

Accessibility changes to our funding information services coming soon

As you may know, at the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, we made our online Funding Directory available to all, to help the VCSE sector in the North East access support.

We've also been sending this Funding Information North East (FINE) ebulletin to all VONNE subscribers since the onset of the coronavirus crisis. But from 1st September, the directory, which contains details of more than 100 charitable trusts and foundations, will revert once again to being a benefit for our Silver and Gold Membership+ supporters, and also from September, the FINE bulletin will only be sent to Membership+ supporters that subscribe.

We rely on our Membership+ subscriptions as a significant contributor to our core costs and have seen a marked drop in this income over the last five months. We hope you've found receiving the FINE bulletin and accessing the directory useful and we are sorry we can't extend access to these benefits for any longer.

Should you wish to continue to access them, please consider joining our Membership+ supporter scheme, which contains these and a whole host of other benefits. Organisations with a turnover of less than £50k a year can apply for a free Bronze Membership+ subscription, or Silver Membership+ at a heavily discounted fee of just £64.

[Find out more](#)

Opportunities: Covid-19

Round Two LA6 Community Grants (Tyne & Wear / Northumberland)

Up to £20,000. VCSE. Deadline August 14th, 2020

The ESF Community Grants Project distributes small grants to organisations providing support to unemployed and inactive individuals to engage them and move them towards employment, through packages of training and support.

Particular focus is given to projects that engage the following groups:

- Unemployed and inactive participants
- Participants aged 50+ (14 per cent)
- Communities of colour (25 per cent)
- People with a learning difficulty/ disability (22 per cent)
- Females (36 per cent).

Additional focus on Covid-19 recovery projects includes:

- Newly redundant participants
- Supporting digital skills
- Focus on transferable skills
- Supporting young people (16 to 19) who may have had an offer of learning / employment / apprenticeship withdrawn.

Capacity building funding must not be more than 30 per cent of the total funds requested.

[Find out more](#)

Culture Recovery Fund for Heritage (Grant - England)

£10,000 - £3m. Deadline August 17th, 2020.

The Culture Recovery Fund for Heritage will support organisations across the heritage ecosystem that were financially sustainable before Covid-19, have exhausted all other financing options and are now at risk of failure.

The aim is to ensure that by 31 March 2021, successful applicants can reopen or - if reopening under social distancing is not permissible or does not represent a value for money approach - operate on a sustainable and cost-efficient basis so that they are able to reopen at a later date.

Eligible organisations include:

- Not for profit organisations that manage heritage sites, venues or attractions
- Local authorities, universities and other public sector bodies that manage heritage sites, venues or attractions
- Private owners of heritage sites, venues or attractions that are normally open to the public 28 days a year or more
- For profit businesses that are a vital part of the heritage ecosystem and who generate the largest portion of their income from heritage work
- Organisations that manage culturally significant assets or collections
- Organisations that provide significant support to the heritage sector.

[Find out more](#)

National Lottery Community Fund - update

The National Lottery Community Fund has announced that the deadline for applying for government support through to the Coronavirus Community Support Fund (CCSF) is **August 17th, 2020**.

After this, you can still apply for emergency National Lottery funded grants in England to help your community through Covid-19. The focus will be on funding for organisations supporting people and communities who experience disproportionate challenge and difficulty as a result of the crisis, specifically for user-led equality groups supporting people of colour, disabled people and LGBTQ+.

This is six months' emergency funding of £300 - £100,000 for small and medium organisations. Other National Lottery funding will be available again later this year.

[Find out more](#)

British Gas Energy Trust: Covid Response Fund (Grant - England / Scotland*)

* North East eligible areas: Middlesbrough, Hartlepool, Sunderland.

Registered charities / CIC / CIO (turnover £200k - £1m). Deadline August 19th, 2020.

Nine grants of £40,000+ are available to money advice and support charities in areas where the pandemic has had a severe impact on household incomes and where the demand for money, debt and energy advice services is likely to be high. £90,000 in total is available for the North East.

The trust will be looking for applications with clear evidence that the intervention can help meet the following objectives:

- Foster individual skills, capabilities and competencies so people can build financial stability and thrive
- Help people in financial hardship avoid the burden of energy debt, meet their energy needs, manage their energy costs, whilst informing their energy decisions and supporting choice in a changing world
- Identify impactful interventions to improve the support services for those facing financial hardship
- Manage the funds effectively and deliver support where it is most impactful.

[Find out more](#)

People's Postcode Lottery funding (Grants – UK)

£500 - £20,000*. VCSE. Deadline August 19th, 2020.

* Only registered charities, CIOs and SCIOs can apply for grants up to £20,000. Other not for profit organisations can apply for grants of up to £2,000.

Three programmes are open for application, with differing areas of focus:

Postcode Community Trust: improving community health and wellbeing, increasing participation in arts and physical recreation and reducing isolation.

