



Sunderland Voluntary Sector Alliance E-Bulletin October 2023

Welcome to your latest edition of the Sunderland Voluntary Sector Alliance e-bulletin.

This e-bulletin will include **current news articles and an Alliance update.**

You will also find information on **volunteering opportunities, job opportunities, training and funding news.**

We hope that you enjoy the bulletin, and we look forward to any feedback you may wish to share.

Note: Information in this bulletin has been shared directly from the source/organisation. If you require any further details, please use the links to contact the organisations directly.

City-wide information



Bootcamp for Domestic Energy Advice: Winter 2023/24

As we begin to enter the winter season, National Energy Action (NEA) believes energy advice is crucial amid the ongoing energy and cost-of-living crises. We want to help equip frontline domestic energy advisers and those supporting clients in fuel poverty with the necessary tools and most up-to-date information so they can offer effective support. This energy adviser bootcamp, run by the [NEA training and delivery teams](#), has been designed to address the challenges and complexities of assisting those in need during the colder months and to give a refresher on the most salient points of advice delivery in the face of the energy and broader cost-of-living crises. This webinar also aims to provide knowledge on government-led measures and schemes for householders.

We'll also be devoting time to acknowledging that frontline advice delivery can be extremely challenging, and taking some time to look at mental health resilience and strategies around self-care over high stress periods.

This is a free online session, held via Zoom.

To book a place:

[Online webinar FREE to attend](#)



VCSE temperature check survey

Following the last VCSE Partnership Programme Executive Group meeting, on 6th July, an Executive Group Action Plan has been developed based on points raised and questions asked during the meeting.

A key action that came from this meeting was the need to gather information relating to the following three areas:

- A VCSE Temperature Check Survey about Integrated Care Board (ICB) engagement with the VCSE sector.
- Cuts to the VCSE, including cuts to direct service provision and cuts to planned expansion.
- Funding, investment and commissioning at local level.

[This survey](#) is to collect information which we will share with the North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB) to strengthen our collective VCSE voice, so we can work together as an Integrated Care System (ICS) to address concerns and issues and raise awareness of areas of good practice that have the potential to be rolled out to other areas.

We appreciate that a lot of us are struggling with capacity at the moment, but the more people that fill in the survey, the stronger our collective voice will be.

If you have any questions about the survey please contact VCSE Engagement Manager siobhan.flynn@vonne.org.uk.

We'd be grateful if you could share your views **before Tuesday 17th October**. [Complete the survey here](#).

Take Care of Yourself: 6 Holistic Experts Teach You How!

Exclusive THANKYOU - Discount Code

As a big thank you for being part of the **HOPS** community, we're offering you an **amazing 20% discount** on the whole course!

All you have to do is click the button below to book and your discount will be automatically applied!

After 15 years of working with people on their healing journey, we've learned that knowing how to take care of yourself, and your inner-peace, is no easy matter.

Taking care of yourself, really nurturing your inner-self, building the skills you need to keep anxiety and stress at bay, well for that you need a teacher.

That's why we're so excited to announce that we've brought together 6 experts in different branches of holistic healing, ready to give you a well-rounded approach to finally, *truly*, taking care of yourself.

All proceeds from this course go towards paying the tutors and supporting the HOPS charity, allowing us to help more of our community.

Change begins Saturday October 7th

HOPS- Healing Opportunities Provisions Scheme

The Old Rectory, The Broadway, Houghton-Le-Spring, Tyne & Wear, DH4 4BB

[Take Care of Yourself: 6 Holistic Experts Teach You How! Tickets, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite](#)



