



northern rock foundation
annual review 2003



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About Northern Rock Foundation

The primary objective of Northern Rock Foundation is to help improve the conditions of those disadvantaged in society. We support causes in Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear, Durham and Teesside.

Northern Rock Foundation is an independent grant-making organisation. We were formed in 1997, when Northern Rock Building Society converted to a plc. We receive, by covenant, 5% of Northern Rock plc's pre-tax profits each year. The Foundation is fully independent of Northern Rock plc and our own Board of Trustees determines our policies.

This review includes a summary of our accounts for 2003. A full set of our audited accounts is available from our office, or on the Foundation's website.

Information about our grant programmes is on page 48; further information is available on our website, or by contacting our office.

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*Barrow Community Regeneration
Company's sports activities with
disabled people – supported
under Prevention (page 8).*
© Simon Veit-Wilson

Chairman's statement

2003 marked a fresh start for Northern Rock Foundation in more ways than one: new grant programmes, and a new home. Our move to the Old Chapel has given us space and a warm working atmosphere in keeping with the kind of organisation we want to be. Visitors enjoy the airy quality, the artwork and the design.



Richard Harbottle
© Simon Veit-Wilson

The Trustees were keen from the beginning that our new Boardroom should not languish unused between their meetings, so they decided to make it available for occasional use during the year.

We believe that lending our facilities is another way in which we can help organisations, and we are pleased that numerous regional and even national organisations have been able to use the room. We were also pleased to be asked to open the building for National Architecture Week when it was much admired, and even more delighted that it was 'commended finalist' in the accessibility category of the Lord Mayor's Design Awards 2003.

Since the business of our sole benefactor Northern Rock plc has prospered year on year, we have been able continuously to increase our grants budget from an initial £5.8 million in 1998 to a glorious £19 million in 2003. However, not all our financial news has been good. In common with every other prudent charity we annually set aside a sum towards building a reserve sufficient to iron out any

peaks and troughs in the future. As many endowed charities have reported over the past four years, investments have suffered in the stock market so that it has been difficult to maintain the level of reserve we think essential. Nonetheless, through the careful management of our Investment Committee and their determination to stick to our reserve policy, we have retained the sums we believe necessary to ensure smooth running whatever the circumstances. Happily we have not and do not anticipate the need to dip into these savings.



balletLORENT: 'the Ball', see Aspiration (page 16).
© Ben Crompton.



We have also had a second “investment pot”; three years ago Northern Rock plc, under a Share Buy Back Scheme noted in our Annual Report for 2000, purchased some of our share holding in the company. The net gain to us was £12 million. At that time my fellow Trustees with characteristic thought for the long-term decided to treat this as capital rather than income and to set it aside. Since then Northern Rock’s share price has risen steadily while the value of the investment was being eroded. Consequently the Trustees decided during 2003 to spend some of the money by investing in the work of the not-for-profit sector instead of the stock market. We wanted the scale and ambition of the investments to reflect the exceptional nature of the fund. We therefore asked our staff team to come up with proposals that might make a real shift in practices or capabilities of the sector and result in visible benefits for the people we serve.

We intend initially to follow two of the suggestions our team produced. First, at 2003’s final meeting we agreed to fund a substantial programme of training for organisations described on page 14 of this report and second, we decided to commit, starting from 2004, £4 million to tackling domestic violence

in the North East and Cumbria. We will use this money tactically to bring about long-term shifts in the practice of agencies currently working to help the victims of this appalling crime and to try to influence perpetrator behaviour.

This is my last report as Chairman of Northern Rock Foundation. It has been an enormous privilege to serve as a Trustee since 1997 and as Chairman since 2000. I hand over to Leo Finn who has been a fellow Trustee since the Foundation’s beginning and who, indeed, as Deputy and then Managing Director of the Northern Rock Building Society, was one of those who conceived the idea of setting up such a foundation. Leo went on to become the first Chief Executive of Northern Rock plc, a post from which he retired in 2001.

As I look back on the six years of my involvement with the Foundation I feel proud of what we have achieved and grateful for the opportunity to participate in so much that has been valuable to the people of the North East. None of this could have been done by the Trustees alone. The quality and dedication of our Director and her colleagues have been fundamental to our success.

The Get Ahead Project’s work with young people excluded from school – supported under Prevention (page 8). © Simon Veit-Wilson



Director's review of the year

"A thing is interesting because of thinking about it and not because of it being new."
Mark Haddon: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*

For grant-makers who want an interesting life, thinking is essential. There are no new problems and not too many new solutions. Not thinking means doing the same things in the same way and getting the same results.



Fiona Ellis
© Simon Veit-Wilson

In 2003 we set out our new programmes, based (thoughtfully!) on our previous five years' work. We invited applicants to think more about what they were doing and why before they came to us. People who work

very hard in the not-for-profit sector tell us that they do not have much time to think; they are too busy running to stay still. We want to help them get time for reflection, review and revision. We will provide core funding for well-conceived, well-managed organisations that allows them to stop worrying and start thinking imaginatively about problem-solving ideas.

Of course, thinking alone is not enough. You have to leave the safety of old habits and try something new. Risky? Of course! The not-for-profit sector is fairly risk-averse. That is partly the fault of funders who feel they must use their funds wisely and carefully – interpreted as conservatively. We have been thinking about risk and how we can encourage more experiment among our applicants. Our first act was to create a special grant programme for it –

Exploration. We wanted people to know that they did not have to pretend to be innovative in applications to all our programmes – if they had already figured out an answer to a problem, then they could just do it. But for projects where there was some uncertainty or experiment involved, and the idea might not work, we offered Exploration grants. For these the main measure of success is that the experimenter learned something. In other words, this programme has no failure except failure to learn.

