

Funding e-bulletin

Issue Number: 25.02.14 February 2025

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## 1. Business Support

### 1.1 Accelerate Ashington

Accelerate Ashington is a package of support services available to local businesses currently trading and operating in Ashington. The programme consists of two elements: digital support with funded access to the introduction of digital tools for day-to-day business activity, and start-up support providing a programme of workshops covering the key skills needed to start and establish new businesses. [click here](#)

### 1.2 Business Growth Fund

The Business Growth Fund is a £3.5 million programme of investment funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). It supports business growth across the local authority areas of Gateshead, Newcastle, North Tyneside, Northumberland, and Sunderland. The Fund is delivered by UMi and will attract £11.5 million of private sector investment with an aim to create a minimum of 268 new jobs. For further details [click here](#)

### 1.3 Create Growth Programme

The Create Growth Programme is designed for creative businesses with high-growth potential to become investment ready. Providing high-growth businesses between the seed and scaling stages, with the support and the investment they need to grow their business and turn their innovative creative ideas into the leading creative businesses of the future. Through a suite of business support initiatives, delivered in partnership with Creative UK and Innovate UK this tailored support for high growth creative businesses aims to develop businesses knowledge, skills and access to finance, so they are able to secure investment to enable growth, turning their innovative creative ideas into the leading creative businesses of the future. For further details [click here](#)

### 1.4 Culture and Creative Investment Programme

The Culture and Creative Investment Programme, delivered in partnership with Creative UK, offers a combined package of financial and business support designed to grow the creative and cultural industries in the region. The package of support includes business support, masterclasses and bootcamps, open access networking events, webinars and access to finance. The programme is open to freelancers and businesses working in the culture and creative industries in North Tyneside, Northumberland and Newcastle. For further details [click here](#)

### 1.5 Flexible Social Finance

Flexible Social Finance has been designed with the social sector, for the social sector with the aim to provide access to affordable and flexible, repayable finance for socially trading organisations in Newcastle, North Tyneside and Northumberland looking to grow their social impacts and improve self-sustainability. For further information [click here](#)

### 1.6 Green New Deal

The Green New Deal Fund is a low carbon investment fund established by the Combined Authority and managed by Amber Infrastructure Group. Business interested in applying to the Green New Deal Fund should visit the fund's website for further information. For further information [click here](#)

### 1.7 Invest North East England

Invest North East England is the first point of contact for businesses looking to locate and invest in our region. Working alongside the region's seven local authorities, their aim is to support new inward investment and promote the region as a prime location for businesses to locate, grow and prosper. For further details [click here](#)

### 1.8 Northumberland Small Business Fund

Delivered by Business Northumberland, Northumberland Small Business Service is a new programme of business support to help small and micro businesses across Northumberland to start and grow. It is jointly funded by the North East CA, the UKSPF and the Rural England Prosperity Fund. For further details [click here](#)

### 1.9 North East Property Fund

A £20 million property fund aimed at supporting smaller scale North East construction and property development projects will provide an important boost for the construction industry. The North East Property Fund has been created in response to strong demand from small and medium-sized (SME) construction and property development companies who are unable to access mainstream finance from traditional sources and is hoped it will help kick start development in smaller scale property ventures across the North East. For further details [click here](#)

### 1.10 North East Commercial Property Investment Fund

A £35 million commercial property fund that supports developers in the North East.

The North East Commercial Property Investment Fund is managed by FW Capital and backed by the North East Combined Authority. The fund addresses a gap in the market and will drive economic growth and create new jobs in the North East. For further details [click here](#)

### 1.11 The Mayor's Opportunity Fund

Partnered with Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland and Point North to deliver the £1million Mayor's Opportunity Fund. The Fund supports the North East's commitment to a fairer North East through creating opportunity. The first round of the Fund will invest £225,000 through grants to small charities and community organisations delivering activities that support cohesion, inclusion and resilience in the most socially and economically disadvantaged parts of the North East CA region. For further information [click here](#)

## 2. Communities, Charities, Not-for-Profit, Voluntary and Local Authorities

### 2.1 Prudence Trust – What's Working? Strength in Data

Grants are available for charities and community interest companies (CICs) that support young people's mental health across the UK to deliver projects to improve their monitoring and evaluation capabilities. A discretionary amount is available, the application deadline is 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025. For further information [click here](#).