What's in the box? Memory Box Sessions for Community Groups

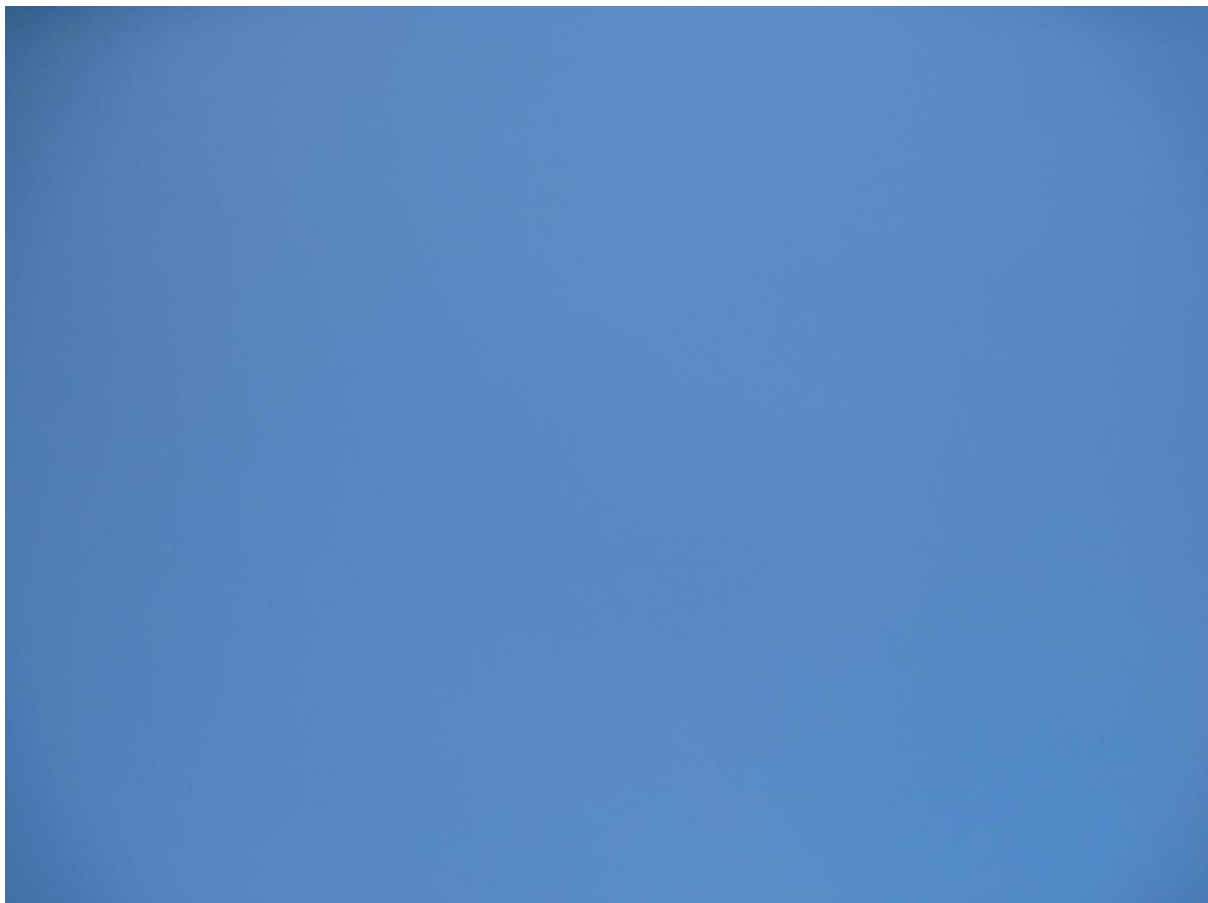
Next July we'll be celebrating the 60th Anniversary of Washington New Town

We're keen to hear people's stories of life in Washington during the 60s, 70s and 80s, and we can come to your community group with a box full of items and memorabilia to help jog your

memories. To book a free session, contact judithmurphy@communityopportunities.co.uk 07597 700884

We'd also love to add to these boxes. Do you have any old photos or objects from the 60s-80s that are cluttering up your house that you'd like to give to a good home and provide them with a new lease of life? If so, please get in touch with Jude: judithmurphy@communityopportunities.co.uk

Alliance Update



SVSA - Who we are and how we can support you - ONLINE EVENT

September has been an extremely busy month for Sunderland Voluntary Sector Alliance, and the rest of 2023 is set to be just as exciting.

In October we are welcoming 4 new people to our team, and following our first Development Worker joining us last month, we are starting to trial and deliver on our service offer, grasping a handle of what the sector needs to grow and sustain.

With this in mind, it's now time for us to give an update around who we are, what we have been doing and most importantly how you, the Voluntary Sector, can get involved.

We want to create a mechanism for you to have your voice not only heard, but acknowledged and fed to local and regional strategic partners. We would like to invite the voluntary sector to a network meeting to do just that (and ask us any burning questions you may have!).

Please save the date, and further information will come out soon:

Thursday 2nd November

9:15am – 10:45am

This will be an online event

Welcome to Maria Lavelle - Voluntary Sector Development Worker

Maria joined Sunderland Voluntary Sector Alliance in September 2023 as a Voluntary Sector Development Worker. She joins us after 8 years working at Eating Disorder North East, a charity based in Newcastle supporting those with an eating distress/disorder.

As the Training Officer her role was to create, plan, deliver and evaluate high-quality training courses and resources to Professionals, Parents, and Young People in a range of settings in the Northeast.

Before this role Maria worked as a project manager at Them Wifies an arts and mental health charity. An integral part of that role was to identify gaps in mental health provision and design creative, authentic and engaging solutions. This work took place in a range of settings including Prisons, Psychiatric forensic units and various day and inpatient facilities.

Maria has over 20 years' experience of designing, marketing, and implementation of a range of income-generating projects, services, and products to enhance the lives of vulnerable people with complex needs.

