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1. Business Support

1.1 Northumberland County Council Business Support Hub

Northumberland County Council continues to operate its Business Support Hub with a specialist team working hard to support businesses and employers through the Covid-19 pandemic. The Hub includes Government information and support available and is updated regularly. For further information [click here](#)

1.2 North East LEP Growth Hub

The North East LEP Growth Hub continues to provide information and support for businesses, including a Covid-19 toolkit. The North East Covid-19 Economic Response Group continues to support businesses plan for economic recovery. For further details [click here](#)

1.3 North of Tyne Growth Fund

Support is available for businesses looking to expand or establish new operations. The North of Tyne Growth Fund is a £4.6m programme of investment part-funded by ERDF supporting SME growth. A grant of up to 30% of expenditure could be available, for small or medium size businesses planning capital investment of at least £134,000, expanding or establishing in Newcastle, North Tyneside or Northumberland. For further information [click here](#)

1.4 Northumberland Covid Business Response Programme (NCBRP)

The Northumberland Covid Business Response Programme (NCBRP) is a new service for SMEs who have been adversely affected by COVID-19. The Project is funded by the North of Tyne Combined Authority and will be delivered by Advance Northumberland on behalf of Northumberland County Council and the Northumberland Business Hub. The programme has two distinct areas of delivery in helping eligible businesses in the county as they look to adopt to new market opportunities and new ways of working and engaging with customers.

- DIGITAL ADVANTAGE - This support programme will enable SMEs from across Northumberland to introduce digital tools into their day to day business activity. These tools include e-commerce websites and proactive digital marketing campaigns to expand and reach new customer and build digital capacity within the business base across the County. Also businesses in the hospitality industry could have the chance to create a bespoke apps fully funded for their business
- BUSINESS ADVANTAGE - This area of the programme provides access to 12 hours 1-2-1 coaching or consultancy for businesses looking to explore new methods of business delivery, increase productivity or become more resilient. The Business Advantage Service is open to Large businesses and SMEs across the County.

Each of the support strands has defined eligibility criteria and SMEs are able to register their support through the newly launched NCBRP website. For further information [click here](#)

1.5 Grants Available for SMEs Looking to Export

Applications are now open for UK SME businesses to apply for grants of up to £2,500 to attend international trade shows. Successful businesses can use the grants to fund direct exhibiting costs. The funding is being made available through the Department for International Trade's (DIT) Tradeshow Access Programme (TAP). For further information [click here](#)

1.6 More Than a Pub Programme

This new £2.2 million round of more than a Pub from Power to Change and MHCLG provides a range of support and funding available to own and run a pub and is open until December 2020. Applications will be accepted at any time and are assessed at Panel meetings on the second Thursday of every month. Applications must be submitted by the 28th of the previous month. The programme will run from 19 August to December 2020 For further information [click here](#)

1.7 Applications for Apprenticeship Funding

Financial support is available to help employers in England to boost employment following the coronavirus outbreak. As part of the Government's Plan for Jobs, employers are being offered £2,000 for each new apprentice they hire aged under 25, and £1,500 for each newly recruited apprentice aged 25 and over. This includes taking on an apprentice who has been made redundant. The cash boost may cover providing facilities, uniforms, helping with travel costs or to help pay their salary. This new incentive for employers is on top of the existing £1,000 payment for new 16-18 year-old apprentices, and those aged under 25 with an Education, Health and Care Plan. Employers from all sectors, both large and small, of new apprentices in England may apply. Applications are now open, and the first payments are expected to be made in January 2021. For further information [click here](#)

1.8 £2 Billion Kickstart for Young People

The Government's newly launched £2 billion Kickstart Scheme aims to create high quality six-month work placements for those aged 16 to 24 who are on Universal Credit and are deemed to be at risk of long term unemployment. Employers will receive funding for 100% of the relevant National Minimum Wage for 25 hours a week, plus associated oncosts and will have the option to top up this wage. Support will also pay employers £1,500 to set up support and training for people on a Kickstart placement, as well as helping pay for uniforms and other set up costs. Applications are open at any time. The scheme will initially be open until December 2021, with the option of being extended. For further information [click here](#)

2. Communities, Charities and Voluntary Organisations

2.1 Lloyds Bank Foundation Launches New Infrastructure Fund for Charities

The Fund provides organisational development support to and advocate for small and local charities. The Foundation anticipate making 16 one-off grants of £30,000. Grants will be available for core costs and can be used over 1-2 years. 25% of the grants for this programme will be ring-fenced for infrastructure organisations that are specifically supporting Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic-led charities and that are led by members of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities. The closing date for application submission is 5 pm on the 9th October 2020. For further information [click here](#)