### 2.2 Shaping the Future: A Fund to Support Leadership in the Migration Sector

Grants are available for grassroots organisations and individuals with lived experience of migration to bolster leadership in the migration sector with a focus on lived experience leadership, wellbeing, and systems change within the UK. A maximum value of £100,000 is available, the application deadline is 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025. For further information [click here](#).

## 3. Arts, Culture, Heritage and Tourism

### 3.1 Blyth Celebrates Fund

The **Blyth Celebrates Fund** is an exciting opportunity for communities, organisations, artists, and creative practitioners to actively contribute to the **Blyth Celebrates cultural programme**, running from **August 2025 to March 2026**. This fund is designed to support innovative and engaging projects that highlight Blyth's vibrant culture and engage local audiences. The programme offers funding through three distinct funds, each tailored to different types of activities and applicants:

Grants from £500 to £5,000 are available through three strands:

- **Community Celebrations** – Supporting local residents, artists, and community groups to deliver free public events in and around Blyth's Market Place - £500 to £2500.
- **Creative Spaces** – Enabling artists and organisations from Blyth and beyond to host cultural activities in the Market Pavilion - £500 to £2500.
- **Artist Commissions** – Funding temporary artworks and interventions that inspire and enrich Blyth's landscape - up to £5,000.

For further information [click here](#)

### 3.2 Innovate Grants for Artists and Photographers

Grants are available to artists and photographers to support their innovative work and development. A maximum value of £1,500 is available, the application deadline is 27<sup>th</sup> March 2025. For further information [click here](#).

### **3.3 Richard and Siobhán Coward Foundation - Grants for Community Photography**

Grants are available to support the provision of participatory projects in the UK which seek to improve the health and wellbeing of children and young people under 25. The use of photography must be a core element of the project. A maximum value of £1,500 is available, the application deadline is 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025. For further information [click here](#).

### **3.4 MiraBan Independent Film Fund**

Funding is available to independent writers, directors and producers from around the world to help meet film production, post-production or distribution costs. A maximum value of £1,000 is available, the application deadline is 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025. For further information [click here](#).

## **4. Technology, Transport, Recycling, Environment, Energy and Industry**

### **4.1 UK Space Agency - Ecosystem Development Programme**

A programme designed to grow the space sector and strengthen the UK space ecosystem through a network of high-impact, locally led space clusters. A maximum value of £60,000 is available, the application deadline is 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025. For further information [click here](#).

### **4.2 GSMA Innovation Fund for Impactful AI**

UK organisations can apply for funding for AI-driven solutions that leverage mobile technology to address socio-economic and climate challenges in low- and middle-income countries. A maximum value of £250,000 is available, the application deadline is 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025. For further information [click here](#).

## **5. Rural, Agricultural Horticultural, Animal Welfare and Fisheries**

### **5.1 Tackling Food Surplus at the Farm Gate Grant**

Grants are available for food redistribution charities and other not-for-profit organisations in England for projects that take surplus food off farms and into the redistribution system with the aim of helping to fight hunger in communities in England. A maximum value of £14,600,000 is available, the application deadline is 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025. For further information [click here](#).

## **6. Sport and Recreation**

**6.1 Nothing new to report, please see previous versions.**

## **7. Schools and Education**

**7.1 Nothing new to report, please see previous versions.**

## **8. The National Lottery Funding Programmes**

**8.1 Nothing new to report, please see previous versions.**

## **9. Government Grant service**

### **9.1 Mode Shift Revenue Support**

Mode Shift Revenue Support (MSRS) assists companies with the operating costs associated with running rail or inland water freight transport instead of road, where rail or inland waterway transport is more expensive. Waterborne Freight Grant (WFG) is designed to facilitate and support modal shift to waterborne freight services. A maximum value of £20,000,000 is available, the closing date is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. For further information [click here](#).

### **9.2 Trees, woodlands and forestry - Woodland Creation Planning Grant**

The Woodland Creation Planning Grant (WCPG) offers funding of up to £30,000 for the production of a UKFS-compliant woodland creation design plan. Landowners, land managers and public bodies can apply. The scheme was re-launched in autumn 2020 to enable more people to apply and help proposals move more quickly through the Environmental Impact Assessment process and future planting and establishment grant funding. The closing date beyond April 2025 is to be confirmed in due course. A maximum value of £30,000 is available, the closing date is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. For further information [click here](#).

