

Funding e-bulletin

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1. North East Combined Authority (NECA)

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. This fund is specifically designed to address the challenges faced by socially trading organisations who are delivering significant social impact and may struggle to secure loans from traditional sources. 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 Local Innovation Partnership Fund

The Local Innovation Partnerships Fund (LIPF) is a new, national programme led by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) that will invest up to £500 million over five years to develop and scale high-potential innovation clusters across the UK. The North East has been identified in the Earmarked Strand, as one of 10 regions across the country to receive an allocation of at least £30 million funding over 5 years. For further information [click here](#).

1.9 Northumberland Small Business Fund

The Northumberland Small Business Service, delivered by Business Northumberland, offers a comprehensive range of support for individuals looking to pursue a business idea and small and micro businesses across Rural Northumberland. The package of financial and business support is designed to grow and enhance resilience across new and existing businesses in Northumberland. The support includes grant funding, business support, masterclasses, 1-2-1 consultancy and advice and open access networking events across the whole of Northumberland. It is jointly funded by the North East CA, the UKSPF and the Rural England Prosperity Fund. For further details [click here](#).

1.10 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](#)

1.11 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](#)

1.12 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. Round two of the fund launched on 3 June 2025 and will invest £225,000 in supporting community-led places and spaces that meet people's basic day-to-day needs whilst also helping to create opportunity, improve skills, digital access and health outcomes, and reduce child poverty. For further information [click here](#)

2. Grant Finder Service

2.1 UK Space Agency Connectivity in Low-Earth Orbit (C-LEO) Call 2: ARTES Only

UK-registered companies can apply for funding from the UK Space Agency to develop and industrialise advanced satellite telecommunications technologies for Low Earth Orbit. A maximum value of £3,000,000 is available, the application deadline is 13 April 2026. For further information [click here](#).

2.2 Changing Futures Learning and Support Grant

Funding available to a national learning and support provider in England to deliver learning, support, and knowledge-sharing across the next phase of the Changing Futures programme to improve systems supporting adults experiencing multiple disadvantage. A maximum value of £900,000 is available, the application deadline is 21 April 2026. For further information [click here](#).

2.3 Changing Futures Lived Experience Support Grant

Funding available to a national lived experience organisation in England to support the integration of lived experience into the next phase of the Changing Futures programme, strengthening system change and improving services for adults experiencing multiple disadvantage. A maximum value of £750,000 is available, the application deadline is 21 April 2026. For further information [click here](#).

4.4 Clore Learning Spaces Schools Connect Programme

Grants to support partnerships between hard-to-reach state-funded primary and secondary schools and arts or heritage organisations to use existing Clore Learning Spaces to develop and deliver high-quality cultural learning experiences for pupils. A maximum value of £150,000 is available, the application deadline is 29 April 2026. For further information [click here](#).

2.5 Match Trading Grant

Funding is available for England-based community businesses to join a specialist support programme that combines training and mentoring with a Match Trading Grant to help grow trading income and build organisational resilience. A maximum value of £4,000 is available, the application deadline is 29 April 2026. For further information [click here](#).

2.6 England Athletics - Club Improvement Fund

Grants are available to England Athletics-affiliated clubs for projects that help them become safer, more welcoming, sustainable and better able to recruit and retain members. A maximum value of £500 is available, the application deadline is 30 April 2026. For further information [click here](#).

2.7 Gambling Levy Transition Fund

Funding available to support charities and VCSE organisations in England to continue gambling harm prevention and treatment services during the transition from the voluntary, industry-funded system to the new statutory gambling levy system. A discretionary amount is available; the application deadline is 30 April 2026. For further information [click here](#).

2.8 HMGCC Co-Creation: Smart Personal Assistant for Security Researchers

Funding is available for UK-based innovators, industry, academic and research organisations to develop an offline smart personal assistant tool that helps security researchers index, search, and understand technical information more efficiently. A maximum value of £60,000 is available, the application deadline is 7 May 2026. For further information [click here](#).

