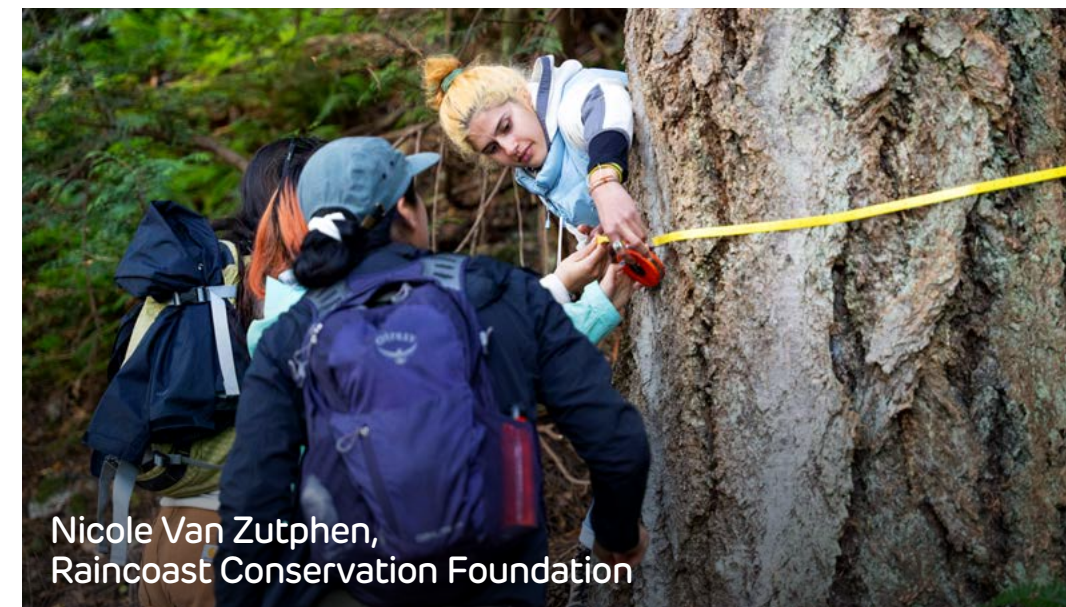
adult participants engaged

4

sites with active programmes

"We have been able to undertake an immersive five day-sea-to-soil learning expedition for local youth, where participants learned about coastal forest ecosystem conservation and were part of stewarding KELÁ_EKE Kingfisher Forest through hands-on restoration and monitoring activities."

Priya Puri
Forest Conservation Program Coordinator and LHSI co-lead



Nicole Van Zutphen, Raincoast Conservation Foundation

Raincoast Conservation Foundation
<https://www.raincoast.org/>



Reintroducing the endangered corncrake to the Lower Derwent Valley

Country: UK

The Lower Derwent valley in Yorkshire is one of the largest grassland / hay meadow complexes in the UK. It is the only site in the England that supports a small population of endangered wild corncrakes.

This project, one of the first of its kind in the region, aims to re-establish a sustainable corncrake population by restoring traditional hay meadows, creating tailored breeding habitats, and working with local landowners to ensure the long-term viability of the species. This summer, a group of Drax volunteers assisted with the release of corncrakes, as a first step towards re-establishing a sustainable, self-supporting population.

"Supporting projects like the corncrake re-introduction aligns closely with our goal to promote nature-positive action. The Lower Derwent Valley is a jewel of biodiversity, and we're proud to back the Friends group in their mission to restore and protect this remarkable landscape for future generations."

Jane Breach
Drax Foundation Manager

74

corncrakes reintroduced

30,000

visitors to the site each year

300

local school children engaged through talks and site visits



Craig Ralston, Friends of Lower Derwent Valley

Friends of Lower Derwent Valley Conservation Group





We're working with Audubon Delta in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi to conserve and restore natural ecosystems for birds and support environmental education.



Water safety in Scotland

Improving water safety for school children around our hydro power plants

Country: UK

Embers Aquatics was born out of a love of water and a vision that everyone should have the opportunity to learn to swim and be safe around water.