### **9.3 England Woodland Creation Offer (EWCO)**

England Woodland Creation Offer (EWCO) supports the establishment of new woodlands and is administered by the Forestry Commission. It is funded through the Nature for Climate Fund to support projects that will help us achieve Net Zero by 2050, as well as helping nature recovery and delivering other objectives in the 25 Year Environment Plan. Landowners, land managers and public bodies can apply to EWCO for support to create new woodland, including through natural colonisation, on areas as small as 1 hectare. You could receive up to £10,200 per hectare, plus up to an additional £12,700 in stackable payments when delivering wider benefits to society, nature recovery and the environment, to support your woodland creation scheme. The closing date beyond April 2025 will be confirmed soon. A maximum value of £2,000,000 is available, the closing date is 5<sup>th</sup> April 2025. For further information [click here](#).

### **9.4 Woodland Partnership (Forestry England)**

A lease scheme available to private and public landowners with options of 60 or 120 years. Forestry England (FE) are looking for land plots suitable for tree planting ideally of 50Ha+. Once the lease is agreed FE will design, plant and manage the new woodland and the landowner will receive a negotiated rent. A maximum value of £300/hectare is available, the closing date is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. For further information [click here](#).

### **9.5 National Highways Lorry Parking Facilities Improvements Scheme**

This grant provides lorry parking operators with support to improve HGV driver facilities through the provision of welfare facilities, parking and improved security. A maximum value of £20,000,000 is available, the closing date is 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025. For further information [click here](#).

### **9.6 Cladding Safety Scheme**

The Cladding Safety Scheme (CSS) will meet the cost of addressing life safety fire risks associated with cladding on residential buildings over 11m in height. A maximum value of £20,000,000 is available, the closing date is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. For further information [click here](#).

### **9.7 Bus Service Operators Grant: commercial transport operators**

The Bus Service Operators Grant (BSOG) is a discretionary grant paid to operators of eligible local bus services to help them recover some of their fuel costs. The closing date is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. For further information [click here](#).

### **9.8 Regional Capacity Building**

We offer funding under this programme for activities and projects which are local or regional in coverage and which promote the understanding, management and conservation of the historic environment. Our support for building and maintaining sector capacity is focused on the sustainable management and development of the historic environment. We aim to ensure that those eligible activities and projects for which there is a lack of alternative sources of funding are our highest priorities for support. A maximum value of £100,000 is available, the closing date is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. For further information [click here](#).

### 9.9 Section 17 Management Agreements

We can offer funding to improve the management of monuments or access to them through agreements with the owner or occupier of the land. These agreements usually run for a term of three or five years. We can include payment for one-off repairs which would usually be carried out at the start of the term. More major repairs can be considered under our Repair Grants for Heritage at Risk grant scheme. Our priorities for funding through management agreements are be scheduled monuments at risk. A maximum value of £20,000 is available, the closing date is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. For further information [click here](#).

### 9.10 Repair Grants for Heritage at Risk

We give grants towards the repair and conservation of listed buildings, scheduled monuments and registered parks and gardens. This includes project development actions which enable repair or improved future management. Our grants under this scheme are intended to reduce the risk faced by some of the most significant historic sites in England, as shown on the Heritage at Risk Register. We focus our grants on those sites which are most in need of repair and where, without our grant, a project would not be able to go ahead. This scheme was formerly called Grants for Historic Buildings, Monuments and Designed Landscapes. A maximum value of £500,000 is available, the closing date is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. For further information [click here](#).

### 9.11 Heritage Protection Commissions Programme

The Heritage Protection Commissions and Capacity Building Scheme provides funding for strategic research and to build skills and capacity in our historic environment. The research funding from this scheme helps us to know what our historic environment comprises, which aspects of it are the most significant, how people value and interact with it, and what innovations in science and approach will help us to look after it for the future. The capacity building is targeted towards helping to reduce or avoid risk to the historic environment by building the capacity and commitment of local communities to champion the conservation and enhancement of their own local historic environment. A maximum value of £300,000 is available, the closing date is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. For further information [click here](#).

### 9.12 Bus Operator Accessible Information Regulation Support Grant (2025 Application Period)

Accessible Information Grant. This grant supports small bus operators to provide audible and visible information consistent with the Public Service Vehicles (Accessible Information Regulations) 2023. This is for applications from 1st January 2025 onwards. A maximum value of £90,000 is available, the closing date is 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025. 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, charitable trusts, and corporate sponsors.
- content ranging from modest community funds at one end of the spectrum to major, multilevel 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](#) or scan the QR barcode below: Northumberland County 4 Community

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 funder's website
3. You can then view and print any information from there

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### Regeneration Programmes Investment Funding e-Bulletin

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