People's Postcode Trust: promoting human rights, combatting discrimination and preventing poverty.

Postcode Neighbourhood Trust: currently for organisations affected by the Covid-19 pandemic under the themes of 'supporting your organisation's resilience' and 'adapting / expanding services to meet new challenges'.

Arts Council England: Culture Recovery Fund (Grant – England)

£50,000 - £3m. Registered cultural organisations (non profit / profit)*. Deadline (round one) August 21st, 2020 (opens August 10th).

* at least one year's accounts. Libraries not eligible.

This fund is to enable cultural organisations that have been affected by the Covid-19 crisis to stay afloat, providing them with support over a six-month period to ensure that by March 31st, 2021 they can reopen, either fully or partially, or operate on a sustainable, cost-efficient basis until they are able to reopen at a later date.

Although there are two rounds for this fund, the Council expects to allocate approximately 75 per cent of the overall budget to the first round. Round two opens August 21st and closes September 4th.

[Find out more](#)

Common Call Covid Fund (Grant – UK)

£1,000 - £3,000. Social enterprises. Deadline August 31st, 2020.

The Common Call Covid Fund is specifically aimed at supporting Black-led social enterprises and charities so that they are able to survive and even thrive in the Covid period.

Grants are available for organisations led by and benefiting people that identify as Black or Mixed with Black. The funders are specifically looking for organisations that are creating impact in deprived communities and providing services to people that have been adversely affected by the Covid crisis in terms of physical health, mental health and/or financially.

This funding is best suited to support small organisations that employ no more than five people (or full-time equivalent).

[Find out more](#)

Armed Forces Covenant Fund: Force for Change (Grant - UK)

Up to £20,000. Registered charities / CICs / Armed Forces unit or base / local authority / school. Deadline September 11th, 2020.

This is a new grants programme, awarding grants to projects under these two main themes:

- Empowering Armed Forces communities to become more engaged in their local area
- Providing opportunities for isolated members of the Armed Forces community to take part in activities that improve general wellbeing.

This year, in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, the funders will be particularly welcoming applications for projects that help Armed Forces communities move to the 'new normal' while continuing to support local needs and reduce isolation. There will be a particular focus on ensuring volunteers can carry out local projects.

[Find out more](#)

Lloyds Bank Foundation Covid recovery fund (Grant – England and Wales)

£50,000. Registered charities (income £25k - £1m). Deadline September 11th, 2020.

Lloyds Bank Foundation is inviting charities to apply to its Covid Recovery Fund which will award around 140 charities a two-year unrestricted grant alongside a Development Partner to help charities navigate a tumultuous future. This fund is open to charities that are helping people overcome complex social issues such as homelessness and domestic abuse. A minimum of a quarter of this funding will go to charities that are led by and for people of colour.

In the North East and Cumbria:

- Due to existing investments, the Foundation isn't open to applications for work with people with mental health problems, people with learning disabilities (except in Cumbria and Cleveland) and people experiencing sexual abuse and exploitation
- Charities that already receive a grant from the Foundation will not be eligible to apply unless their funding ends in 2020
- The racial equity strand of the Fund is open to charities that are led by and for people of colour in Newcastle upon Tyne and in Middlesbrough
- Redcar is the community in the North East and Cumbria where the Foundation are working to support long term transformational change – as a result the eligibility criteria has been relaxed there and applications are invited for work under all but one of the Foundation's Complex Social Issues areas.

A Q&A webinar with the grants team will be held August 11th 2 – 3.30 pm. Sign up [here](#).

[Find out more](#)

BFI Culture Recovery Fund for Independent Cinemas (Grant -England)

Deadline October 30th, 2020 (opens August 10th)

This fund is part of the government's cultural recovery package; £30m has been allocated and the fund is intended for independent cinemas whose businesses have been unavoidably interrupted by the pandemic and will continue to be disrupted upon re-opening.

The Fund will have two components:

- Safety grants of £2,500 - £10,000 to help cinemas make their venues safe for staff and audiences

- Business sustainability grants of around £30,000 - £200,000 to underpin ongoing organisational viability.

[Find out more](#)

Steel Charitable Trust (Grant – UK)

**£2,5000 - £25,000. Registered charities / exempt / CICs / CIOs.
Deadline October 31st, 2020.**

The trust makes discretionary grants where they believe that their contribution will make a real difference. The five current funding priority categories are

- Arts and heritage
- Education
- Environment
- Health
- Social or economic disadvantage.

Applicants may apply for support towards capital projects, specific projects, research programmes and core costs. Covid-19-related funding will also be considered.

[Find out more](#)

Volant Trust: Covid-19 Response Fund (Grant – UK / International)

No amount specified. VCSE. Deadline December 31st, 2020.

