



Approved - 16 June 2023

YATTON HOUSE CHARITY ACHIEVING GREEN GOALS AS BUILDING REFURBISHMENT NEARS COMPLETION

A specialist North Yorkshire charity which helps local people with disabilities achieve their potential is set to finish work on the latest phase of the refurbishment of its headquarters.

Yatton House Society offers a wide range of learning and development opportunities for people with learning and physical disabilities who live in the North Yorkshire and Teesside areas.

Work to refurbish the charity's headquarters in Great Ayton, including upgrading the building's facilities and improving its environmental performance, has been ongoing since 2018.

And now, the fourth phase of the project, which has involved the replacement of the building's windows and doors with double glazed units, as well as the installation of insulated rendered panels and new wheelchair accessible external paving around the building perimeter, is about to be completed.

Funding for the £69,000 project has been secured from a range of sources, including a £3,000 grant provided through the Newcastle Building Society Community Fund at the Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland. The Fund offers grants to charities and community groups located in or around the communities served by the Society's branch network.

Yatton House Society was founded in 1981 by a group of parents and carers who were concerned about the lack of local day care facilities for people with a disability.

The charity's services cover a huge range of topics, from the creative arts and sporting activities through to developing skills required for independent living.

Its members also manage a community market garden, with produce sold locally to cover its running costs, and provide a wreath-making service at Christmas.

Fundraising is already ongoing for the charity's next project, which will involve the creation of a large multi-purpose garden room.

Christopher Reeve, fundraising coordinator at Yatton House, says: "Our building dates back to the 1980s and we realised some time ago that we needed to make major improvements to secure its future sustainable use, which we've been doing for the last five years.

"We are proud of our green credentials and committed to doing all we can to minimise the environmental impact of our activities, which is something that our members are playing a key role in helping us to achieve.

"Carrying out this latest work is improving the building's environmental performance and will enable us to bring down our energy usage and costs while also upgrading the facilities that our members can enjoy.

"Fundraising is always a challenge for a project of this magnitude, so the approach we had from the Stokesley branch of Newcastle Building Society to see how they could help us was extremely welcome and we're grateful to add them to our list of corporate supporters."

Donna Stubbs, community manager at Newcastle Building Society, who recently visited the charity, adds: "Yatton House Society has been meeting an important community need for more than four decades and continues to have a very positive impact on the lives of dozens of local families today.

"The work that's been carried out at its headquarters is very impressive and sets the charity up perfectly to continue with their work for many years to come."

For further information on Newcastle Building Society's support for the refurbishment of Yatton House Society's headquarters, please visit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V2fOc-3N6_A

Since its launch in 2016, Newcastle Building Society's Community Fund at the Community Foundation has also contributed over £2.3m 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 are so far estimated to have had a positive impact on more than 151,000 people.

- ends -

For further information on Newcastle Building Society, please contact:

Julian Christopher
Footprint Public Relations
07891 005034

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 £5.3bn. We've been here for our members for over 160 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 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 £2.3m

*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 <https://www.newcastle.co.uk/>

** Newcastle Building Society introduces to Newcastle Financial Advisers Limited for advice on Investments, Pensions, Life and Protection Insurance and Inheritance Tax Planning. Newcastle Financial Advisers Limited is an appointed representative of The Openwork Partnership which is a trading style of Openwork Limited which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.