We made far fewer Exceptional grants in 2003 than previously, reflecting our determination that we would stick to the priorities set out in the new grant programmes, and that Exceptional should mean just that. However, we still need to have some flexibility at the edges of what we do, and to have a way of funding unique projects. Only four such genuinely exceptional cases came up in 2003, and there is certainly no pattern that links them. The exceptional angle is demonstrated best by our grant to Abilitynet to establish a North East and Cumbrian IT service for disabled people: a case of supporting an activity that fell outside our usual priorities, but which had strategic importance both for the client group, and for policy-making.



Our desire to understand more about what we do, and to talk more effectively about what we learn, led to the creation of a new post: Assistant Director – Policy and Communications, into which we welcomed Rob Williamson in May. We also had some goodbyes: Emma Bennewith left the administration team to become a trainee audit assistant, and our IT officer Barry Deans took up a post with Northern Rock plc's Finance Department. However, we were very pleased to welcome Susan Young on the front desk, Fran Bird who oversaw our finances whilst Alison Graham was on maternity leave, Cullagh Warnock who joined the grants team, and Sarah Gibson who took over the IT post.

You will read in our Chairman's report that we have looked carefully at how we use our resources. Both staff and Trustees share the view that we have to use or invest what we have to gain the maximum benefit for people in our area. Our loans scheme – making our money work hard, then bringing it back to work again – is taking off. In 2003 we made two loans. We are particularly grateful to Anybodycan Ltd who kindly acted as a guinea pig by patiently helping us to

work out our system. Thanks to the efforts of ABC's Philip Angier and our expert partners Charity Bank, we can now turn loan requests around quite quickly.

Finally, I want to mention Futurebuilders. We were invited, right at the end of the year, to join a Charity Bank-led consortium in delivering the Government's Futurebuilders scheme; the consortium's confirmation as winning bidders came just as our Trustees agreed to join. So we go into 2004 with an interesting new experiment to try, working with others and managing a new 'client'. Like all experiments it is fraught with "known unknowns" and "unknown unknowns". I believe that the partners are excellent and that our team here can offer considerable skills and expertise. Futurebuilders is designed to help some not-for-profit organisations develop their ability to deliver public services. On the one hand this seems controversial; on the other many of our applicants are already doing so or trying to by bidding for grants or contracts. By strengthening them we hope to make our own grant money go further and thus have more to spare for the rest.



Prevention

The causes of decline in communities and neighbourhoods are numerous, but so are the imaginative actions taken by voluntary groups to combat them. The work we fund under the Prevention programme will not change the world overnight, but it does help disadvantaged communities put in place practical solutions to the very real problems they face.

Engaging young people who might otherwise become involved in crime, misuse drugs, or simply find themselves isolated, unskilled and unhappy is vital. East Durham Youth in Action was one of many organisations we funded in 2003 to do precisely this; we matched European funding for their programme of activities to develop skills and self-esteem. Supporting pupils excluded from school, at risk of exclusion or self-exclusion, is another growing area of work, with voluntary youth organisations playing an important role in partnership with schools. The Get Ahead Project in Blyth received a grant to help them engage with young people so they could continue their formal education and avoid drifting into anti-social behaviour. Significant



Barrow Community Regeneration Company.

as it is for us, our investment in youth work is still a drop in the ocean compared to the need. Despite recent Government policy focus on young people, our applicants tell us that there is little new money for voluntary sector youth services. Indeed, many neighbourhood youth projects are struggling to fund their core work, a situation that is likely to worsen with the demise of the Single Regeneration Budget.

119 grants – £3.9 million

Tree planting on Choppington Community Association's 'Doorstep Green'.





28 new or refurbished community buildings

In 2003 we invested over £750,000 in community centres and village and church halls. Many individual grants were small, providing new windows, kitchens and central heating –



Quaking Houses village hall.

necessities that every community facility struggles to fund. In the tiny Cumbrian village of Gamblesby, we gave £11,000 towards the capital costs of refurbishing the Community Centre using environmentally sustainable – and local – materials. In other cases we helped overstretched voluntary committees

employ staff. In the former mining village of Quaking Houses in County Durham, the village hall provides a base for IT facilities, art classes, a youth club and sport activities. Our grant meant the Village Hall Association could finally pay someone to help keep these activities going, and develop new ones.

These rural communities are dealing with the challenge of providing services for small, isolated populations; meanwhile in urban areas, community centres are finding ways of tackling some of the most concentrated social and economic disadvantage in the country. For example, in Newcastle's Pendower estate, the Good Neighbour House Project is converting a property into a new neighbourhood centre so it can expand its programme of work with children, young people, families and the community as a whole.

The guidance for our new programmes made clear that we wanted to help organisations bring about change, but that to do so they could use whatever methods were best suited to the task. Art, sport and environmental activities can all provide routes to change. In Northumberland, Pegswood Community Project received a grant to help young people through art. We awarded Wavell Wakefield Trust funding to develop a 'tag' rugby programme with young people – including young women – living in Newcastle's west end, providing them access to physical activity and helping them learn about teamwork. In Cumbria, Barrow Community Regeneration Company used their grant to deliver sporting activities aimed at involving disabled people and tackling the discrimination they face.

We also supported ideas to revive neighbourhoods through improving their environment. Choppington Community Association received an award to help realise a 'Doorstep Green' as a place to meet and take part in activities within the estate in Wansbeck, Northumberland. Improving people's health and well-being through better diet and fitness is also a priority for us. Although we received very few applications for this kind of work, we made a good start with our grant to the Great North Forest partnership to increase access to affordable, local, fresh produce to people on low incomes.



Wavell Wakefield Trust.

Sue Vaughan, Cullagh Warnock

£1.4 million for disadvantaged young people

Regeneration

Despite 50 years of successive government initiatives and massive investment, many disadvantaged areas remain stubbornly poor. Why? The answer may be that the additional funding never reaches local economies, finding its way instead into the pockets of outside contractors or distant consultants. And the little money that does make it through cannot circulate because the local economy is failing. The Regeneration programme encourages local initiatives that address this challenge by supporting organisations that attract more money into an area, and hang on to it once it has arrived.

