

# **Produced by the Regeneration Programmes and Investment Team**

Funding e-bulletin

Issue Number: 25.01.16 January 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 <u>click here</u>

### 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 <u>click here</u>

### 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 <u>click here</u>



#### 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 <u>click here</u>

#### 1.11 The Major'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 Google.org Accelerator: Generative Al Open Call

Grants and technical expertise are available to non-profit organisations, civic entities, academic institutions, and social enterprises from the UK and worldwide to build socially impactful gen AI-powered solutions across Google.org's three focus areas: Knowledge, Skills, and Learning; Scientific Advancement; and Resilient Communities. A maximum value of £1,624,476 is available, the application deadline is 10 February 2025. For further information <u>click here.</u>

# 3. Arts, Culture, Heritage and Tourism

### 3.1 Association of Independent Museums (AIM) – Museum Fundamentals Grant Programme

Grants are available for small-to-medium sized museums across the UK to support core museum activities such as conservation, collection care, and exhibition development. A maximum value of £20,000 is available, the application deadline is 7 February 2025. For further information click here.

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

### 4.1 Mobilise Accelerator

Funding to support UK micro businesses, SMEs, start-ups or university spinouts developing automotive-related early stage, zero-emission or Connected and Automated Mobility technologies, products, services or solutions to accelerate the transition to a safer, smarter, more sustainable future. A maximum value of £180,000 is available, the application deadline is 19 March 2025. For further information click here.

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

### 5.1 None to report

## 6. Sport and Recreation

### 6.1 Asda Foundation - Outdoor Community Spaces Fund

Grants are available for grassroot groups to improve or transform outdoor community spaces where people can meet and be together, building pride in the local area. A maximum value of £3,000 is available, the application deadline is 11 February 2025. For further information click here.



# 7. Schools and Education

### 7.1 None to report

### 8. The National Lottery Funding Programmes

### 8.1 National Lottery Awards for All England

A quick way to apply for smaller amounts of funding between £300 and £20,000. Suitable for Voluntary or community organisations. Funding size £300 to £20,000, for up to two years, Application deadline ongoing. Apply at least 16 weeks before you want to start the activities or spend any of the money. For Further information <u>click here</u>

### 8.2 Reaching Communities England

Offers a larger amount of funding (over £20,001) for projects that last up to five years. Looking for projects that work with their community – whether that's a community living in the same area, or people with similar interests or life experiences. Suitable for Voluntary or community organisations. Funding size £20,001 or more, for up to five years. Application deadline ongoing. For further information click here

## 8.3 Partnerships

Offers a larger amount of funding (over £20,001) for organisations that work together with a shared set of goals to help their community thrive – whether that's a community living in the same area, or people with similar interests or life experiences. Suitable for Voluntary or community organisations. Funding size £20,001 or more, for up to five years. Application deadline ongoing. For further information click here

#### 8.4 Community Power

The National Lotter are looking for 10 to 15 partners to work with them in the development stage of the Community Power fund. Suitable for Community or voluntary organisations, public sector organisations. Funding size £50,000 to £80,000 per partner organisation. Total available £1.2 million. Application deadline to submit expressions of interest by midday on Wednesday 5 February 2025. For further information click here.

#### 8.5 Forces in Mind

Supporting the psychological wellbeing and successful and sustainable transition of veterans and their families into civilian life. Application deadline ongoing. For further information <u>click here.</u>

# 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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# Northumberland County 4 Community

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