

Special e-bulletin - COVID-19 Special

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1. Business support

1.1 Northumberland County Council Business Support Hub

Northumberland County Council and Government are working together to support businesses through this challenging time. The council has established a Business Support Hub with a specialist team who will work hard to support businesses and employers. The Business Support Hub will support those both during and after the current Coronavirus outbreak. For further information [click here](#)

1.2 North East LEP - Growth Hub

The [North East LEP Growth Hub](#) has launched a new COVID-19 Economic Response Group which aims to support the local economy, build business resilience and get the region ready for recovery. The NE LEP Growth Hub now contains guidance for businesses and employers on COVID-19. For further details [click here](#)

1.3 Future Fund

This scheme will issue convertible loans between £125,000 to £5 million to innovative companies which are facing financing difficulties due to the coronavirus outbreak. For further information [click here](#)

1.4 Government launches new coronavirus business support finder tool

A new 'support finder' tool will help businesses and self-employed people across the UK to quickly and easily determine what financial support is available to them during the coronavirus pandemic. For further information [click here](#)

1.5 Apply for the Coronavirus Large Business Interruption Loan Scheme

This scheme helps large businesses affected by coronavirus COVID-19 to access loans of up to £25 million. For further information [click here](#)

1.6 Coronavirus support from Business Representative Organisations and Trade Associations

Business Representative Organisations and Trade Associations are providing coronavirus related support for specific sectors. For further information [click here](#)

1.7 UK Government Business-led innovation in response to global disruption

UK registered technology and research focussed businesses can apply for up to £50,000 of grant funding to develop new ways of working and help build resilience in industries such as delivery services, food manufacturing, retail and transport, as well as support people at home in circumstances like those during the coronavirus outbreak. Innovations could include: new technology allowing retailers to respond better to sudden spikes of consumer demand and improve deliveries across the UK; new services for families to connect with and remotely monitor their elderly or vulnerable relatives, giving people peace of mind that their loved ones are receiving the services they require such as food deliveries, doctor's appointments and paying bills; creating education tools which seamlessly integrate the classroom with the kitchen table, allowing teachers to remotely set dynamic tasks, support vulnerable children and make certain no child is left behind. For further information [click here](#)

1.8 Additional government resources to support your business during coronavirus disruptions

List of other areas of support available from the government that can help businesses, employees, and the self-employed. [Click here](#)

- Business support helpline
- HMRC Helpline
- Webinars
- Growth Hubs
- Find a Job service

1.9 Rules that have been relaxed to help businesses during the coronavirus pandemic

A list of the rules that have been temporarily relaxed to make it easier for businesses to continue working through the disruption caused by coronavirus COVID-19. For further information [click here](#)

1.10 Financial support for businesses during coronavirus COVID-19

Find out what financial support is available businesses below [click here](#)

- Paying your employees
- Paying sick pay
- Paying tax
- Business rates relief
- Business support grant funds
- Support for the self-employed
- Support for small and medium-sized businesses
- Support for large businesses

1.11 Coronavirus support for business from outside government

Public bodies, organisations and charities have produced additional resources that may be useful to employers. For further information [click here](#)

2. Social welfare support

2.1 Mental Health Response Fund (UK)

The Department of Health and Social Care has made £5 million available to support voluntary and community sector (VCS) mental health providers which are experiencing an increase in demand for their services due to coronavirus. Through the Coronavirus Mental Health Response Fund, small and large grants of between £5,000 and £50,000 are available to help increase mental support for people with and at risk of developing mental health problems. For further information [click here](#)

2.2 NSUN COVID-19 fund

NSUN has been given money from the £5m government pot to support VCS organisations to distribute to user-led groups who are not eligible to apply to the main fund being distributed by Mind. This offers grants up to £1000 to support peer support, community action and mutual aid for mental health during COVID-19. For further information [click here](#)

3. Charities, Voluntary and Community organisations

3.1 Ballinger Charitable Trust - Small Grants for COVID-19 response (North East England)

The Ballinger Charitable Trust is currently focussing its grant making on providing small grants of up to £1,000 to support those organisations that are actively responding to help communities in the North East of England. Current priority areas for grant making will include support of older people, hospital discharges, tackling domestic abuse, and food and fuel support of local community families in disadvantaged areas. For further information [click here](#)

3.2 The Will Charitable Trust - Emergency Funding (UK)

The Will Charitable Trust is currently focussing on providing grants of up to £5,000 to charities in urgent financial need that have previously received support, so that they can concentrate on their response to the difficulties caused by the Coronavirus pandemic. Further funds will be made available next month for potentially larger awards. For further information [click here](#)