We are working with Embers Aquatics in Argyll & Bute, Lanarkshire, and Dumfries & Galloway to provide age-appropriate workshops for school children who live close to our hydro plants. They have also created a teachers' pack connecting schools to Water Safety Scotland resources and helping remote families to access free 'Learn to Swim' programmes. This is against a backdrop of the number of drownings in Scotland being almost double the UK average. This work is supported by our partnership with the Loch Ken Trust, which delivers practical outdoor water safety sessions to complement Embers Aquatics' in-school sessions.

11 The ongoing support from the Drax Foundation will allow us to deliver water safety education for an additional 2,500 children in 2025 in 100 primary schools across Scotland. The number of children unable to swim is rising so water safety education is more important than ever."

Anna Roscoe
Embers Aquatics

100
workshops

2,500
school children with improved life-saving skills and improved health and access to the outdoors

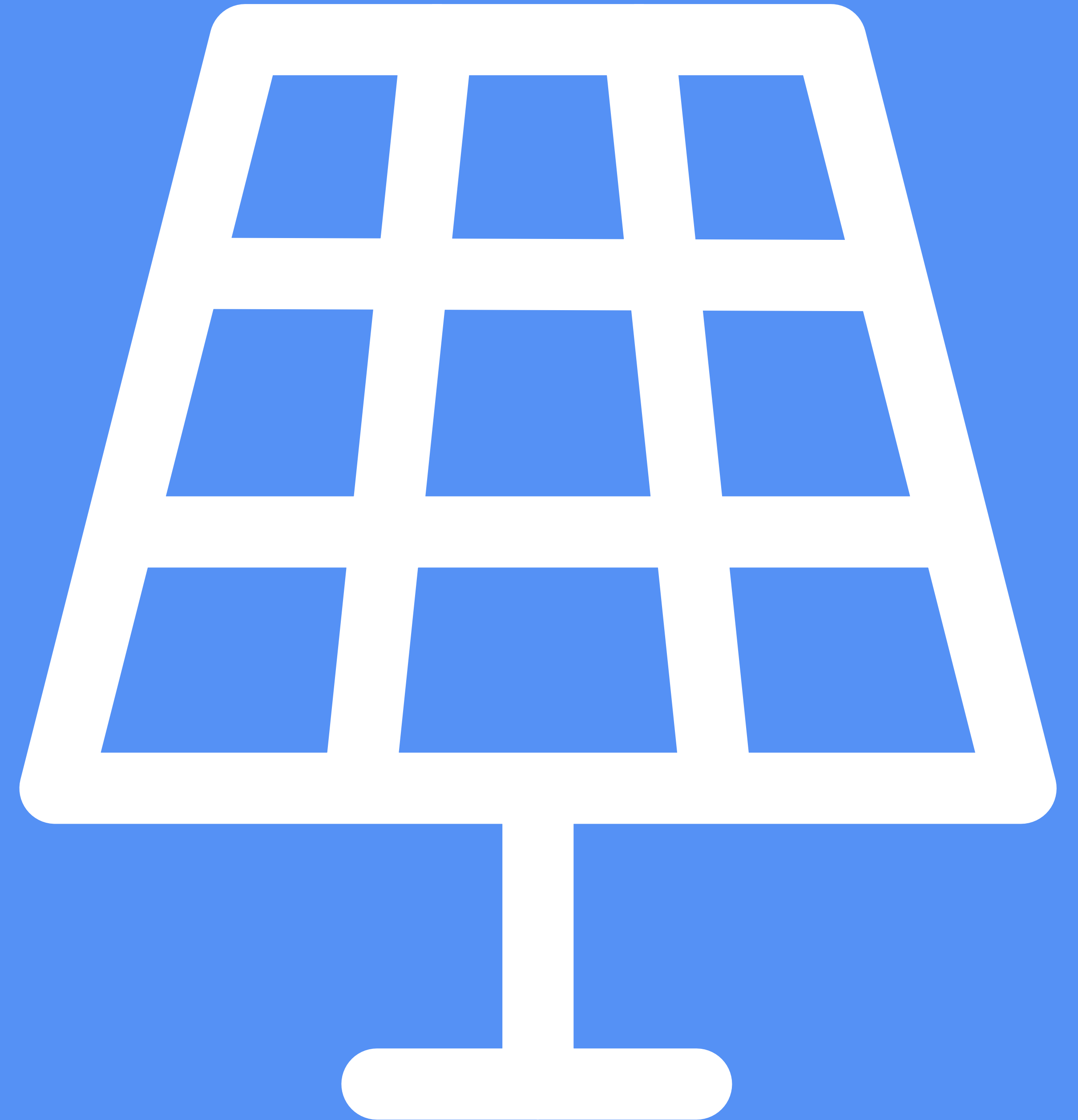
Embers Aquatics, Loch Ken Trust
<https://www.embersaquatics.com/>
<https://lochken.org.uk/>

