

Impact Report 2025: Summary

The Ulysses Trust is a grant-giving charity that provides financial assistance, encouragement, and guidance to support challenging expeditions and adventurous activities planned and undertaken by the UK's Volunteer Reserve and Cadet Forces. These adventurous activities have a proven positive impact on individual development, unit morale, and social mobility - they are **not funded by the public purse**. Since 1992 we have extended grants totaling nearly **£4.37 million** to support over **47,235 young people** participating in over **3,240 expeditions**. This condensed Impact Report provides a succinct overview of our activities in 2025. A more detailed version will be published later in 2026. Approximately **37.2% of Ulysses Trust grants supported disadvantaged participants** according to the unit leaders. Below is a breakdown of the grants awarded by The Ulysses Trust to cadet, reservist and University Officer Cadet (OCdt) expeditions in 2025.

Cadets



EX: Cockney Venturer Novice 12 2025
Unit: Greater London South East ACF

Reservists



EX: Trad Venture 2025
Unit: RAF Mountaineering Assoc.

University OCdts



EX: Tammie Norrie 25 2025
Unit: Bristol OTC & Exeter OTC

77 expedition grants
2,053 participants
£221,585 grants

39 expedition grants
529 reservists
£68,097 grants

26 expedition grants
653 participants
£79,625 grants

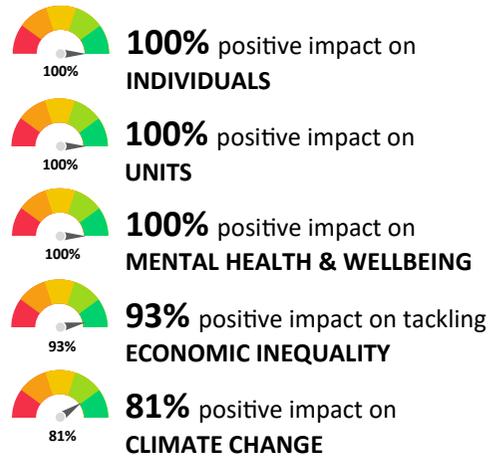
The Trust's funding model is built on partnership. Our grants are designed to support expeditions, not replace a unit's responsibility to secure funding from a range of sources. For example, in 2025 our grants covered 25.5% of the total cost of cadet expedition applications, with the remaining funding coming from other sources. The four pie charts below show how our 2025 grants were distributed among beneficiaries and the types of activities we supported.



Impact Measurement

Below is a summary of the 118 survey responses received from the units that took part in the 128 expeditions that deployed in 2025. It includes Social Value data, measuring the effect of challenge and adventure across three areas, focussed on how outcomes tackle **mental health and wellbeing, economic inequality and climate change**- themes that align with the UK Government's Social Value Model.

2025 Results



Grants reached units in all parts of the UK in 2025, as shown on the map (right), displaying expeditions supported (🏕️), participant numbers (👤) and grants made, based on Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association Regions. 13 grants were awarded to expeditions that recruited from more than one region or UK-wide, so did not specify an RFCA region. These totaled an additional 412 participants and £27,995 of grant value.

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| 2024 | VS | 2025 |
|---|----|--|
| Applications 119 received rejected 9 cancelled 5 | | Applications 203 received rejected 55 cancelled 6 |
| Expeditions 105 supported | | Expeditions 142 supported |
| Participants 2,156 | | Participants 3,235 |
| Grants £311,351 | | Grants £369,307 |
| % Cadets 38.3% disadvantaged | | % Cadets 37.2% disadvantaged |

Regional Breakdown 2025