2.2 Funding to Improve the Health Outcomes for Mothers and Babies from Deprived Areas or BAME Backgrounds

Voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations in England can apply for funding of between £200,000 and £510,000 for projects which improve health outcomes for mothers and babies from preconception to two and a half years of age in deprived areas or from BAME backgrounds. This new round of the £3.3 million VCSE Health and Wellbeing Fund has been launched with the theme of 'Starting Well.' The Fund is being run by the VCSE Health and Wellbeing Alliance and can be used to expand or develop existing projects and schemes which are whole-family and/or community-centred. The deadline for applications is 12pm on the 30th October 2020. For further information [click here](#)

2.3 Grants to Cover Running Costs for Small Charities

The Marsh Foundation Trust is providing funding which could help small organisations pay for various running costs. The Trust aims to build long-standing relationships with successful applicants and, subject to an annual review, continue its support over time. Applicants must be a registered charity with the Charity Commission for England and Wales or the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator. This does not include Community Interest Companies (CICs). Charities must have been established for more than one financial year and able to provide a full set of their most recent Annual Report and Accounts, or the equivalent financial information if their annual income is under £25,000. Grants are unrestricted and range from £300 to £2,000 with new applications at the lower end of this scale. Applications can be submitted at any time. For further information [click here](#)

2.4 Comic Relief Extends Deadline for Change Makers Programme

The deadline for applications to Comic Relief's Change Makers funding programme has been extended from the 28th August 2020 to 12pm on the 25th September 2020. It aims to support changes in the way which community and voluntary sector organisations work with funding of between £150,000 and £600,000 available for projects lasting 3 to 5 years. Applications can be made by single applicants. Organisations can also apply in partnership, with a lead partner holding the funding. 20% of the available funding is ring-fenced for efforts led by and working with BAME communities. For further information [click here](#)

2.5 Comic Relief Community Fund Launched

Comic Relief has launched its Community Fund. Grassroots community organisations with an income of less than £250,000 can apply for funding to help them develop their organisation through a Capacity Building Grant of up to £500 or to deliver projects through a Project Delivery Grant of up to £4,000. The new funding programme aims to deliver long lasting change. Both funding programmes accept applications on a rolling basis and there are no application deadlines. Administration of the local funding is being managed by community charity, Groundwork For further information [click here](#)

3. Young, Vulnerable, Elderly and Disadvantaged

3.1 Independent Age Grants Fund

Independent Age has launched a £2 million Independent Age Grants Fund to help smaller charities across the UK working with older people hardest hit by the coronavirus. Independent Age are looking to help organisations connecting with older people who are very isolated and most at risk of missing out on the help available from government or charities that serve a very diverse client group. They may be part of an isolated, neglected or very poor community, be facing stigma or discrimination or have needs which make it hard for them to access services. Charities can apply for grants of between £5,000 and £15,000. The closing date for the final round of applications is 9am on the 11th September 2020. For further information [click here](#)

3.2 Funding to Support Disabled Children and Children with Life Limiting Conditions During the Coronavirus Pandemic

In response to the coronavirus, The True Colours Trust have adapted their small grants scheme for the next funding round. Through the Small Grants UK- Covid-19 Support programme, funding of up to £5,000 will be available to help smaller charities to adapt their services to enable them to continue or resume supporting disabled children, children with life limiting conditions and their families safely during the pandemic. The deadline for applications is 5.00pm on the 21st September 2020. For further information [click here](#)

3.3 Funding of Up to £10,000 Available to Tackle Social Deprivation

Registered charities exempted or activities organisations can now apply for up to £10,000 of funding for core costs and charitable activities that benefit the residents of Tyne & Wear, Northumberland, County Durham and Teesside. The funding is being made available from the 1989 Willan Charitable Trust which, with the help of the Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland, distributes up to £500,000 each year. Grants are limited to a maximum of £500 towards expenses in the undertaking a voluntary placement. Applicants must normally reside in the North East region. The closing date for applications for this round of funding is the 15th November 2020 for consideration at the December meeting of Trustees. For further information [click here](#)

3.4 Funding for Sanctuary Housing Association Residents Affected by Covid-19

Charities, community and voluntary groups, schools, and residents' groups can apply for funding to help with challenges affecting the lives of Sanctuary residents in communities during the pandemic, including job losses, mental health, money management, social isolation, and health and wellbeing. Funding can also be used to help organisations adapt their service delivery such as moving services online, setting up household and medication delivery services, and distributing activity or food packs for vulnerable families. Interested organisations can discuss their project proposal by contacting Sanctuary Housing. For further information [click here](#)