The region's development trusts are among a new and growing band of organisations seeking to do just this. These locally led regeneration bodies provide a dynamic vehicle enabling communities to manage initiatives at a ground level. Development trusts act as funnels, drawing funds down into communities, and as local development agencies, encouraging the growth of ground-level initiatives and enterprise.

42 grants – £2.4 million

The Foundation has helped to establish new development trusts in Ashington, Hartlepool and Middlesbrough, and supported the growth of existing development trusts in Sunderland, County Durham and Northumberland.

Once money has been brought into a community it is important to stop it leaking out again. One way to do that is to set up a credit union. On Friday 15 January 2004 John Hume MP launched Wearside First – a new credit union for the City of Sunderland. John Hume is known as one of the key brokers of the Good Friday Agreement; what is less well



Alnwick People's Trust supports local economic renewal, as seen in the market place. © Simon Veit-Wilson

known is that he is also a founding member of the Derry Credit Union. Derry Credit Union began in October 1960 with initial assets of £8.50 – the contents of its founders' pockets. Forty years later it had over 20,000 members with savings in excess of £36 million.

In 1999 Liverpool John Moores University published its study *Towards Sustainable Credit Union Development*, which challenged the credit union movement in this country. It argued that to make a real difference credit unions need to have a large common bond, shop front premises, paid staff to provide services at times when people need them and financial support from a credible organisation.



The adoption of this model can be seen in the grant to Wearside First, and in those we made to Northern Oak and Newcastle City Employees Credit Union. The potential benefits these organisations can bring to the region are great. Their challenge will be to market their products as effectively on the ground as do some of the other lenders already there.

Partnerships, Employment Opportunities for People with Disabilities and Mental Health Matters are providing the help disabled people and people living with mental ill-health need to move into employment.



*Renew North East.
© Richard Walton*

10 development trusts supported

Traditionally the voluntary sector has tackled social rather than economic problems. Now a new hybrid has emerged: the social enterprise. The Department of Trade and Industry defines this as “a business with primarily social objectives whose surpluses are reinvested for that purpose in the business or in the community.” Our grants to the Shaw Trust in Middlesbrough and West Cumbria CVS will enable them to develop new social enterprises, providing employment opportunities for people currently outside the labour market.

While overall employment levels have improved in recent years, there are still intractable problems: long-term unemployment and the disproportionate numbers of people who are workless due to ill-health. Renew North East provides paid training via an Intermediate Labour Market scheme for long-term unemployed young people; Pioneering Care

These are only a few examples. Local economic renewal is a new and exciting area for the voluntary sector, and it requires an approach which many will find challenging. But in the first year of the Regeneration programme we have begun to help those organisations at the vanguard in the North East and Cumbria.

Richard Walton

£0.7 million to create and sustain local enterprise

*Amble Development Trust supports local businesses, including fishermen.
© Simon Veit-Wilson*



Basics

The Basics programme was greeted with relief. “Thank goodness we don’t have to re-invent the wheel!” has been a comment we have heard time and again from applicants. As we say in our guidelines: ‘Not every project has to be about changing circumstances; sometimes people just need more of what services or help they are already receiving.’

In an ever-changing environment for service delivery charities, we were keen to offer a stabilising element through our new funding programmes, and our investment through Basics now places us among the top 70 charitable trusts giving these kind of grants. But the demand for basic day-to-day help is enormous and we could never hope to respond to everything, so the Trustees had to set some clear priorities.

85 grants – £3.3 million

People living with mental ill-health face severe disadvantage and prejudice. The Disability Rights Commission reports that it is



Skills for People.

taking more cases of discrimination on the basis of mental health than any other issue.

The Government’s proposed new Mental Health Bill is controversial because it concentrates on detaining people with psychiatric disorders, rather than on supporting people to recover from or manage their condition. Recent research by the World Health Organisation indicates that depression will reach epidemic proportions by 2010. Despite this, historically mental health organisations have faced difficulties attracting funding. Through Basics we have supported

Zayis Raanon – a visit to the Shipley Gallery in Gateshead.





organisations offering drop-in centres, befriending services, advice and informal support. Changes North East and Eden Mind are using their grants to extend support for people living in rural areas; Mind in Gateshead is continuing to provide a high-quality service in an urban borough.

Blackwell Sailing Club offers learning disabled people the opportunity to enjoy the excitement of water sports in the Lake District. We have awarded nine grants to organisations supporting learning disabled people, all of them encouraging confidence, independence and self-advocacy. We supported Skills for People to continue its project enabling learning disabled people to understand how local government works so that their contribution to local planning committees is meaningful.

Most of our support for independent living has been to groups maintaining older people's ability to remain in their own homes. Zayis Raanon helps older Jewish women to keep in touch with their friends and their culture, and ensures that they are safe in their own homes. The Trustees awarded grants to three Age Concern branches offering benefit advice to older people. Current levels of financial exclusion undermine Government attempts to meet key social and welfare policies and so many of the grants we awarded to Citizens' Advice Bureaux have helped people claim the benefits they are entitled to, or assist people with debt problems and financial management.

£0.9 million to support people living with mental ill-health



Changes North East.

It is estimated that one in four women have suffered domestic violence. Although statutory agencies and the police are working together to try to help women and children, the voluntary sector has a key role to play. Amongst our

£0.8 million for advice and information services

awards were grants to refurbish a kitchen in a women's refuge, and for the salary of a worker supporting women from black and ethnic minority communities. Although refugees and asylum seekers are one of our priorities within Basics, we received only one application. The Washington Asylum Seekers Project welcomes asylum seekers to the community and supports them not only in practical ways but also in establishing friendships and celebrating their culture.