3.3 The FORE - COVID-19 Response: RAFT (UK)

The RAFT (Rapid Action by The Fore Trusts) programme has been launched to support small charities and social enterprises adversely affected by the crisis. The RAFT Fund offers grants of up to £5,000 to existing grantees so that they are able to meet the rapidly changing needs of their beneficiaries, remain viable and prepare for delivery for when the acute phase of the coronavirus pandemic is over. For further information [click here](#)

3.4 Sylvia Adams Charitable Trust - Early years' preventative work (England and Wales)

Small and medium-sized registered charities working with disadvantaged children aged 0-3 years in England and Wales can apply for small, grants to help them during the coronavirus pandemic. The Sylvia Adams Charitable Trust has changed the application guidelines and processes for the spring application round of its Early Years' Preventative Work Fund to make one-off payments of £5,000 available to charities with an income of less than £750,000 which may need extra assistance. Charities applying must show a likelihood of increased demand for their services and/or a loss of anticipated income. The closing date for applications in this round is the 28th April 2020. For further information [click here](#)

3.5 Ray Wind Fund - Community COVID-19 Emergency Fund

In light of the current situation the Ray Wind Fund is making emergency, fast-track funding available for organisations and individuals in the Ray Wind Funds area.

- **Organisations' Survival Fund:** to provide emergency cash flow funding for organisations at risk of closure
- **Organisations' Project Fund:** to support essential services that meet immediate community needs

The funding will not replace any Government support available, organisations may be signposted to other more relevant and applicable funding support. The application process will be as simple as possible and decisions will normally be made and funding released within 7 days. For further information [click here](#)

4. Support and call for local businesses

4.1 The Clothworkers Emergency Capital Programme (UK)

The Clothworkers' Emergency Capital Programme (CECP) will award small capital grants of up to £5,000 for essential capital items to adapt or increase services in response to the novel coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic. Priority will be given to organisations supporting vulnerable and 'at risk' groups. For further information [click here](#)

5. Self-employed, entrepreneurs

5.1 Prince's Trust and NatWest - The Prince's Trust and NatWest Enterprise Relief Fund (UK)

The Prince's Trust and NatWest have launched a £5million grant fund for young entrepreneurs affected by coronavirus. The Fund is available to entrepreneurs aged 18-30, who can apply for grants and tailored support from today. Grants can be used to maintain core business operations during the crisis, as well as meet any existing financial commitments, such as paying for essential equipment or settling invoices from suppliers. In conjunction with these grants, the initiative will also offer one-to-one support and guidance to applicants who need it. For further information [click here](#)

6. Education

6.1 Department for Education - Funding to Cover Additional Costs Associated with COVID-19 (England)

The Government has announced extra funding and support for schools to cover the exceptional costs associated with coronavirus COVID-19 for the period March to July 2020. Funding will be available for all state-funded mainstream and special schools, and alternative provision. This can relate to additional costs associated with keeping schools open during the Easter and/or summer half term holidays, for vulnerable children and the children of critical workers; support; the provision of free school meals (FSM) for eligible children who are not attending school; and additional cleaning – required due to confirmed or suspected coronavirus COVID-19 cases; etc. Funding will be available to schools that are unable to meet such additional costs from their existing resources, or which they could only meet by drawing down on reserves and undermining their long-term financial sustainability. For further information [click here](#)

Further information

Northumberland news special COVID-19 edition

Northumberland County Council have introduced an online news magazine - Northumberland news - special COVID-19 edition which has useful information for communities and residents during the pandemic. To open the magazine [click here](#)

Looking for Funding?

Northumberland County 4 Community is a user-friendly and professional community funding database for Northumberland which has already helped secure millions of pounds worth of support to the area.

It is an online funding database and a step-by step process which enables you to identify and select funding schemes and awards that are appropriate to your project, and:

- a convenient one-stop-shop of funding information.
- an information source with thousands of funding schemes including grants, loans and awards from local, regional and national UK government, European funding, charitable trusts and corporate sponsors.
- content ranging from modest community funds at one end of the spectrum to major, multilevel European initiatives at the other.

To access Northumberland County 4 Community you must register some basic details. Northumberland County Council funds this service, and partners and community users can access this free of charge. Registration will give you immediate, free and unrestricted access to the comprehensive database of funding opportunities and business advice services. You can browse or search for funding, generate reports, access news items in full and set up alerts to receive updates regarding suitable funding opportunities.

To register as a user - [click here](#)

The Funding e-bulletin is designed to be viewed as an email or an electronic device and therefore is not formatted for printing.

1. Simply browse the overview to each fund
2. If you wish to catch your interest? Simply click on the **click here** link at the end of the paragraph or the **active hyperlink** and this will take you directly to the funders website
3. You can then view and print any information from there

NCC cannot be held responsible or liable for any information or broken webpages and links provided by third parties.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#) and enter unsubscribe in the subject. If you have any questions or wish to contribute a funding opportunity please [contact us](#).