Our SDGs



Energy efficiency and fuel poverty

Meet some of our 2025 grantees



Improving energy efficiency in UK schools

Energy analysis tools and education to cut fuel bills

Country: UK

Energy Sparks helps schools become more energy efficient through energy analysis tools and education. We have been working with Energy Sparks since 2023.

This year's funding enabled 150 schools to access the Energy Sparks energy management tools, education and resources at no cost. This has engaged up to 50,000 children, and the schools are on track to save more than £1m in energy bills and 1,500 tonnes of CO₂ during the school year 2025/26.

150

schools with access to energy-saving tools, resources and education

~£1m

saved from electricity bills among participating schools during 2025/26

“ The ongoing funding from the Drax Foundation will allow participating schools to embed energy saving behaviours across their school communities and provide more opportunities for children and young people to develop green skills.”

Dr Claudia Towner
Energy Sparks CEO & Programme Director



Children from Horsford Primary school monitoring energy use

Energy Sparks
<https://energysparks.uk/>



LED lighting and solar panels for schools

Country: UK

This year we concluded a three-year collaboration to help schools in underserved communities to become more energy-efficient, reduce fuel bills, and cut carbon emissions – while improving energy and climate literacy among participating schools and children.

Over the three-year period, we installed LED lighting and/or solar panels in 54 schools in and around the communities where Drax operates in England and Scotland. Between 2023–2025, participating schools saved a combined total of ~1million in energy bills and reduced CO₂ emissions by 1,684 tonnes CO₂e.

“ The new LED lighting and solar panels will help us to save money on our energy bills, which is critical when the cost of fuel is so high. It's also a great opportunity to engage the children about practical measures to address energy efficiency and climate change.”

Bernadette McMillan
Head Teacher Taynuilt Primary School

Our impact in 2025

23

schools with LED and/or solar panels installed

64%

average annual reduction in electricity bills among participating schools

62%

average annual reduction in CO₂ emissions among participating schools



Our Scotland Community Manager with Head Teacher and pupils from Taynuilt Primary School



Tackling fuel poverty

Supporting families struggling to pay fuel bills

Country: UK

The Fuel Bank Foundation (FBF) works with a network of local partners to support families who are unable to pay for the cost of energy. Households that prepay for energy with a verified need are referred to FBF to receive same-day help to get the lights and heating back on. They also receive energy advice to reduce the likelihood of future referrals.

We are supporting FBF in the communities where Drax operates in the UK. 1,156 households have benefited from FBF core services in 2025 including financial help and advisory support to address the root causes of their crisis. Research showed that 65% of clients reported an improvement in mental wellbeing and a reduction in stress.

1,200

people supported with fuel vouchers in 2025

60%

of clients reported an improvement in physical health

“The emergency fuel vouchers create the breathing space that the advice provided by Fuel Bank can be acted upon and, where appropriate, we will also offer an onward referral for additional support.”

Matthew Cole
CEO, Fuel Bank Foundation



Adobe Stock

Fuel Bank Foundation
<https://www.fuelbankfoundation.org/>



Addressing fuel poverty in rural Scotland

Country: UK

ALlenergy works to promote sustainable energy use and renewable energy generation, address fuel poverty, and reduce carbon emissions.

We are working with ALlenergy in Scotland to provide in-school education and community events on energy efficiency and sustainable energy solutions. We are also supporting their Affordable Warmth programme, which has a 25-year track record of alleviating fuel poverty in Argyll & Bute. This year's funding helped more than 400 vulnerable households with crisis funds, energy advice, and referrals to home improvement schemes, including Scottish Government-funded insulation and heating replacements.