3.5 LGBT+ Futures Grant Programme National Emergencies Trust

A new £350,000 funding scheme has been launched to address the additional needs of LGBT+ people and communities most adversely impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and to support and strengthen LGBT+ organisations that have been impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. The funding is available to any UK based non-profit groups, organisations or projects that work with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans + (LGBT+) people. The funding is being made available through the LGBT+ Futures Grant Programme and is financially supported by the National Emergencies Trust. There are no deadlines for this fund. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis until all the funding has been awarded. Grants are for short-term work only and all funds awarded through the programme must be fully spent by 31 May 2021. For further information [click here](#)

4. Arts, Culture, Heritage and Tourism

4.1 Music for All

The funding which is being made available by the charity Music for All, can be put towards musical instrument costs, workshops/training, using music to break down barriers, providing a variety of educational opportunities as well as helping to find ways to integrate many diverse and minority groups positively into society. Grants of up to £2,500 are available, but due to increased demand most awards will be for less than this amount. Due to the coronavirus crisis, the deadline for applications has been extended for this bidding round from the 1st July 2020 to the 1st November 2020. For further information [click here](#)

4.2 The British Film Institute Audience Fund

UK-based organisations with experience of film distribution, exhibition and audience development activities (such as film distributors, cinemas, and film festivals) can apply for grants to increase the choice and engagement of audiences aged primarily between 16 and 30. The funding is being made available through the British Film Institute Audience Fund – Project awards and it is expected that most awards will be in the region of £20,000 to £50,000 with a limit of £200,000. The Project awards are aimed at projects of national scale and significance. Funding can be used to cover all costs directly relating to the specific proposal. Applications can be submitted at any time. For further information [click here](#)

4.3 Arts Impact Fund

Arts Council England has announced that loans of between £150,000 and £600,000 are available to entrepreneurial arts and cultural organisations. The aim of the loans is to increase the resilience of art and culture in England. The Arts Impact Fund is created and funded by Bank of America Merrill Lynch, the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and Nesta. Unsecured loans are available with a repayment term of between three and five years with interest rates ranging between 3.5% and 8.5%. Applications are accepted at any time. For further information [click here](#)

4.4 Funding to Help Museums, Galleries and Cultural Organisations Affected by Coronavirus

UK public museums, galleries, historic houses, libraries and archives can apply for funding to help them respond to immediate challenges connected to the Covid-19 crisis, and to adapt and reimagine ways of working in the future. Through the Art Fund's Respond and Reimagine grants, funding of between £10,000 and £50,000 is available to support the priority areas of audiences, collections, adaptable digital skills and infrastructure, and supporting the workforce. The next deadline for applications is the 12th October 2020. For further information [click here](#)

4.5 Funding for the Restoration of Historic Buildings

Not-for-profit organisations, such as charitable incorporated organisations, community interest companies and parish and town councils can apply for grants of up to £350,000 towards the capital costs of restoring redundant or underused historic buildings in Town Centres for the benefit of the local community. The funding is being made available through the Transformational Project Grants scheme which is administered by the Architectural Heritage Fund and is part of the wider £1.5 million Transforming Places Through Heritage Programme. The deadline for applications is the 30th September 2020. For further information [click here](#)

5. Transport, Recycling, Environment, Energy and Industry

5.1 Discovery Programme and Development Programme Catalyst

Registered charities and community organisations that have been impacted by Covid-19 and who need emergency funding can apply for grants of between £5,000 and £60,000 to develop their digital, data and design capabilities to allow them to continue to deliver essential services. The funding is being made available through Catalyst and The National Lottery Community Fund COVID-19 Digital Response. To be eligible applicants must be part of a formal or informal network of ten or more organisations. The deadline for applications to the Discovery Programme is the 7th September 2020. For the Development Programme the closing date for applications is the 20th September 2020. For further information [click here](#)

5.2 Broadband for Rural Communities

Business and residents in some of the hardest-to-reach places in the UK are eligible for additional funding towards the cost of installing new gigabit-capable broadband to their premises when part of a group project. Two or more businesses applying together can use vouchers worth up to £3,500 for each small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs), and up to £1,500 per residential premise to support the cost of installing new gigabit-capable connections. Vouchers are offered as part of the Government's Rural Gigabit Connectivity programme and only apply to new broadband connections. The scheme will end on 31st March 2021. For further information [click here](#)

5.3 Free Trees for Community Groups and Schools

Schools, nurseries, colleges, universities, and other groups such as resident associations, sports clubs, parish councils, scouts, guides are amongst the organisations eligible to apply for up to 420 trees to improve their local environment. Tree packs available include hedging, copper, wild harvest, year-round colour, working wood, wild wood and urban trees. The Woodland Trust is currently taking applications for trees to be delivered in March 2021. For further information [click here](#)

