



Northern charities benefit from funding £50k boost

17 charities from across the North of England tackling hardship are set to benefit from over £50,000 in grant funding from Newcastle Building Society's Community Fund at the Community Foundation.

Grants of up to £3,000 will provide targeted support to people in the region through charities tackling issues around the environment, social isolation, employability, debt management, food poverty and cancer care.

Organisations from Calvert Trust Lake District in Cumbria and Berwick District Cancer Support Group in Northumberland to The Children's Foundation in Newcastle, Sunderland and North Durham Royal Society for the Blind and Yatton House Society in North Yorkshire have all received grant funding.

Andrew Haigh, Newcastle Building Society's Chief Executive Officer, said: "We're committed to supporting the charities which are doing so much to help the people and families in our region as they tackle some really difficult issues. Our Community Fund is one of the ways we make a positive difference in our communities and we've worked carefully with the Community Foundation to ensure the fund is allocated to meet the specific needs of the areas served by our branch network.

"As well as an ongoing focus on debt management, employability, food poverty and cancer care, we've added an additional strand to our grant giving around the environment and sustainability, as we continue to grow our impact in that vitally important area."

With funding allocated to communities served by its branch network, the grants support a diverse range of charities, including Groundwork NE and Cumbria, People and Drugs, Mind Active and the NTC Touring Theatre spanning Northumberland and Cumbria.

Other charities benefitting from grants include Pathways4All, Feeding Families, the Scotswood Natural Community Garden and the Comfrey Project throughout Newcastle and North Tyneside.

Su Legg, senior philanthropy advisor at the Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland, said: "Newcastle Building Society is addressing important issues affecting our communities through its fund at the Community Foundation. Working with Newcastle Building Society we use our Vital Signs research, and intelligence gathered from our work across our communities, to

ensure our grants support their aims and the vital work of charitable organisations. Together we're making a significant difference to the lives of many, especially in these very challenging times".

Grants also support Apna Ghar in South Tyneside, the Durham Wildlife Trust in County Durham, and the Teesside Hospice Foundation and Five Lamps, Teesside.

Since 2016, Newcastle Building Society's Community Fund has contributed over £2.1m in grants and partnerships to a wide variety of charities and projects across the region, including the Sir Bobby Robson Foundation and the Prince's Trust. The grants, so far, are estimated to have had a positive impact on more than 151,000 people.

To find out more about the Newcastle Building Society Community Fund at the Community Foundation, or to nominate your charity or community group, visit: <https://www.newcastle.co.uk/powering-communities/community-grants/apply-for-a-grant>

- Ends -

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Notes to Editors

As part of its latest round of grant funding, the Newcastle Building Society Community Fund has awarded grants to:

Northumberland

- People and Drugs (Blyth) - £3,000
- NTC Touring Theatre (Amble) - £3,000
- Mind Active (Bedlington) - £3,000
- Groundwork NE and Cumbria (Pegswood) - £3,000
- Berwick and District Cancer Support Group (Berwick) - £3,000

Cumbria

- Calvert Trust (Lake District) - £3,000

Newcastle

- The Children's Foundation (Newcastle) - £2,689
- Feeding Families (Newcastle) - £3,000
- Scotswood Natural Community Garden (Newcastle) - £3,000

North Tyneside

- Pathways4All (Benton) - £3,000

South Tyneside

- Apna Ghar (South Shields) - £2,978

Gateshead

- Durham Wildlife Trust (Blaydon) - £3,000
- The Comfrey Project (Gateshead) - £3,000

Sunderland

- Sunderland and North Durham Royal Society for the Blind (Sunderland and North Durham) - £3,000

County Durham

- Sunderland and North Durham Royal Society for the Blind (Sunderland and North Durham) - £3,000

Teesside

- Teesside Hospice Foundation (Middlesbrough) - £3,000
- Five Lamps (Thornaby) - £3,000

North Yorkshire

- Yatton House Society (Great Ayton) - £3,000

About Newcastle Building Society

Newcastle Building Society* is the biggest building society in the North East, with a network of 31 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 won the Excellence and Positive Impact Award at the 2022 CIPD North East of England HR&D Awards. We were named Company of the Year in the Northumberland and Tyneside category of the North East Business Awards 2022.

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, as our branch network grows, are increasingly 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. Our total community

contributions in 2021, made up of grants, match funding, and our ongoing partnership donations, was more than £750,000.

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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