As a Sunderland resident, Maria is passionate about supporting local organisations to deliver high quality services for people with complex needs to enjoy a better quality of life.

Maria is the first of 3 Voluntary Sector Development Workers to join SVSA, and has already hit the ground running supporting VCSE organisations with grant applications, project development plans,

business planning and budgeting. Our offer of support to the sector can now be developed and widened, with our team growing each month!



Welcome to Jen Julien - Community Mapping Officer (Social Prescribing)

Jen has joined Sunderland Voluntary Sector Alliance in October as Community Mapping Officer - Social Prescribing, bringing with her a vast amount of experience in the Voluntary Sector and Social Prescribing arena. Gaining experience with pharmaceutical sales and marketing after completing a post graduate qualification in Leadership and Coaching, her first role within the voluntary sector was with First Contact Clinical (FCC) CIC in South Shields. This was on short-term projects delivering Alcohol Identification and Brief Advice training and supporting the mobilisation of Ways to Wellness in the west end of Newcastle. Working with one of the very first Social prescribing initiatives gave Jen an appetite and the drive to continue the work which moved her into a more permanent role as the training manager for FCC. This increased her insight and experience within the voluntary sector, social prescribing services and partnership working across sectors.

More recently Jen has worked as a community connector for Thriving Together Northumberland supporting the voluntary sector by developing relationships and encouraging collaboration and partnership working across the sectors.

Jen joins us after providing project support for FCC on the South Tyneside Healthy Homes pilot working collaboratively with partners to develop and prototype a Healthy Homes programme through a social prescribing pathway.

Jen joins us at an exciting time and will lead the review of current social prescribing offer within Sunderland. Identifying opportunities for growth, representing the voluntary and community sector on already established social prescribing working groups and contributing to other Social Prescribing citywide developments. By raising the profile and the voice of the sector and maximising the social prescribing service offer SVSA can identify gaps, prevent duplication and highlight the areas of need for investment.



Job opportunities



Shiney Advice and Resource Project - 2 x Advice Workers

ShARP are recruiting!!!

We are looking for 2 Advice Workers to join our team.

Are you an experienced Advice Worker?

Are you keen to use your skills and experience to help local people?

The posts are:

Full Time: Monday – Friday 9.00- 5.00pm

We would particularly welcome applications from people with a specialist interest in debt advice, housing advice or working to support vulnerable clients.

Hours: 37.5 hrs per week with some flexibility to cover Out of Hours (TOIL)

Work base: ShARP centre in Shiney Row plus some outreach work into other community settings in Sunderland.

Salary: SCP 18 (£25,419) – SCP 22 (£27,514) under review

Holidays: 28 days per year plus Bank Holiday entitlement

30 days per year plus Bank Holiday entitlement after 2 years

For an informal discussion contact:

Chief Officer: Sylvia Copley - telephone 0191 3856687

Advice Services Manager: Len Watson – telephone 0191 3856687

Closing date: 5pm 16th October

Download the application pack from our website:

www.shineyadvice.org.uk or contact admin@shineyadvice.org.uk



Southwick Neighbourhood Youth Project - Project Manager

Contract Type: Fixed term Full Time

Based: Sunderland

Salary: £32,201 Per Annum

Salary Type: Fixed Salary

Location: Tyne and Wear

Role description: Manager

Join our team and make a difference in the lives of young people in our community. If you're a passionate and dedicated youth work leader with a commitment to transformative and grass roots youth work, we encourage you to apply.

[Project Manager for Southwick Neighbourhood Youth Project | Voluntary Organisations' Network North East \(vonne.org.uk\)](#)

To apply, please submit your CV and a compelling cover letter detailing your relevant experience, passion for youth work and your vision for SNYP.

Send to ruth@snyp.co.uk

Application deadline: Sunday, October 15, 2023 - 00:00



Manager - Space4

At Space4 we tell stories of hope!

Sometimes the stories that we hear from our communities can leave us feeling pretty hopeless: the cost-of-living crisis, the need for more foodbanks, the inability to heat our homes, the insurmountable challenges that people are facing and the need for 'sticking plaster' solutions to fix problems. At Space4 we want to tell a different story that is much more hopeful!

Based Houghton-le-Spring (and surrounding area)

Salary £35,100

One Year Fixed Term contract (with the aim of securing funding for further 3 years)

25 days holiday (plus 8 statutory days holiday)

Pension with 'People's Pension' (3% employer contribution)

Training will be provided which can lead to a Post Graduate Certificate in Community Leadership (accredited with Newman University), and which includes 6 days residential training.

For an application pack, more information or to arrange an informal chat with the team contact:

Angela Slater on tel: 0793 106 4891 or email: angelaslaterajs@gmail.com.

The closing date for applications is **Friday 6th October (6pm)**.

Interviews will be held on Thursday 19th October.