The Volant Trust accepts applications from charities that demonstrate a strong focus on alleviating social deprivation and helping vulnerable groups who have been particularly impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. Applications for medical equipment and the production or distribution of PPE will also be considered.

[Find out more](#)

Charity Bank's Resilience and Recovery Loan Fund – expanded

Registered charities / social enterprises.

The Resilience and Recovery Loan Fund (RRLF), offered by Social Investment Business, has been expanded and improved to make more loans to charities and social enterprises affected by the coronavirus pandemic. It offers the following:

- Maximum loan amount now £1.5m (minimum still £100k)
- Interest-free and fee-free for the first 12 months
- Loans available up to a maximum of five years
- Faster than applying for a standard loan.

RRLF is an emergency loan fund that will provide repayable finance to charities and social enterprises who are experiencing disruption as a result of Covid-19 and is intended for such organisations who have an otherwise viable business model. It has been established to make the government's existing Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme more easily accessible to these entities

[Find out more](#)

Coalfields Food Insecurity Response Fund (Grant – England)

Up to £2,500. VCSE. No deadline

This is a new fund to tackle food poverty, solely available to pay for food and non-alcoholic refreshment items for those in greatest need in the coalfields.

There has been a significant rise over recent years in the coalfields of the number of projects providing food to those who cannot afford it and the Covid-19 pandemic has exacerbated this issue.

The Coalfields Regeneration Trust has joined forces with Company Shop to award fast track funds to projects responding to these growing challenges. Company Shop sells surplus food and household items from well-known retailers and brands at hugely discounted prices (North East location – Washington). Those awarded a grant will also receive Company Shop membership and Company Shop will value match any applications that deliver food provision for families and children.

Priority will be given to organisations that are supporting the most vulnerable.

Grants are awarded to projects in the top 30 per cent most deprived former coalfield areas: eligible North East areas can be seen [here](#).

The programme will close when all funds have been allocated. Please apply early to avoid disappointment.

[Find out more](#)

Opportunities: Other

Kelly Family Charitable Trust (Grant - UK)

£1,000 - £5,000. Registered charities*. Deadline September 1st, 2020.

* preference for those with income less than £500k

The Kelly Family Charitable Trust is interested in funding charities whose activities involve all or most family members, where possible, in initiatives that seek to tackle problems facing one or more of its members.

The three areas of activity that the charity wishes to support are:

- Interventions that support families and help them in ways that prevent the fracture of the family unit
- Families where sexual abuse, physical abuse, domestic violence, alcohol abuse and drug abuse threaten the integrity of the family unit
- Prisoners and, in particular, their families - during and after the period of imprisonment.

The trust will consider both capital and revenue grants. It is happy to support requests for core funding as well as project-based grants and actively encourages applications from relatively new organisations to help them become established.

[Find out more](#)

Sir James Knott Trust – change of deadline

The deadline for the Sir James Knott Trust Autumn meeting has been brought forward to **September 1st, 2020**. This is a few weeks earlier than the date that was originally published on the website as the meeting date has been brought forward.

The aim of Sir James Knott Trust is to help improve the conditions of people living and working in the North East of England by supporting community projects in Tyne and Wear, Northumberland and County Durham including Hartlepool. Grants usually range from £400 to £100,000. Most in the last year were for less than £10,000.

[Find out more](#)

Finnis Scott Foundation (Grant - UK)

Up to £10,000. VCSE / schools. Deadline September 18th, 2020.

The Finnis Scott Foundation currently focuses their grant-making in the areas of horticulture and plant sciences, as well as fine art and art history.

The Foundation funds both capital and revenue projects. Requests for salaries will not be considered, except in the case of educational support (bursaries and apprenticeships).

[Find out more](#)

Nineveh Charitable Trust (Grant - UK)

No min/max. Schools / non profit*. No deadline.

* Prefers to pay grants to UK registered charities or Community Interest Companies, but individual applicants may be considered if the outcome benefits are clearly defined.

The trust supports a broad range of projects and activities that promote a better understanding of the environment and countryside, whilst facilitating improved access, education and research.

Whilst the Trust does not specify a minimum or maximum grant amount that can be applied for, an analysis of previous grants would suggest a maximum of £5,000 per year for up to three years.

[Find out more](#)

Places to Ride (Grant - England)

Up to £500,000. VCSE / local authorities / schools. No deadline (open until January 2021); decisions should take 12 weeks.

British Cycling is working closely with Sport England to develop a national network of new cycling facilities that meets local demand. Funding is available to any organisation developing cycling activity in their community and can be used for anything from equipment packages to activate a local space, through to a new cycling facility.