We will continue to invest in organisations adding high-quality services and assistance over and above what statutory authorities provide. Although the programme is heavily oversubscribed, the Trustees recognise that some people's needs remain constant and there will always be a place for basic support.

Penny Vowles

Better Sector

The Trustees have always recognised that to work effectively the voluntary and community sector needs a stable base, especially when so much that affects it is in flux. Before 2003 the Foundation offered community training awards, financial support for organisations that wanted to visit other projects and, in partnership with the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO), a Quality Assurance programme. The Better Sector programme builds on these activities.



New information officer Alison Mosquera at Newcastle CVS.

In its first year we have invested most of the initial £1 million budget in the sector's infrastructure and capacity, awarding nearly £700,000 to fund staff posts at seven Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS) across the North East and Cumbria, meaning more development work, information services and funding advice. We also gave a grant to Voluntary Organisations Network North East (VONNE) to support its vital role in providing a focus and a voice for the sector in regional and national affairs.

40 grants – £3.6 million

The Trustees also wanted to increase the opportunities for training and the range of courses on offer to the voluntary sector within our area. A grant to the Directory of Social Change established the Northern Rock Foundation Training Institute, offering 10 days of management training covering strategic planning, fundraising, financial management and employment law. Nearly 150 individuals, from 47 voluntary organisations throughout the North East successfully completed the course. In the North West, the Cumbria Association of Councils for Voluntary Service, representing all the CVS in the area, received a grant to continue its programme of training and organisational development, building on its three successful years supported by the Community Fund. One of the most innovative projects funded was the Headland Development Company's accredited paralegal course covering a range of legal duties and responsibilities around company, charity, contract and property law.

The Trustees agreed to provide financial support to two organisations – the Community Regeneration Trust North East and Voluntary Action Cumbria – who wanted key personnel



to undertake a course on community enterprise, a key priority for the Foundation, at the Judge Institute of Management at the University of Cambridge. Both students will contribute 50% of the full cost of the fees and will be studying in their own time.

Two projects used the expertise of those working in the business and not-for-profit sectors to mentor and advise others. Professional support came through a 'buddying' scheme hosted by the Cumbria Community Foundation and a pro bono advisory service for voluntary organisations in Tees Valley using solicitors, accountants and architects.

£2.4 million for training and capacity building

The Foundation also supported a consortium bid from 15 small to medium organisations working in mental health in County Durham.

Pauline Pounder, who set up Headland Development Company's accredited paralegal course.

They recognised that they were unable to use their in-depth knowledge of working with some of the most vulnerable members of their community to sufficiently influence policy. Our grant will enable the consortium to employ an operations manager to act at a strategic level, overseeing funding and ensuring proper two-way communication.



Eden CVS supports a Local Agenda 21 scheme.

At the end of the year, the Trustees decided that they wanted to do something extra to skill up the sector to keep pace with changes in legislation, funding and the increasing demands on its services. Working with Project North East (PNE), the Foundation devised a training package worth an additional £2 million, which, delivered in partnership with others, will build on existing provision and provide more personal development opportunities for staff, management committees and volunteers.

Anne Burleigh

£0.8 million for infrastructure organisations

Aspiration

Most of Northern Rock Foundation's funding directly tackles disadvantage. But we feel strongly that we should also support significant arts, heritage, environmental and sporting activities and initiatives that make the region a more attractive place for everyone to live and work in. Doing so helps to build the profile of the North East and Cumbria nationally and internationally, and makes it more attractive to new businesses, thereby contributing to economic growth.

In 2003 through Aspiration grants the Foundation helped to develop the region's cultural treasures, support its artists and bring to life ambitious and exciting creative

**39 grants –
£2.6 million**

projects. Early in 2003 the Trustees made an award to English Heritage for 'Fashion at Belsay', where top British fashion designers will create installations within the historic surroundings of Belsay Hall,

Northumberland. The event opens to the public in May 2004, and includes works by Stella McCartney, Jean Muir, Paul Smith and Zandra Rhodes. It has already been listed in the Guardian's '100 things you must see in 2004'.

Our grant of £53,400 to the Wordsworth Trust in Cumbria towards its exhibition programme will enable it to showcase key Wordsworth treasures. We awarded Dodgy Clutch £90,000 over three years to support a creative team to

*Dodgy Clutch perform at Alnwick Garden.
© John Alevroyianni (JK Press)*





Amber Film's
The Wind Cries Mary.

plan large-scale events in the North East, the first of which was a major outdoor performance at Alnwick Garden. The Samling Foundation

received £150,000 over three years towards its core costs, supporting a high-profile programme of music and visual arts projects across the region: 'Paint the Samling' will engage a world-class painter to work with a team of young regional artists; the Samling Opera and Contemporary Music Programme will be a partnership with the Sage Gateshead. And balletLORENT, one of the most successful dance companies resident in the North East of England, was awarded £80,000 to develop its work in the next two years, increasing its profile both regionally and nationally.

We also supported unique events within the region that celebrated its heritage and cultural diversity, including the Lake District Summer Music Festival, the Chinese New Year Celebrations, Newcastle Community Green

Festival and Whitley Bay Jazz Festival.

£0.6 million for heritage and environmental schemes

Trustees recognise that in some cases it is worth investing larger amounts, and over longer periods to ensure that important work fulfils its potential. Amber Film and Photography Collective received £500,000 to develop a five-year programme of film and video production and distribution, working with communities in the North East. Bede's World

was awarded £216,000 over three years to help meet the costs of achieving World Heritage Site status. And we offered £315,500 over seven years to allow the Northern Centre for Cancer Treatment to establish a permanent arts project as part of its treatment programme, building on a pilot where patients and carers worked with professional artists.

