



Newcastle Building Society shares significant funding support as communities feel the squeeze

Newcastle Building Society has shared details of its community donations made since the start of the year including a new partnership with armed forces charity Walking With The Wounded, and a contribution of £25,000 to the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

In total, the north east's largest building society has provided community funding of £182,000 so far in 2022, as part of its ongoing commitment to support those in need. This is in addition to a further commitment of £50,000 in 2022 to Newcastle United Foundation as part of its long term partnership with the club's official charity.

One of the largest donations was made in April to the Disaster Emergency Committee (DEC) to help those impacted by the conflict in Ukraine. DEC charities and their local partners are on the ground in Ukraine and neighbouring countries, providing food, water, shelter and medical assistance.

At the same time, the Society also committed to support colleagues who choose to open their home to a refugee through the Homes for Ukraine scheme. As well as providing an additional two days' paid leave, the Society will provide colleagues with a grant of £500 to help with settling in costs.

£50,000 was awarded to the Sir Bobby Robson Foundation to continue to fund a specialist nursing post at the Freeman Hospital. Having supported the Foundation for each of the past ten years, the Society is now the largest corporate donor to the charity, with a cumulative contribution of over £3m.

In March, a new five year partnership with Walking With The Wounded was announced, including an annual donation of £25,000 to support the charity's employability programme. The Society is also creating veteran employment opportunities across its Group and aims to recruit at least five veterans this year.

Grants through the Newcastle Building Society Community Fund at the Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland have continued. In May, £60,000 of grant funding was awarded to 22 different charities tackling disadvantage across the region, with a particular focus on employability, social isolation, food poverty, homelessness, debt management, and cancer care. A further £15,000

was awarded to seven different charities to fund community events celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a focus on reducing social isolation.

Andrew Haigh, Chief Executive Officer at Newcastle Building Society, said: "The Society has been able to make a significant and diverse financial commitment to support our communities already this year. We know many people in our region are feeling squeezed by the rising cost of living so we're grateful for the amazing work of our partners and the charities that are helping to make a long term difference right across the North East, North Yorkshire and Cumbria.

"Members and colleagues told us that they wanted us to help those impacted by the distressing events in Ukraine. By quickly contributing to the DEC appeal we've become part of an incredible effort, directly supporting the charities responding to the crisis.

"However, it's clear our communities will continue to face a range of challenges in the months ahead and the Society will continue to offer a range of support wherever we can."

Newcastle Building Society customers can see grant funding criteria and make nominations online at www.newcastle.co.uk

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For further information on Newcastle Building Society, please contact:

Chris Hoy – External Communications Manager

M: 07483 452 461

E: chris.hoy@newcastle.co.uk

Jeremy Mountain – External Communications Lead

M: 07481 833 351

E: jeremy.mountain@newcastle.co.uk

Notes to Editors

About Newcastle Building Society

Newcastle Building Society* is the biggest building society in the North East, with a network of 30 branches and assets of more than £4.9bn. We've been here for our members for over 150 years.

As a leading local employer, we're committed to growing our region's talent and being a great place to work where people can realise their potential. We hold Platinum IIP and were voted Number 2, Best Places to Work in the North East in 2019.

We help people to own their home, to save and to plan their finances through our range of products and services. We believe in the role of the high street at the heart of our communities and are proactive in making financial information and financial advice accessible across our region.

Our Financial Advice is provided through our Newcastle Financial Advisers Limited division**.

We're dedicated to helping our North East communities make positive changes; since 2016 the financial support through grants and donations from the Newcastle Building Society Community Fund at the Community Foundation to benefit local causes has surpassed £2.1m

www.newcastle.co.uk

*Newcastle Building Society Principal Office: 1 Cobalt Park Way, Cobalt Business Park, NE28 9EJ. Newcastle Building Society is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. Newcastle Building Society is entered in the Financial Services Register under number 156058. You can check this on the Financial Services Register or by contacting the Financial Conduct Authority on 0800 111 6768. Call 0845 734 4345 or visit us online at www.newcastle.co.uk

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