Application deadline: 6th October (6 p.m.)

Interview date: 19th October



Sunderland Voluntary Sector Alliance - Voluntary Sector Development Worker

After successfully recruiting 6 new employees over the last 3 months we are down to our **last Full time post – so do not miss out!**

This is an exciting opportunity to join the newly formed Sunderland Voluntary Sector Alliance. Our main purpose is to support and grow a strong, vibrant, and accessible voluntary sector which both influences as well as supports delivery of key services to improve outcomes for residents in Sunderland.

We are looking for experienced, enthusiastic and motivated individuals to join our team and work to support the voluntary and community sector across the city.

We offer flexible working with a combination of home and office-based arrangements.

Voluntary Sector Development Worker

37 hours per week

Salary: £28,000-£30,000

2 year fixed term contract with potential for extension pending additional funding.

Main Duties

As A Voluntary Sector Development Worker you will work as part of a small busy team. The post holder will support and collaborate with the VCSE sector across the city. Applicants must be self-motivated and able to plan and prioritise workloads to meet deadlines and manage conflicting priorities. A strong customer focus with good communication and interpersonal skills are required.

Training will be available to support the role

To apply and for more information please visit www.sunderlandvsa.co.uk

Please submit your completed application to contactus@sunderlandvsa.co.uk

Closing date: Friday 20th October 2023 at 9.00am.

Interviews will be held Monday 30th October 2023.



Sunderland Voluntary Sector Alliance - Funding and Contract Officer

After successfully recruiting 6 new employees over the last 3 months we are down to our **last part time post – so do not miss out!**

This is an exciting opportunity to join the newly formed Sunderland Voluntary Sector Alliance. Our main purpose is to support and grow a strong, vibrant, and accessible voluntary sector which both influences as well as supports delivery of key services to improve outcomes for residents in Sunderland.

We are looking for experienced, enthusiastic and motivated individuals to join our team and work to support the voluntary and community sector across the city.

We offer flexible working with a combination of home and office-based arrangements.

Funding and Contract Officer

18.5 hours per week (negotiable)

Salary: £28,000-£30,000 per annum

2-year fixed term contract with potential for extension pending additional funding.

This is an exciting opportunity for an additional Funding and Contract officer to join our commissioning and investment team.

Main Duties

As a Funding and Contract Officer, you will be responsible for sourcing and securing external funding for voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations across the city via funding applications. This will include working with a whole host of third sector groups and organisations, networking and travelling across the city.

The role will be responsible for facilitating collaboration between agencies from across the city, looking at ways of delivering differently to maximise the service offer and to avoid duplication of resources. It will require you to proactively monitor contracts and use management information and other forms of intelligence to assess and assure best value service delivery.

For an application pack and more information about the Alliance please visit www.sunderlandvsa.co.uk

Please submit your completed application to contactus@sunderlandvsa.co.uk

Closing date: Friday 20th October 2023 at 9.00am

Interviews will be held Friday 27th October 2023



Training



Tech Seeds - free training

Learn how to set up your own business with this free 6 week programme, from the 5th of October to November the 9th on a Thursday evening.

Tech Startup Sunderland introduces **Tech Seeds**, a **6-week programme** on how to startup your own tech business here in Sunderland.

With 6 weeks of talks from advisors and professionals in their field, these sessions have been designed to guide and give those entrepreneurs out there the best start for them and their startups.

To take part in the 6 weeks of talks, we don't expect you to attend every single session as it's often not possible, but we expect at least a minimum of 3 to be applicable for the programme.

The week sessions may be subject to change date but the following subjects will be covered with our delivery partners. We will update you all as soon as we have further confirmation.

For more information and to book:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/tech-seeds-tech-startup-sunderland-6-week-programme-tickets-699506872887?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>



Family Hubs - FREE Training for anyone aged 16+

The training is open to **anyone** including members of the public, families you may be working with, staff and those on an apprenticeship.

Safeguarding **2 x 3 half days**

Food Safety **1 x half day**

Customer service **1 x half day**

All training is 9.30 to 12.00

If you have anyone who is looking to Volunteer within TFC or within your organisation they are also welcome to attend.

Training will be delivered at Thorney Close Family Hub and Rainbow Centre Family Hub – free refreshments will be provided.

Places are limited – booking via volunteering@togetherforchildren.org.uk

FAMILY HUB TRAINING

COME AND JOIN US!
SAFEGUARDING
 3 Half Days @ Thorney Close Family Hub

CUSTOMER SERVICE
 1 Half Day @ Thorney Close Family Hub

FOOD SAFETY
 1 Half Day @ Rainbow Family Hub

FREE TRAINING

Training is open to:
 Anyone aged 16+ (school leaver)
 Volunteers, Parents and Carers and Staff

Safeguarding
 5th, 12th and 19th October
Customer Service
 20th October
Food Safety 30th October

All training 9.30 - 12.00

For bookings email:
 VOLUNTEERING@TOGETHERFORCHILDREN.ORG.UK

YMCA Level 2 Awards in Delivering Chair Based Exercise

Who is this qualification for?