£2 million for high quality arts projects

Investment in the region's culture reaps tangible rewards. PricewaterhouseCoopers' recent report analysing the benefits of Newcastle/Gateshead's European Capital of Culture bid found that, although the bid was unsuccessful, the bidding process had delivered real benefits, and transformed national and international perceptions, bringing a boost to the North East economy. And in late 2003 a report was published in the *Financial Times*, showing that Newcastle has in the last two years risen from 19th to 3rd in a list of the best places in the country to do business, now outranking London.

Carol Bell



Chinese New Year. © Carol Bell

Buildings to Inspire and Delight

In 2003 the Trustees invested £2.3 million in seven projects, all demonstrating the talent and vision of cultural organisations in the North East, under our capital scheme for arts, environmental, heritage or sporting organisations. Among the new or refurbished buildings the Foundation will help realise are the world's biggest wooden tree house, a visitor centre for Britain's oldest floating warship and two nationally renowned theatres.

The Trustees considered 32 proposals under the Buildings to Inspire and Delight programme, representing a total request for over £9 million. The nine shortlisted proposals were then assessed in detail, and we sought an opinion on the architectural quality of each from the regional representative of the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE). The Trustees agreed seven awards in July 2003.

7 grants – £2.3 million

One of the most ambitious proposals was to build the world's biggest tree house in Alnwick Garden, Northumberland. We awarded £250,000 to the scheme, which will be the



The Bowes Museum. © Carol Bell



*Chester-le-Street cricket academy.
© David Morley Architects*

next big attraction for the gardens. It will feature rope bridges, platforms and walkways, and an education suite, providing both entertainment and learning for visitors. Work began on site in November 2003 and the Tree House is on target to open in late summer 2004.

Sport is a very important part of the region's culture. Chester-le-Street Youth Development Trust will build a world-class indoor cricket facility on the riverside site in County Durham, where there will be activities and an education programme targeting young and disabled people. We awarded it a grant of £236,000; other funders include Sport England, County Durham Economic Development Partnership, County Durham LEA, Chester-le-Street District Council and the Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust. Construction was due to start in March 2004, with the aim of opening to the public in the autumn of 2004.

The region's great heritage was recognised in awards to three projects: the new museum



HMS Trincomalee.
© CZWG Architects

and visitor centre for *HMS Trincomalee* – one of the oldest surviving British warships – at Hartlepool's historic Quay; major repair work at the Grade 1 listed Bowes

Museum, County Durham; and redevelopment of Woodhorn Colliery in Northumberland. The Bowes Museum, which houses an outstanding collection of European fine and decorative arts, will undergo a refurbishment costing £6.5 million. In addition to our grant of £500,000, it has applied to the Heritage Lottery Fund for £4 million. English Heritage has authorised substantial funding, and several charitable trusts have awarded grants. Work should commence late in 2004, or early 2005.

£1.1 million to improve key heritage sites

The £15.5 million redevelopment at Woodhorn will result in an eye-catching new building, due to open in 2006, to house galleries and the county records, archives and local study services, as well as improvements to the scheduled ancient monuments on the site.

We also awarded grants to two of the region's leading theatres: the Theatre Royal, Newcastle and Newcastle Playhouse. At the Playhouse, Northern Stage, the region's largest producing theatre company, is taking forward an £8 million redevelopment. Alongside our £300,000 investment, it has secured funding from Arts Council England, Newcastle City Council, ERDF and The Garfield Weston Foundation.

£0.7 million to renovate regional theatres

The Foundation has, in previous years, helped several other prestigious cultural projects with capital grants: the Centre for the Children's Book, the Sage Gateshead, the Laing Museum and Art Gallery, Middlesbrough Museum and Art Gallery, DanceCity, Shildon Railway Museum and the University of Sunderland's Faculty of Art and Design. Since there is no shortage of ambitious proposals for cultural buildings in our area, and because funds from the National Lottery for arts, heritage and sport are decreasing, the Trustees have agreed a further cultural capital programme with £2 million available in 2004 and a further £2 million in 2005.

Carol Bell

The new building at Woodhorn Colliery.
© RMJM Architects



Exploration

Of the new grant programmes introduced in 2003, Exploration was the slowest to get off the ground. This came as no surprise: asking organisations to come up with something genuinely innovative is extremely challenging. But whilst in our other programmes we are happy to fund tried and tested projects, Exploration is different. It presents a real (and rare) opportunity for the voluntary sector to flex its creative muscles and try something genuinely new or risky.

One thing we wanted to do was fund work that made the rest of the UK sit up and take notice of the North East. The region may be the UK's poorest, but that's all the more reason for policy and decision makers to look here for evidence of the causes of and solutions to social and economic problems. Precisely this thinking was behind the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR), one of the country's leading think-tanks, choosing the region as its new home outside London. Our grant towards core costs, matched by the Trustees of the Millfield House Foundation, following their initial investment in developing the proposal, gives the new IPPR North an excellent start. NACRO, the national crime reduction charity, also looked to the North East as the base for research into better ways of maintaining family relationships while a family member was in prison. And our continued commitment to developing a better understanding of and responses to domestic violence means we will make further use of the invaluable North East-based research of Professor Marianne Hester.

7 grants – £0.5 million



Prime Minister Tony Blair meets North East residents at the launch of IPPR North. © George Bosnyac

We also funded action research and innovative projects targeting disadvantaged groups. MENCAP, the UK's largest learning disability charity, put forward a plan to challenge the

£0.2 million to support innovative projects

assumption that because of their intellectual and social limitations learning disabled people cannot parent well. Our grant enabled it to establish a specialist project providing support through a team of volunteers to work with learning disabled parents. The work builds in evaluation from the start, and there will be a conference to share findings and launch



£0.3 million for research and policy development

a “toolkit” of best practice. A grant to the University of Sunderland supported a feasibility study into an apprenticeship route for youth work, which could particularly benefit black and minority ethnic communities. And Durham Family Welfare received funding for work to explore whether a better foundation can be made between birth and adoptive parents to benefit adopted children.