Support available:

- Large scale grants (£50,000 – £500,000): typically for new facilities or significant improvements to existing venues. Organisations will need to provide partnership funding (ideally 50 per cent).
- Small-scale grants (£1,000 – £50,000): for equipment, cycle storage, small-scale facilities or venue improvements. Organisations will need to provide partnership funding (ideally 50 per cent and no lower than 25 per cent).
- Equipment packages: for equipment packages to activate a local space. Places to Ride will cover 80 per cent of the cost in return for a commitment to deliver and report over three years.

[Find out more](#)

Wooden Spoon Society: Capital Grants programme (UK)

No min/max. Schools / non profit. No deadline

Wooden Spoon is the British and Irish Rugby charity which supports mentally, physically disadvantaged children.

Projects must enhance and support the lives of children and young people (under 25) that are disadvantaged physically, mentally or socially. The project must work directly with children and young people and have a positive influence on their lives from the activities or service provided.

If a project is a physical, tangible asset, the item must have a minimum predicted life-span of five years (preferably ten years), be non-transferable and of a permanent nature. If a project is educational or disability sports focused, there must be a key rugby element to engage children and young people and a clearly defined project brief.

[Find out more](#)

Funders Spotlight: North East Community Foundation COVID-19 funding

A round-up of funding available from the region's Community Foundations to support the sector during the pandemic:

[Find out more](#)

We were funded!

Each issue we'll be featuring a funding success story from a local organisation sharing what worked for them. If you'd like to share your funding story email [Jen Thompson](mailto:Jen.Thompson).

Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland awards over £1million in grants to 150 charitable groups and local causes during pandemic

The Foundation's Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund closed July 22nd and the total awarded in grants was over £1million. The monies awarded will allow grantees to help the most vulnerable in our communities; including older people, people with disabilities, people with mental health issues or other challenges that have been heightened due to the impact of coronavirus.

Rob Williamson, Chief Executive of the Community Foundation, said:

"When we set up our fund, we hoped to double our £200,000 investment. To be announcing we have now given out £1 million to over 150 groups with more still to come is humbling. We would not have been able to do that without the huge generosity of local business and individuals, and all those who gave to the National

Emergencies Appeal. On behalf of everyone at the Community Foundation, and the groups we've been able to help in time of crisis, I want to say a huge thank you."

In the very near future the Foundation hopes to announce a new phase of coronavirus-related funding. They are still open for general applications.

Information and resources

DEC Coronavirus Appeal tops £15m as government commits to £5m more match funding

The DEC (Disasters Emergency Committee) Coronavirus Appeal has now raised £15 million since its launch July 14th, with funds already being used by DEC charities.

The UK Government has also announced that it will give a further £5 million of Aid Match funding to the Appeal. This is an increase of match funding up to £10 million.

[Find out more](#)

Event: Funding strategy and diversification post-Covid-19

September 22nd, 2020. 10am-3pm. From £46.

This online course from NCVO aims to help you understand and analyse the current funding situation of your organisation and teach you how to plan for the future.

This course is for the people responsible for funding in small and medium-sized charities. It is best suited to those who have responsibility for developing a funding strategy and those seeking to diversify their income.

[Find out more](#)

More than 200 charities call for temporary increase to rate of Gift Aid

More than 200 UK charities have joined a coalition calling for the government to temporarily increase the level of Gift Aid to help keep their services running during the coronavirus pandemic and beyond.

[Find out more](#)

News on the Coronavirus Community Support Fund but important data remains hidden and millions in 'emergency' funding remains to be distributed, claims DSC

After efforts from DSC over recent weeks to get more data about the Coronavirus Community Support Fund (CCSF), the National Lottery Community Fund (NLCF) released a statement saying that they

- have received over 10,000 applications
- have awarded almost £55m to over 2300 organisations in England
- are still assessing applications totalling almost £130m
- will close the £200m government funding element of the programme August 17th.

DSC argues that, while this is useful information, the Chancellor allocated £370m to support small charities via the Lottery (including £60m for devolved nations) back in April – but as the months have gone on, these commitments have been watered down, obfuscated, and delayed.

[Find out more](#)

Sector reform must be "more ambitious" than Big Society, MP Danny Kruger says

Danny Kruger, the MP tasked with reviewing the sector's role in the UK's recovery from the coronavirus pandemic, has said future sector models must be "more ambitious" than the Big Society and warned against the government implementing major reforms at the same time as cutting spending.

[Find out more](#)

The Status of UK Fundraising – 2020 report

The latest edition of the annual Status of UK Fundraising report has been published by Blackbaud Europe and the Institute of Fundraising. Using data collected from around 2,000 respondents, the 2020 report gives us insight into how different organisations have responded to the coronavirus pandemic.

[Find out more](#)

UK Fundraising: Fundraising Talent Now

UK Fundraising want to help the many fundraisers who are facing redundancy or being made redundant due to the drop in income caused by the pandemic, by creating a page for fundraisers to post details of their availability.

[Find out more](#)