2.9 General Support Technology Programme (GSTP)

UK businesses can apply for a share of up to £14.7 million in funding from the UK Space Agency, unlocking new opportunities to develop cutting-edge space technologies and strengthen the UK's industrial capability. A discretionary amount is available; the application deadline is 11 May 2026. For further information [click here](#).

2.10 EPSRC Materials Innovation Partnerships Grant

Grant funding is available for ambitious partnerships between businesses and academic researchers to develop advanced materials innovation projects. A discretionary amount is available; the application deadline is 14 May 2026. For further information [click here](#).

2.11 UKRI Translation: EPSRC Prosperity Partnerships 2027

Grants funding is available to support collaborative research programmes between UK businesses and academic partners to create long-term prosperity for the UK through shared innovation and research impact. A discretionary amount is available; the application deadline is 21 May 2026. For further information [click here](#).

2.12 Fostering Programme: New Hubs Expression of Interest

Funding is available to support local authorities and partners to establish new regional fostering hubs in England that take a more integrated, end-to-end approach to recruiting, assessing, and supporting foster carers. A maximum value of £1,500,000 is available, the application deadline is 22 May 2026. For further information [click here](#).

2.13 Regional Care Co-operative National Rollout

Funding is available to support the establishment of Regional Care Cooperatives (RCCs) in England, bringing together local authority and partner resources to improve the planning, commissioning and delivery of children's social care placements across wider areas. A maximum value of £1,700,000 is available, the application deadline is 22 May 2026. For further information [click here](#).

2.14 The Froebel Trust Open Call Research Grants

Grants are available to support research projects that advance understanding of Froebelian approaches to early childhood education and improve outcomes for young children, families and educators. A maximum value of £50,000 is available, the application deadline is 22 May 2026. For further information [click here](#).

2.15 Caremark Community Care Fund

Funding is available for UK-based community groups, charities, and not-for-profit organisations to support local projects that deliver a positive and lasting impact on their communities. A maximum value of £3,000 is available, the application deadline is 31 May 2026. For further information [click here](#).

2.16 Rapid Transfusion Diagnostics: Optimising Safety on Deployed Operations

Funding available to support the development of logistically light blood testing technologies to improve safety and availability of transfusions in deployed military operations. A discretionary amount is available; the application deadline is 2 June 2026. For further information [click here](#).

3. The National Lottery Funding

3.1 National Lottery Awards for All England.

We fund community-led projects that tackle the climate and nature emergency, improve the environment, and help people connect with and enjoy nature locally. **Amount:** £300 to £20,000 **A decision in:** 16 weeks **Programme status:** Open to applications. For further information [click here](#).

3.2 National Lottery Awards for All England – Environment

We fund community-led projects that improve the environment and help people connect with and enjoy nature where they live. Funding size £300 to £20,000 for up to two years. Application deadline 17 December 2025. For further information [click here](#).

3.3 Reaching Communities England

We fund projects that strengthen communities and improve lives across England, with priority for the people and places that need it most. **Amount:** £20,001 to £20,000,000 **A decision in:** 40 weeks **Programme status:** Open to applications For further information [click here](#).

3.4 The Solidarity Fund

Funding in England for projects tackling root causes of inequality. We support lasting change led by people with lived experience, with projects that can grow and last. **Amount:** £1,000,000 to £5,000,000 **A decision in:** 35 weeks **Programme status:** Open to applications For further information [click here](#).

3.5 The UK Fund

Larger amounts of funding for to expand on existing work. We'll fund projects that help bring diverse communities together. We'll also fund projects that help children and young people use their voice to influence change. Application deadline – Ongoing. For further information [click here](#).

3.6 Climate Action Fund - Food Systems

Climate Action Fund – Food Systems supports projects that strengthen our food system and reduce food insecurity for people and communities. For further information [click here](#).

3.7 The UK Fund

The UK Fund offers large grants to grow proven projects. We fund work with impact that can scale, change systems, and benefit communities across the UK. For further information [click here](#).