Those seeking work for looking to expand their current role in a health/social care/active leisure environment to offer 'chair based exercise' to clients.

What does the qualification cover?

- Introduction to the values and principles of adult social care.
- Understanding the value of chair based exercise with frailer adults.
- The impact of body systems changes associated with ageing, disability and inactivity
- Be able to plan and deliver a safe and effective chair-based exercise session.

Delivered at: Broadway Community Centre, Cortina Ave, Sunderland SR4 8LP

On: 7th - 8th and 14th - 15th October with assessments on 21st October

Cost: £299 per person

Contact: Jo Buckley, email info@activefamiliestrainingacademy.com

YMCA Awards
Level 2 Award in Delivering
Chair-Based Exercise
(600/5924/2)



Who is this qualification for?

Those seeking work or looking to expand their current role in a health/social care/active leisure environment to offer 'chair-based exercise' to clients.

What prior qualifications/levels of attainment are needed to take this qualification? Are there any age restrictions?

This qualification is suitable for those who are 18/19+. There is no pre-requisite for this course.

What does this qualification cover?

- Introduction to the values and principles of adult social care.
- Understand the value of chair-based exercise with frailer adults.
- The impact of body systems changes associated with ageing, disability and inactivity.
- Be able to plan and deliver a safe and effective chair-based exercise session.

What could this qualification lead to?

This qualification can lead to employment as a 'chair-based exercise instructor' in the health/social care/active leisure sector, as well as local authority leisure centres, leisure trusts & outdoor fitness providers.

Why take this training with Active Families Training Academy?

- A local fully qualified tutor team with a wealth of practical knowledge of teaching chair based exercise.
- Above and beyond the requirements of the course you will leave with a wealth of ideas of how to enhance your classes using music, props and equipment.
- Access to existing chair based classes within the North East and potential for employment.

Delivered at: Broadway Community Centre, Cortina Ave, Sunderland SR4 8LP

On: 7th-8th and 14th-15th October with assessments on 21st October

Cost: £299 per person

Contact: Jo Buckley, by emailing info@activefamiliestrainingacademy.com

Funding news!



Defibrillator funding for community spaces across England

The Department of Health and Social Care is inviting interested organisations to register expressions of interest for its £1 million Community Automated External Defibrillators Fund, aimed at increasing the number of AEDs in public places **where they are most needed and to help save lives.**

Please note that the fund will operate as follows:

- a. 100 applications will be selected by DHSC to receive a fully funded AED - (funding is provided by DHSC and London Hearts)
- b. 1900 applications will receive partial DHSC and London Hearts funding for an AED - organisations will be required to provide their own match funding on c. £750.

Who can apply: Be based in England

Not be an organisation that is eligible for Department of education scheme eg a school or academy.

To be eligible for a funded defibrillator you must also:

- Locate the secure defibrillator cabinet outside in an area that is accessible to members of the public 24 hours per day
- Be able to provide an electrical power source to ensure the defibrillator cabinet light and heater operate to keep the device at the right temperature
- Provide match funding for your application (c. £750) - DHSC will select 100 applications that will be fully funded based on the areas most in need which will be announced in mid October.

The fund application page is now open and you may make an application here www.defibgrant.co.uk

For further support to apply please email contactus@sunderlandvsa.co.uk

Please also let us know if you are successful and we can share your stories on our bulletin!

Mackem Money

'Mackem Money' will award **£130,000** in grants, agreed by a panel of residents from across Sunderland who have lived experience of the challenges faced by local communities.

The panel has prioritised funding for local groups that are:

- supporting inclusive communities

bringing people together, building social connections

- creating opportunities for healthier and happier people

play, physical activity, healthy food

- raising aspirations

building confidence and ambition, developing skills, encouraging achievement

Who can apply? The fund supports organisations, based and working in Sunderland, that have an income under £250,000, with priority for those under £100,000.

How much can we apply for? • For community and festive activities in 2023

£1,000 to £2,000: deadline for applications – 12 November 2023

- For projects in 2024

£2,000 to £5,000: deadline for applications – 22 December 2023

For more information and to see if you are eligible please visit - [Supporting communities in Sunderland - Community Foundation](#)

If you would like support to complete the application form for this grant please email contactus@sunderlandvsa.co.uk



ABF The Soldiers' Charity Invites Applications for Final Round of 2023

ABF The Soldier's Charity provide grants to charities and organisations that provide lifetime support to soldiers, veterans and their immediate families when they are in need.