Community event led by ALlenergy

600

school children engaged in energy education

3,000

community members participated in energy efficiency sessions

400 +

households in fuel poverty with financial and practical support

“Drax Foundation funding has assisted some of the most vulnerable households in Argyll & Bute who are experiencing fuel poverty. It has also enabled us to provide in-school workshops on energy efficiency and renewable energy, and careers events for young people, inspiring the next generation to discover a diverse range of local employment opportunities.”

Lynda Mitchell
ALlenergy

ALlenergy
<https://alienergy.org.uk/>





Our communities



Where we work

Our communities

Our Community and Education teams work across Drax's operational footprint in the UK, US and Canada. This work combines hands-on community engagement with local partnerships and support for grassroots non-profit organisations through our Community Fund. This year we participated in more than 1,000 community engagements, reaching more than 45,000 members of our local communities.

Canada



US



UK



Key

- Operation plants
- Corporate office
- Ports

Community engagement: Drax Power Station and surrounding area

Our Community & Education team at the Drax Power Station in the UK delivers educational tours of the power station, in-school STEM education and mentoring, and a wide range of community outreach and local events.

Our community hub at the Skylark Centre

The Skylark Centre is a nature reserve built on reclaimed land at the Drax Power station. It is open to the public for recreation and serves as a community hub. During 2025 we hosted a wide range of community events at the Centre, including nature and STEM events for local families for Easter and Halloween, and a Santa's Grotto at Christmas. This year we partnered Groundwork Yorkshire's "Go Wild" summer programme, enabling young people to use the Centre for nature-based learning activities. We also provided regular alternative provision for Selby High School students incorporating hands-on outdoor learning. In addition to education and family events, the Centre is available to be used at no cost to local community groups and non-profit organisations.



Children at Skylark Centre Easter event at Drax Power station

Our Community Fund at work in North Yorkshire

In 2025 our Community Fund supported 84 local non-profit organisations and community groups in and around Selby with more than £78,000 in donations. This included support for local youth programmes, schools, foodbanks, hospices, and sports clubs.



Community Fund recipient, Green Team, Goole

Educational tours and STEM learning at the Drax Power Station



Local school children meeting Sparky the Robodog at Drax Power Station

This year our Community & Education team hosted 97 educational tours of the Drax Power Station for 2,300 school and college students. They also delivered 111 STEM education and careers events reaching more than 9,500 primary, secondary and college students. This included 21 Lego coding club sessions for school children who live close to the Drax Power Station. In addition, our Education Ambassadors programme saw 36 Drax employees deliver more than 250 hours of mentoring for school children interested in pursuing careers in the energy sector.

Community engagement at our Scottish hydros

Drax operates hydro plants in Argyll & Bute, Lanarkshire, and Dumfries & Galloway. Our local Community team works across the region, combining hands-on community engagement with educational tours of power stations, with support for local non-profit organisations and community groups.

A warm welcome at the Cruachan Power Station Visitor Centre

The Visitor Centre at the Cruachan Power Station has served as a hub for the local community since 2018. It is open to visitors to the area as well as residents and school children for educational visits. This year, the Visitor Centre welcomed 25,500 visitors.

“The team at the Cruachan Visitor Centre feel so proud to serve our local communities, and be part of local life. Cruachan is such a special place, it’s a privilege to be part of its story”

Sarah Baird
Drax Community Manager, Scotland



Cruachan Visitor Centre team

Our Community Fund at work in Scotland

In 2025, our Community Fund supported 38 local non-profit organisations and community groups in Argyll & Bute, Dumfries & Galloway, and Lanarkshire with £30,475 in donations. This included support for local youth programmes, foodbanks, schools, libraries, and sports clubs.



Children from Park Primary School enjoying their new playground supported by our Community Fund

Business apprenticeships for students in Oban

Drax Community Manager, Sarah Baird, with Oban High School students at Cruachan dam



This year we supported students studying for a Foundation Apprenticeship in business at Oban High School by helping them complete a STEM-focused, work-based challenge about the Cruachan Visitor Centre. We also attended STEM careers events at the school and funded visits from Glasgow Science Centre’s outreach team. A team of pupils has been supported with their entry to the “Future Assets” Scottish competition, through engagement with Drax employees to gain a deeper understanding of our operations.

Community engagement in Canada

Our Canada-based Community Liaison Officers partner with our rural communities in British Columbia and Alberta to support local non-profit organisations and community events.