4. Government Grant Service

4.1 Trees, woodlands and forestry - Woodland Creation Planning Grant

The Woodland Creation Planning Grant (WCPG) offers funding of up to £30,500 for the production of a UKFS-compliant woodland creation design plan. Landowners, land managers and public bodies can apply. WCPG is open for applications year-round. The 'Find a grant' tool requires a 'closing date' to be specified, however 31 March 2027 reflects the period WCPG funding is currently confirmed until, rather than a known closure date. 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.

Location: England, North East England, North West England, South East England, South West England, Midlands
Funding organisation: Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs / Forestry Commission - Nature for Climate Fund

Who can apply: Personal / Individual, Public Sector, Non-profit, Private Sector

How much you can get: From £1,500 to £30,500

Total size of grant scheme £708,607

Opening date: 1 December 2015, 12:01am (Midnight)

Closing date: 31 March 2027, 11:59pm (Midnight)

4.2 Community Hub Bursaries

Skills Bursaries provide grants of up to £1,000 for people seeking to grow their expertise in community heritage work. Open to applicants at any stage of their personal or professional journey, these bursaries can be used for training, mentoring, attending workshops, or other professional development activities related to heritage and community engagement to be determined by you. Offered on a rolling basis, Skills Bursaries are designed to be accessible and responsive, helping to build confidence and capacity across the sector—particularly among those who may not have had access to such opportunities before.

Location: National, England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, North East England, North West England, South East England, South West England, Midlands

Funding organisation: The National Archives

Who can apply: Personal / Individual, Public Sector, Non-profit, Private Sector, Local authority

How much you can get: From £10 to £1,000

Total size of grant scheme £26,269

Opening date: 15 September 2025, 12:01am (Midnight)

Closing date: 3 July 2027, 11:59pm (Midnight)

4.3 Life Sciences Transformational R&D Investment Fund (TRIF) Pilot

The Life Sciences Transformational R&D Investment Fund Pilot offers capital grants to support large-scale R&D projects in the UK life sciences sector (eligible projects must exceed £100 million in total costs). It aims to boost research and development within the UK's Life Sciences sector by supporting large-scale investments focused on innovation and strengthening health resilience, as well as projects with the potential to generate economic benefits. This fund complements the separate Life Sciences Innovative Manufacturing Fund (LSIMF).

Location: National, England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, North East England, North West England, South East England, South West England, Midlands

Funding organisation: Department for Science, Innovation and Technology

Who can apply: Private Sector

How much you can get: From £5 million to £25 million

Total size of grant scheme £50 million

Opening date: 25 September 2025, 12:01am (Midnight)

Closing date: 31 March 2028, 11:59pm (Midnight)

4.4 New National Forest - North and Midlands

The North and Midlands are set to benefit from being the location of England's third new national forest. This forest will be transformative, providing significant economic, environmental, and social benefits. Defra is now inviting organisations outside of central government or its ALBs to submit an Expression of Interest to enable us to assess the options for delivery in the region.

Location: North East England, North West England, Midlands

Funding organisation: Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Who can apply: Personal / Individual, Public Sector, Non-profit, Private Sector, Local authority

How much you can get: From £1 million to £7.5 million

Total size of grant scheme £7.5 million

Opening date: 25 March 2026, 1:00pm

Closing date: 20 May 2026, 11:59pm (Midnight)

4.5 Community Hub Project Grants

Project Grants of up to £30,000 fund substantial, collaborative projects between at least one GLAM (Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums) or Heritage organisation and one community group. These grants support in-depth research, skills development, and the creation of lasting resources that reflect diverse voices and experiences. Projects should be co-designed and community-led, with a focus on inclusion, sustainability, and impact. Whether building upon a Seed Corn project or starting fresh, Project Grants are intended to create meaningful change and long-term value for both communities and institutions.

Location: National, England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, North East England, North West England, South East England, South West England, Midlands

Funding organisation: The National Archives

Who can apply: Public Sector, Non-profit, Private Sector, Local authority

How much you can get: From £500 to £30,000

Total size of grant scheme £225,000

Opening date: 1 April 2026, 12:01am (Midnight)

Closing date: 12 June 2026, 11:59pm (Midnight)

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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If you have any questions or wish to contribute a funding opportunity, please [contact us](#).