The funding is intended to support with projects and activities that directly benefit the Army community in six key areas: independent living, elderly care, education and employability, mental

fitness, families and housing. The grants can be used for a wide range of projects and activities from helping soldiers to adapt to life after service, to assisting elderly veterans maintain their independence.

Funding is at the discretion of the Grants Committee. The charity has not set a minimum or maximum amount. However, applications from organisations with which the charity has no established relationship are likely to be below £15,000.

Charities, not-for-profit organisations, CICs, community and housing associations which support the Army community can apply.

In the first instance, preference is given to charities and organisations which are to members of the Confederation of Service Charities (COBSEO) or Veterans Scotland.

There are usually three funding rounds per year.

The deadline for applications is 4 October for consideration in November 2023

[Grants to Charities - The Soldiers' Charity \(soldierscharity.org\)](https://soldierscharity.org)

Armed Forces Families Fund Early Years Programme Opens for UK Applications

On behalf of the Ministry of Defence's Armed Forces Families Fund Early Years Programme, the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust, is offering grants of between £5,000 and £80,000 for projects lasting up to two years.

Projects must clearly benefit Armed Forces families with a child under the age of 5 years by enhancing their access to high quality childcare. This could be done by, increasing the capacity in provision to meet an already known, or anticipated increase in demand, or to fund additional training and resources that will provide a clear benefit to children from Armed Forces families, who are aged 0-5 and not yet in school.

Applications will be accepted from:

- Early childhood education and childcare providers which operate either on Defence Estate (armed forces base, station unit or within the Patch) OR within 5 miles of where Armed forces families live or work.
- Local Authorities which wish to supply training to early childhood education and childcare providers who operate either on Defence Estate (armed forces base, station unit or within the Patch) OR within 5 miles of where Armed forces families live or work.
- An organisation, such as a registered charity, registered CIC, private limited company, which provides Childminder training for those working with Service Children near or on Defence Estate.

Funding for **projects on Defence Estates** is to be used to create/and or improve the outdoor learning environment; access specialist equipment/and or training; help to meet additional costs to enable more Armed Forces families to access childcare or general training to enable more to access qualifications to work with young children from Armed Forces families; including Send and SENCO training and resources.

Funding for projects **not on Defence Estates** can help meet additional costs to enable more Armed Forces families to access childcare; access specialist training or general training to enable more to

access qualifications to work with young children from Armed Forces families; including SEND and SENCO training and resources.

There are two funding rounds.

The deadlines for applications are 5pm on 11 October 2023 and 12 January 2024.

[Armed Forces Families Fund: Early Years programme \(covenantfund.org.uk\)](https://covenantfund.org.uk)

Energy Saving Trust Foundation's Youth Climate Action Fund Open for UK Application

The Energy Saving Trust Foundation has launched the second round of its Youth Climate Action Fund and expanded it to include applications from Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales, North East England and North West England. The first round focused on the West Midlands.

The Foundation is offering grants of up to **£20,000 per year for up to two years (£40,000 in total)** to a range of not-for-profit organisations with an income of less than £1 million and who are already working with children and young people experiencing inequality.

The funder is seeking to work with organisations to understand how young people who are experiencing inequality view the climate emergency and what issues are most important to them. This could include practical environmental projects, carbon reduction initiatives, education and awareness work, or advocacy and campaigning.

The funding can cover the following costs:

- Work that is currently underway and will continue into the grant funding period.
- Running costs, including overheads and energy costs.
- Staff costs.
- Equipment necessary to deliver the work.
- Training costs for staff, volunteers and children and young people.
- Venue hire.
- Travel costs.
- Other costs associated with removing barriers to access for children and young people.
- Volunteer expenses.
- Budget for young people-led project development.
- Small scale capital costs.

Up to 25% of the budget can go towards core costs or overheads.

There is a two-stage application process. Groups are encouraged to submit their expression of interest as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to complete the full application before the 27 October 2023 deadline.

The deadline to submit an Expression of Interest is 16 October 2023.

[The Foundation - Energy Saving Trust](https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/about-us/our-corporate-social-responsibility/the-foundation/)<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/about-us/our-corporate-social-responsibility/the-foundation/>

Linnean Society Accepting Applications for 'Our Local Nature' Grant Scheme

Linnean Society is offering grants of up to **£1,000 for community organisations** linked with young people to deliver projects and activities that engage young people with local nature and natural spaces.

Through the Our Local Nature Grant Scheme, groups can deliver innovative projects that are designed and led by young people in the UK, that aim to increase access to local natural spaces and encourage a deeper appreciation and understanding of nature, such as:

- Running a school festival about nature.
- Painting community murals showcasing biodiversity in the area.
- Building or restoring a community garden.
- Creating a nature walk.
- Hiring a speaker to come and talk about local foraging.