5.4 Funding for Local Road Safety Pilots and Trials

Local Authorities, Police Forces, Fire and Rescue Services, UK-based registered charities, universities, not-for-profit social enterprises and community interest companies will be able to apply for funding for local road safety pilots and trials. The Road Safety Trust has announced a new £300,000 funding stream to encourage applications that respond to changing road use and emerging road safety issues as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Through the Trust's Small Grants Plus Programme 2020 funding of between £20,000 and £50,000 over a maximum of two years will be made available for projects which are either a pilot, trial or evaluation of a practical road safety intervention. All projects should have other sources of funding, either cash or in-kind. Applications will be accepted between the 15th September and the 21st October 2020. For further information [click here](#)

5.5 Funding Available for Renewable Energy Projects in Rural Communities

Schools, Parish Councils and other community based organisations in rural England that want to develop renewable energy projects which provide economic and social benefits to their communities, and also make money by selling it back to the grid, can apply for funding through the £10 million Rural Community Energy Fund (RCEF). The funding is available to investigate and install green energy; including solar battery storage, wind, hydro and geothermal heat projects. The RCEF funding, which is to be managed by 5 Local Energy Hubs around England, is designed to catapult rural areas into the 'clean growth' revolution, helping people living outside urban areas benefit from the income-generating potential of renewable energy. For further information [click here](#)

5.6 New Application Round of £2m Air Quality Grants Programme

Local authorities in England are invited to apply for grants to help improve air quality. Defra's Air Quality Programme provides grants to English local authorities to help support their air quality management duties under the Environment Act 1995. Local authorities may submit an application in partnership with one or more other eligible authorities. When doing so one authority should be indicated as the lead authority for the project. There are no set funding amounts. A guide price for allocations is for projects between £10,000 and £60,000 in total but applications for amounts outside this range will be accepted for consideration. The 2020/21 application deadline is 14 October 2020. For further information [click here](#)

6. Schools, Colleges and Education

6.1 Funding Available to Support Schools Facing Unexpected or Imminent Failure

Teaching schools, national support schools and multi-academy trusts can apply for funding through the Emergency School Improvement fund to support schools facing unexpected or imminent failure. Applications can be made for short-term support while a longer-term sustainable solution is developed, for example through the support of a new academy sponsor. Applications can also be made for longer-term whole school support where no other sustainable solution can be found to address the school failure. Schools or academy trusts seeking support through the emergency school improvement fund, should contact the relevant local authority or regional schools commissioner. For further information [click here](#)

6.2 National Tutoring Programme Department for Education

The government has announced £1 billion of funding to support children and young people to catch up. This includes a one-off universal £650 million catch-up premium for the 2020 to 2021 teaching year to ensure that schools have the support they need to help all pupils make up for lost teaching time. The Government has also launched a £350 million National Tutoring Programme to provide additional, targeted support for those children and young people who need the most help. The £650 million of universal catch-up premium funding will be available for all state-funded mainstream and special schools, and alternative provision. The £350 million National Tutoring Programme will comprise of at least 3 parts in the 2020 to 2021 academic year, including a 5-16 programme; a 16-19 fund for school sixth forms, colleges and all other 16 to 19 providers; and a reception year early language programme. For further information [click here](#)

6.3 School Grants to Promote Physics

The Institute of Physics has announced that UK schools, colleges or home school groups can apply for grants of up to £600 for small-scale projects or events linked to the teaching or promotion of physics and engineering to pupils aged 5 - 19. Grants can support a wide range of projects such as school-based science weeks, extracurricular activities, science clubs, careers event or a visit from a working physicist or engineer. The closing date for applications is the 1st November 2020 (for projects taking place in the following spring term). For further information [click here](#)

6.4 Kellogg's Breakfast Club Grants Programme

The Kellogg's Breakfast Club Grants Programme has re-opened for September 2020. The programme offers grants of up to £1,000 to schools in the UK to set up Breakfast clubs for those children in most need. Only one grant per school in each academic year is available. For further information [click here](#)

6.5 Government Funding Support for Covid Early Language Skills Gap

Government has announced a funding package of up to £9 million to provide schools with training and resources to help them deliver one-to-one and small-group support for five-year-olds whose spoken language skills may have suffered as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. The programme, known as the Nuffield Early Language Intervention (NELI), is an evidence-based, 20-week intervention designed to improve the language skills of reception age pupils. Participating schools will receive resources and will be able to access online training from the start of the spring term 2021. For further information [click here](#)

7. Awards and Competitions

7.1 Public Engagement Spark Awards

The Science and Technology Facilities Council's (STFC) Public Engagement Spark Awards will re-open for applications on the 9th September 2020. Awards of up to £15,000 will be available to schools as well as scientists and engineers, museums, science communicators, and amateur astronomy groups, etc to deliver high-quality public engagement activities that focus on a topic within the Council's remit. Applicants are encouraged to contact the Council's Public Engagement Team to discuss their ideas in the first instance. For further information [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 anything catches 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](#).