Partnering with our community in Entwistle, Alberta

This year, we participated in a wide range of community events including Canada Day celebrations and the Community Round Dance. We strengthened our relationship with the Native Counselling Services of Canada and local county. Our support for local school food programmes continued, helping to sustain hot food service at the Evansburg, Entwistle and Wildwood Elementary schools.

"It has been a privilege to partner with our communities, learn from them, and be good neighbors in the places where we live and work."

Shannon Zabelski
Drax Community Fund & Liaison Officer, Canada



Elder Mustus, speaking at the Community Round dance in Wabamun, Alberta

Our Community Fund at work in Canada

In 2025, our Community Fund supported 37 local non-profit organisations and community groups in British Columbia and Alberta with £105,770 in donations. This included support for local youth programmes, foodbanks, schools, health programmes, and green space development.



New picnic tables for the Lavington Elementary School and Community Centre

At the heart of downtown Armstrong, British Columbia

Our Armstrong plant is in the centre of the downtown. Our engagement this year focused on deepening relationships with our closest neighbours, including a plant tour of the Drax facility for local residents. We also participated in community and business networks and supported initiatives that enhance food access and community wellbeing. We invested in local elementary schools – supporting a new school garden at Armstrong Elementary School, accessibility improvements at Highland Park Elementary School, and delivered hands-on STEAM learning into classrooms through our partnership with Science World.



Our Community Liaison Officer and Operations Supervisor dropping off food hampers at Armstrong Food Bank



Drax employees from Vancouver, Canada volunteering at Ronald McDonald House's chef-led meals programme, providing hot food for children undergoing medical treatment, and their families.

Community engagement in the US South

We are partnering with our communities in Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama to ensure that we're listening to and collaborating with our neighbours. 2025 has been a busy year with the team participating in a wide range of community events, and providing support for local non-profit organisations that deliver important services in these rural communities.

Our Community Fund at work in the US South

In 2025, our Community Fund supported 26 local non-profit organisations and community groups in Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana with £167,900 in donations. This included support for local youth programmes, foodbanks, schools, health programmes and community events.

"It's such a privilege to work at the heart of my local community, and know that we're making a real difference in people's lives."

Shelby Kelmell
Drax Community Fund Officer, US



LaSalle Economic Development District Senior Scholarship Reception

Celebrating Thanksgiving with our neighbours

Each year we celebrate Thanksgiving with our local communities in the US South. This year we donated more than 1,000 turkeys and hams to our neighbours in Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi. This was led by our local Community Liaison Officer and supported by Drax volunteers at each plant.



Partnering with our communities in Louisiana

This year we participated in a wide range of community events in our Louisiana communities. This included events with Keep Morehouse Beautiful, Olla Homecoming, and the Dreams Summer Camp. These activities are providing opportunities to connect directly with residents and provide support for initiatives that strengthen our communities.



Looking ahead to 2026

As we look to 2026, the Drax Foundation will build on its strong track record of supporting communities and driving positive social and environmental impact, while evolving how we engage and measure success.

A key priority for the coming year is to deepen our employee engagement, creating more opportunities for colleagues across the business to contribute their skills, time and expertise to our programmes, whether through volunteering, mentoring, fundraising or other employee-led initiatives. By strengthening the connection between our people and the communities we serve, we aim to foster shared purpose and amplify impact.

Collaboration will also play a central role in how we work. In 2026, the Foundation will build more strategic and collaborative partnerships with non-profit organisations, community groups and peer funders. By working together, sharing learning and aligning resources, we can tackle complex challenges more effectively and deliver more sustainable outcomes.

We will continue to strengthen our approach to impact measurement, using the Business for Societal Impact (B4SI) framework to better understand, evidence and communicate the difference our funding and actions create. This is helping us to make informed decisions, improve accountability and ensure our investments deliver meaningful, long-term benefits for climate, nature and people.

Alongside these developments we remain committed to our core community engagement programmes and funding for STEM education, reconnecting people with nature, and improving energy efficiency and programmes that help people experiencing fuel poverty. We are well positioned to create lasting, positive change into 2026 and beyond.



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The Drax Foundation is a donor advised fund administered by Charities Trust (an independently registered charity with the UK Charity Commission, Charity No. 327489)

All reporting in this document refers to funding disbursed during calendar year 1 January – 31 December 2024.

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