Grants can be used for materials, room hire, publicity, speakers, trainers, freelancers, project-specific staff costs, audio-visual hire, reasonable volunteer expenses, transport, or other costs of activities/events.

The deadline for applications is 22 October 2023.

[Our Local Nature Grants | The Linnean Society](#)

The Society Foundation

Grants are available once a year to UK registered charities and charitable organisations across the UK that are seeking to help specific groups of people move towards paid employment.

Fund Information

Funding body:

The Society Foundation

Maximum value: £ 2,500

Background

The Society Foundation is an independent registered charity, funded and supported by the executive search firm Society. The majority of the Foundation's money comes in the form of an annual donation from Society, equal to at least 10% of the firm's net profits. Employees of the firm also undertake activities to support the Foundation's work, and to raise additional funds.

The Society's funding is in line with the following principles:

- They aim to work in partnership with the organisations it supports, setting mutually agreed goals with clear time scales.
- They aim to keep the grant application process 'light touch' and accessible.

- They try to foster a relationship of trust and honesty with the organisations they fund.
- They never commit to a project unless they are sure they have the funds to see it through.

Objectives of Fund

The funding is intended to support people from the following groups move toward paid employment:

- The recently homeless or vulnerably housed.
- Ex-offenders.
- Young people (16-24 years old) not in employment, education or training (NEET).

Value Notes A limited number of micro-grants of up to £2,500 are available each year.

Who Can Apply

Applications are accepted from the following:

- UK registered charities.
- Charitable Incorporated Organisations (CIO) or Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations (SCIO).
- Organisations with a governing document showing a clear charitable aim/purpose as defined by the Charity Commission for England and Wales. To be eligible, applicants must:
 - Have a turnover under £500,000 per annum.
 - Work with one or more of the following groups
 - The recently homeless or vulnerably housed.
 - Ex-offenders.
 - 16-24 years olds not in employment, education or training.
- Be able to show that they increase the employability of their beneficiaries.

Be able to supply at least one year of independently verified accounts

How To Apply

The deadline for applications is **16 October 2023 (midday)**.

The application form and guidelines can be found on the Society Foundation website.

Contact The Society Foundation for further information. [About Us \(society-foundation.org\)](https://www.society-foundation.org)

Family Hub Community Fund 23/25

Family Hubs and Start for Life

Sunderland is one of 75 local authorities in England to receive Government (DfE) funding to implement a package of family support and Start for Life services through Family Hubs. **This will cover:**

- Bespoke parent-infant mental health support.
- The creation of a network of Family Hubs, improving access to a wide range of integrated support services for families with children of all ages.
- Establish multicomponent breastfeeding support services in line with local needs.
- The funding of evidence-based parenting programmes.
- Clear 'Start for Life offer' and ensure that parents' and carers' voices are heard in the design, planning and delivery of services.

Family hubs are a way of joining up locally and bringing existing family help services together to improve access to services, connections between families, professionals, services, and providers, and putting relationships at the heart of family help. Family hubs bring together services for families with children of all ages (0-19) or up to 25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), with a great Start for Life offer at their core.

The funding is to enable areas to take forward the recommendations in The Best Start for Life (a vision for the 1,001 critical days) review report and aligned to the local Best Start in Life Priorities.

Aims/priorities:

The priorities of Family Hub Community Funding is to build the capacity of the Voluntary, community and faith sector to support parents with 0-2 year olds facing challenges relating to the experiences and relationships with their developing baby, including:

- Reducing stigma around perinatal mental health.
- Reaching and empowering diverse communities with respect to culture, disability, gender and family structure.
- Inclusion of dads and co-parents.
- Increasing access through digital offers.
- Promote healthy parent-infant relationships, improve the emotional well-being of children, and contribute to improved school readiness.
- Build relationships with families to enable early identification of mental health issues and support accessibility to services.

We are looking within Sunderland for new or existing organisations who would like to connect into the existing and growing offer around Family Hubs via a one-off grant. The grant may enable existing groups to fill a gap such as expanding times or accessibility or reaching out to a wider range of care givers including foster carers, fathers, and co-parents.

Funding

Organisations can apply for projects of up to 6 months initially, followed by a second round of funding for 12 months, but must be able to demonstrate measurable outcomes by March 2025.

Who can apply? To be eligible to apply, an organisation must:

- Be a VCFSE organisation
- Be constituted/have a written set of rules that constitute what they do (governing document)
- Be based in Sunderland or currently delivering in Sunderland.
- Have or be developing experience of parental support and working with expectant parents or parents with children aged 0-2.

Grant amount: Groups can apply for:

- **Round 1 a small grant - between £1,000 - £5,000**
- **Round 2 a small grant between £1,000 - £10,000**

Please note that funding should not be used to cover existing staffing costs. This funding is available for new activities that meet the objectives set out above.

Application process: Please consider your eligibility and commitment to the values and expectations of this grant scheme before making an application by carefully reading the guidance notes attached.

Application forms are available by emailing: estelle.brown@togetherforchildren.org.uk

Deadline: There will be two application rounds.

Organisations can apply within the application windows below:

- **Round 1 – Wednesday 27th September 2023 – Wednesday 18th October 2023.**
- **Round 2 - Wednesday 1st February 2024 – Wednesday 13th March 2024**

The Million Hours Fund Opens for Second Round

Funding for not-for-profit organisations, schools and local authorities to provide extra support to young people who are at risk of anti-social behaviour in eligible areas of England.

The Million Hours Fund is provided by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and the National Lottery Community Fund (NLCF). This is the second of two rounds. The first round ran during the summer.

The Autumn round is offering grants of between £30,000 and £100,000 for projects that help create better outcomes for young people who may be at a higher risk of anti-social behaviour.

It will support extra hours of youth work that will help young people to have:

- Improved emotional wellbeing
- Improved life and practical skills
- Access to trusted relationships with adults and feel safer.

By 'youth work' is meant an activity that improves young people's well-being through education or leisure, supported by a voluntary relationship with a trusted adult. This can include detached youth work.

These extra hours could be used for learning, arts, playing sports, or developing life skills.

The funding is intended for projects that:

- Benefit young people aged 11 to 18, or up to 25 for young people with SEND
- Takes place in or benefits young people living in [eligible local areas](#)
- Effectively engage with young people at risk of anti-social behaviour
- Deliver extra youth work hours (not existing provision)
- Take place outside of school hours and are available on a regular basis
- Deliver youth work that is open access
- Demonstrate youth voice within the activities
- Are run by trusted adults, such as qualified youth workers, youth support workers or experienced volunteers.

The funding must be spent by 31 March 2026 and can be used to support:

- Staff salaries for delivery of this project
- Volunteer costs for delivery of this project
- Training costs
- Service delivery. For example, any direct costs associated with delivering the youth work provision such as materials, equipment, food.
- A share of the organisation's overheads. For example, any fixed costs to support the day to day running of their organisation, such as overall management, administration and support staff costs, venue hire, rent and utilities.

The deadline for applications is 24 November 2023 (12 noon).

[Million Hours Fund \(phase two\) - GOV-UK Find a grant \(find-government-grants.service.gov.uk\)](#)

Northern Gas Networks' Community Partnering Fund

Community groups and charities in the North East of England are being invited to apply for grants up to £10,000, to help people tackle the cost of living crisis and make local communities warmer and safer.

Previous awards have been made to organisations supporting older people, young people and people with learning disabilities. If you support help people to tackle energy poverty and make their homes safer then please read on....

Northern Gas Networks' Community Partnering Fund will support those living in or at risk of fuel poverty, promote energy efficiency and increase community resilience. The aim is to support those dealing with the aftermath of the pandemic and who are likely to be further affected by the energy and cost of living crises.

This may include, but is not limited to, promoting the Priority Services Register (PSR) – a free service provided by suppliers and network operators to support customers living in vulnerable situations and raising awareness of the dangers of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.

Grants of between £1,000 and £10,000 are available for organisations to raise awareness of and support their communities to:

- Support those living in or at risk of fuel poverty
- Promote energy efficiency – advice and information
- Promote the Priority Services Register
- Raise awareness of the dangers, signs and symptoms of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for a grant your organisation needs to meet all the following criteria:

- Meet the Community Foundation's eligibility criteria
- You are a volunteer-led group, a registered charity or a not-for-profit organisation with charitable aims
- You have a management committee, board of trustees or board of directors with at least 3 people who are not related or living at the same address and form a majority
- You have a separate bank account under the name of your group with at least two unrelated signatories or you have a charitable partner organisation willing to bank any grant awarded for your group (please get in touch if the latter case applies)
- You have a turnover of up to £500,000

We will prioritise projects that:

- Are run by local people, for local people – your group needs to demonstrate good local links
- Can show a strong understanding of the needs of the community that will benefit
- Will have a direct impact on the community and local needs
- Are not one-off events and could become sustainable in the longer term
- Focus on supporting those who are vulnerable and/or face barriers to other services

[Tackle the cost-of-living crisis by supporting vulnerable people and communities to stay warm and safe - Community Foundation](#)

WE NEED YOU!



We want to make sure that this e-bulletin is **interesting and informative** for you. To help us produce an e-bulletin that you want to keep reading, can we ask for your help?

We want to provide you with **good news stories, case studies and opportunities** for our fellow VCS organisations, maybe even a '**day in the life of**'. If you would be happy to feature in a future e-bulletin, please get in touch.

We look forward to hearing from you!