Whether it's hard-nosed research or testing out a new approach, the Trustees are keen that Exploration grants are in no way detached from the rest of what we do. It must be clear how the activities we fund have a practical application that will ultimately benefit disadvantaged people in our area. As some of the work funded through Exploration starts to bear fruit in 2004, we will ensure the lessons learned are shared widely.

Rob Williamson

The Lawnmowers perform at the launch of MENCAP's project for learning disabled parents.
© Rob Williamson



Staff Matched Giving

This year the staff of Northern Rock plc surpassed themselves, raising nearly £312,000 for local, national and international charities – over £100,000 more than in 2002. The Foundation matches every pound raised through Give As You Earn and fundraising, making the total raised in 2003 nearly £624,000, with the six-year figure approaching £1.9 million.

This year's physical exertions in the name of good causes included skydiving, cycling Coast-to-Coast, completing the Great North Run, and abseiling off a variety of North East landmarks including the Tyne Bridge, BALTIC, Centre for Life and Alnwick Castle.

Other fundraising techniques were much less sweaty, but no less hard work. They included baking a host of culinary delights that would put any celebrity chef to shame, supermarket bag-packing, and decorating 12 houses in Christmas lights. And fantastic results were seen again from the dogged determination of tombola, raffle and jumble sale organisers.

All charities greatly appreciate these efforts, but in 2003 Cancer Research UK (CRUK) came out top, receiving nearly £338,000 including the Foundation's sum. As well as benefiting from the individual fundraising efforts of many staff who have been personally affected by cancer, CRUK was Northern Rock plc's named corporate charity during the year. Credit must go to the organising team behind the company's fundraising, who led several successful events managing in the process to encourage (cajole?) staff to take part, or at least part with some money.

Rob Williamson



Foundation staff Anne Burleigh and Carole Rock cross the Great North Run finish line.

Top ten supported charities 2003

Cancer Research UK	168,852.34
Children in Need	22,715.00
NSPCC	11,887.00
Morpeth Methodist Millennium Project	6,000.00
Y Care International	5,064.00
Royal Grammar School Bursary Campaign	5,000.00
St Oswald's Hospice	3,599.56
Morpeth Baptist Church	3,585.00
Charities Trust	3,470.00
Leonard Cheshire	3,319.61



2003 Approved Grants



Young people work towards the Duke of Edinburgh's Award with East Durham Youth in Action – supported under Prevention (page 8). © Simon Veit-Wilson

2003 Approved Grants

Prevention

ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION	YEARS	GRANT
Sunderland AFC Foundation	To provide core funding for the Kickstart project using football to encourage young people's development.	3	£114,036
Mobex North East	Towards the project director's salary for this organisation working with disadvantaged young people.	3	£102,632
Wigton Youth Station	Towards extending the opening hours by employing more sessional workers in Allerdale, Cumbria.	2	£96,378
Centrepont County Durham	For the salary of a part-time development worker to work with young people at risk of becoming homeless.	3	£89,830
Whitehaven Harbour Youth Project	To support personal development services to young people in Cumbria.	3	£89,326
Shilbottle Skills Centre	Towards the salary costs of the Skills Centre manager in Shilbottle, Northumberland.	3	£86,439
Lamplugh with Ennerdale Parochial Church Council	Towards establishing a community centre in Cumbria.	1	£80,000
Chester-le-Street and District Activity Centre	Towards the salary of a development worker for this new water-based activity centre in County Durham.	3	£77,913
Cowgate Community Forum	To employ a development worker to support the work of the Forum in Newcastle.	3	£75,186
Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre	Towards core funding for a community centre in Hartlepool.	3	£75,000
Sunderland Catholic Youth Centre	To employ youth workers to work with young people at risk of exclusion from school in Hendon, Sunderland.	3	£75,000
ESCAPE Family Support Ltd	Towards the costs of work with drug and alcohol abusers and their families in Blyth, Northumberland.	3	£72,486
Trinity Youth Association	To provide a 24-hour support service for young people in Wansbeck, Northumberland.	3	£70,163
Second Chance	Towards the running costs of a project working with substance abusers in Blyth, Northumberland.	2	£67,200
Pegswood Community Project	Towards the costs of a community arts worker to develop and co-ordinate a variety of activities in Northumberland.	3	£63,758
Sherburn Road Community Action Partnership	Towards employing a community resource manager in Durham City.	3	£61,388
Aquila Housing Association	To refurbish new premises providing 24-hour support to eight young mothers and their children in Sunderland.	1	£60,000
Wavell Wakefield Trust	To employ a rugby development officer for the west end of Newcastle.	2	£60,000
First Step – Newcastle	Towards a training project for women whose first language is not English.	2	£59,965



ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION	YEARS	GRANT
The Get Ahead Project	Towards the project co-ordinator's salary of an organisation working with young people in Blyth, Northumberland.	3	£59,946
Tees Forest Development Company (Great North Forest)	To employ a food links officer to link local producers, community and school groups in the North East.	3	£59,250
St Chad's Community Project	Towards the core costs of a family support worker in Gateshead.	3	£57,607
Community Regeneration Trust North East	To continue to fund the manager's salary at a community project in South Shields.	3	£57,320
Choppington Community Association	To involve the community in the design, creation and maintenance of a village green in Northumberland.	1	£54,296
YWCA England and Wales	Towards enabling the YWCA Cumbria to expand and develop its services for isolated and disaffected young women.	2	£53,151
Gateshead Young Women's Outreach Project	To provide a next step support programme for young women.	2	£51,926
BLISS Mediation Services	Towards core funding to expand and develop the service into Blyth Valley, Northumberland.	2	£50,000
Brandon Carrside Youth Club	To employ a full-time worker at the youth club in Brandon, Durham City.	2	£50,000
Northumbria Youth Action Ltd	Towards the capital costs of establishing a one-stop shop for young people in North Tyneside.	1	£50,000
Area Training and Activity Centre	To cover the running costs for a youth club based at a project in Northumberland.	3	£49,500
Dalton Community Association	To employ a community project co-ordinator to help regenerate the area in Cumbria.	2	£48,492
East Durham Youth in Action	Towards a project developing young people's skills through a programme of activities in County Durham.	2	£48,000
Plains Farm and Humbleton Community Initiative	Towards the salary of a worker to manage a new community resource in the grounds of a primary school in Sunderland.	3	£48,000
Tees Valley Wildlife Trust	Towards the costs of employing a biodiversity officer to help to increase the capacity of local environmental groups on Teesside.	2	£45,302
Home to Work	To open and support youth centres in Cleator Moor, Arlecdon and Frizington in west Cumbria.	3	£45,000
North Sunderland and Seahouses Development Trust – Youth Drop In	Towards the organisation's running costs in Northumberland.	3	£45,000
Southwick Health and Community Forum	To employ a worker to develop the forum in Tyne and Wear.	3	£45,000
Stepney Bank Stables	Towards the core costs of the organisation's work with disadvantaged young people in Newcastle.	3	£45,000
The Basement Bar	Towards staff salaries for a non-alcoholic bar for young people in Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria.	2	£45,000

ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION	YEARS	GRANT
First Stop Darlington	To employ a full-time project worker tackling homelessness.	2	£41,959
Barrow Community Regeneration Company	Towards the revenue costs of a disability sports project in Cumbria.	2	£41,822
Boosbeck Community Centre	To refurbish the community centre for use by the residents of Boosbeck on Teesside.	1	£40,000
Dalton-le-Dale Community Association	Towards the costs of building a new community hall in Easington, County Durham.	1	£40,000
Newcastle YMCA	Towards staff salaries to provide support and guidance to young people living independently in the east end of Newcastle.	2	£40,000
Whitley Bay Boys' Club	To carry out repairs and install a heating system to the building in North Tyneside.	1	£38,950
Alnwick Young People's Association	To employ a young people's support and development worker in Northumberland.	3	£36,000
Infer Trust	To employ a part-time worker and to develop education materials for a firearms awareness scheme in the North East.	1	£36,000
Quaking Houses Village Hall Association	To employ a worker to help run the village hall in County Durham.	3	£36,000
Kids Kabin	To employ a part-time project worker to run creative computer activities with 8–16-year-olds in Walker, Newcastle.	3	£35,534
West End Refugee Service	To contribute to the running costs of a service supporting refugees and asylum seekers in Newcastle.	3	£35,247
Advisory Centre for Education (ACE) Ltd	Towards training and support for advisers supporting families with children excluded from school in the North East.	3	£33,387
West End Youth and Community Centre	To train excluded young people in drama activities in Newcastle.	1	£33,024
Thorney Close Action and Enterprise Centre	To install a greenhouse to be used as an education and training facility for local people in Sunderland.	1	£33,000
STRIDE	Towards employing a fitness worker to set up fitness sessions in local areas in South Tyneside.	2	£32,187
The Rising Sun Trust	Towards the core costs of an organisation supporting families affected by misuse of drugs and alcohol in west Cumbria.	3	£30,000
Community Projects Carlisle	Towards the salaries of the project worker and manager of this homelessness prevention project.	1	£29,463
Willington Community Resource Centre	To cover salary costs of staff at the community centre in County Durham.	1	£28,200
The Dyslexia Institute	Towards providing assessments and specialist tuition for disaffected young people with dyslexia across the North East.	2	£26,088
Scotswood Natural Community Garden	Towards employing a volunteer co-ordinator for a community garden in Newcastle.	2	£24,000
Hendon Young People's Project	To employ a senior youth worker in Sunderland.	2	£21,420



ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION	YEARS	GRANT
Lambton Street Fellowship Centre	Towards the salary costs of an administrator in a community centre in Sunderland.	3	£21,399
South Hylton Community Project	Towards the cost of equipment for the new community facility in South Hylton, Sunderland.	1	£20,000
St Chad's Community Project	To cover a short-term cash flow problem at a family resource centre in Gateshead.	1	£20,000
CHANCE – Community Help and Neighbourhood Care for Everyone	To employ a parent support worker in Sunderland.	1	£16,211
A Way Out	To cover core costs of a pilot drugs prevention project in Stockton-on-Tees.	1	£15,000
Apna Ghar Minority Ethnic Women's Centre	Towards establishing a healthy living clinic in South Shields, Tyne and Wear	1	£15,000
Chollerton Parochial Church Council	Towards capital costs of providing community meeting facilities in Tynedale, Northumberland.	1	£15,000
Gateshead Harriers and Athletic Club	Towards the running costs of providing opportunities for people to undertake physical activities.	3	£15,000
Hadston House Youth and Community Building	Towards the costs of employing a development worker at a project in Northumberland.	1	£15,000
Hands on Cookery Workshop	To run a programme of free cookery workshops in Brandon, Durham City.	1	£15,000
K.I.C.K. Group	Towards the running costs of a support group for parents of children with behavioural difficulties in the west of Newcastle.	3	£15,000
Leadgate Community Centre	Towards running costs of the community association in County Durham.	3	£15,000
Naqshabandia Aslamiyya Trust	Towards repairing and improving a community building in Gateshead.	1	£15,000
Newbiggin by the Sea Salvation Army	Towards improving facilities of a community hall in Northumberland.	1	£15,000
North Benwell Black Residents' Support Group	Towards employing a caretaker for the Millin Centre in Newcastle.	2	£15,000
Rampside Village Hall Management Committee	Towards the capital costs of a new village hall near Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria.	1	£15,000
Shelter – North East Housing Aid Centre	Towards developing an accommodation resource website for the North East.	1	£15,000
Tynedale Victim Support	To provide expenses and travel costs for volunteers working in Tynedale, Northumberland.	3	£15,000
Gateshead Jewish Nursery School	Towards the costs of refurbishing a building to provide parenting services for Jewish families in Gateshead.	1	£14,950
Owton Manor West Neighbourhood Watch and Residents' Association	Towards the running costs of the residents' group in Hartlepool, Teesside.	3	£14,877

ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION	YEARS	GRANT
The Weardale Environmental Trust	Towards expanding activities to raise and address environmental issues in the Wear Valley, County Durham.	3	£14,772
Wear Valley Citizens' Advice Bureau	To employ a co-ordinator to expand the skills base of the Bureau's volunteers in County Durham.	1	£14,739
Pendower Good Neighbour House Project	Towards the conversion of a house into a small neighbourhood centre in Newcastle.	1	£14,700
Headland Environmental Partnership	Towards delivering a two-day event with the theme of caring for the environment on Teesside.	1	£14,000
St James and St Bede Church Council	Towards capital costs of building an extension for a community facility in Gateshead.	1	£14,000
St Mary the Virgin PCC	To furnish and equip a recently renovated church hall in Fawdon, Newcastle.	1	£13,831
Teesside Play and Education Resource Centre	To support the outreach/repaint service throughout Teesside.	1	£13,000
Branxton Village Hall	Towards the refurbishment of the hall in a small village near Wooler, Northumberland.	1	£12,700
Blucher Methodist Church	Towards the refurbishment and extension of a community hall in Newcastle.	1	£12,500
Bishop Auckland Community Partnership	Towards the costs of piloting a project for young men and two social enterprises at the Four Clocks Centre, County Durham.	1	£12,000
Felton Village Hall	To extend the village hall in Felton, Northumberland in order to accommodate more health-related exercise classes.	1	£12,000
Tyne and Wear Basketball Development Group	To promote a healthy living programme to children living in South Tyneside.	1	£11,348
Northumbria University (Sport Northumbria)	To organise and hold a junior sports programme for children in the North East.	1	£11,047
Gamblesby Community Centre	Towards the refurbishment of a village hall in Cumbria using sustainable technology.	1	£11,000
Stockton Road Area Residents' Association	To support the organisation to play an active part in the regeneration of its estate in Hartlepool.	3	£10,721
The Grove Community and Residents' Association	To provide core funding for the Association in Consett, County Durham.	3	£10,500
Newcastle Lesbian Line	To provide telephone advice and support to lesbians in the North East.	3	£10,365
Action Kids	To extend the environmental project for the after school club in South Tyneside.	1	£10,000
Ray Gray Centre	To provide funding for a community radio project and broadcast in the east end of Newcastle.	1	£10,000
Weardale Steering Group	To carry out a feasibility study for community use of the Town Hall in Stanhope, County Durham.	1	£10,000



ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION	YEARS	GRANT
St Silas Church	Towards seating and a public announcement system for the use of community groups in Byker, Newcastle.	1	£9,200
Low Hesket Village Hall	Towards the refurbishment of this village hall in Cumbria.	1	£9,000
Woodland Village Hall Association	To replace the roof of the village hall in County Durham.	1	£9,000
Skelsmergh Community Hall	To refurbish the community hall in Cumbria.	1	£8,380
Groundwork Middlesbrough	Towards improving the environment of a community of travelling showpeople in Middlesbrough.	1	£8,000
St George's UR Church	To install new flooring at the community hall in Sunderland.	1	£7,600
The Hastings Initiative	Towards the costs of work to address youth disaffection in Blyth, Northumberland.	1	£7,500
Yemeni Community Association	Towards core costs of the community centre in Middlesbrough.	2	£7,240
Hepple Village Hall	To purchase tables and renew the heating system at a village hall in Northumberland.	1	£6,100
University of Bristol	Towards extending the work of the 'Attrition in Domestic Violence Cases Entering the Criminal Justice System' project.	1	£5,030
Burn Valley Allotment Association	To support the regeneration of an allotment site underused by the local community in Hartlepool.	1	£5,000
Sutton Community Development Group	To employ two part-time youth workers, based in Middlesbrough.	1	£5,000
Derwent Road Community Hall Association	Towards new toughened glass double glazing for the Derwent Hall in Hebburn, South Tyneside.	1	£4,750
Byrness Village Hall	To refurbish the windows, doors and toilets in the village hall in Northumberland.	1	£4,000
Eden Residents' Association	To establish a community garden and allotment in Spennymoor, County Durham.	3	£4,000
Newcastle Child Accident Prevention Forum	Towards the Safety Toddle Event that will be held at Newcastle Exhibition Park.	1	£2,500
Culterham Hall	To purchase and install central heating in the community hall in Cumbria.	1	£2,000
Distington Club for Young People	Towards a project in Cumbria that prevents youth disaffection.	2	£2,000
Elswick and Benwell Community Association	To purchase new furniture for a community centre in Newcastle.	1	£2,000
Prevention Total	119 grants		£3,865,731

Regeneration

ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION	YEARS	GRANT
City of Sunderland	To provide match funding for a Tyne and Wear employment programme.	1	£197,053
Mental Health Matters	Towards a region-wide employment programme for people with mental health problems in the North East.	2	£178,000
Social Enterprise Sunderland	Towards the running costs of a community enterprise development agency in the east end of Sunderland.	3	£150,000
Wearmouth Community Development Trust Ltd	To employ a community enterprise development worker and to contribute towards the director's salary at a project in Sunderland.	3	£129,420
Voluntary Action Cumbria	To employ additional staff to support and expand a business advice service for rural women in Cumbria.	3	£104,200
Northern Oak Credit Union	Towards the revenue costs of a new borough-wide credit union in North Tyneside.	2	£98,500
Renew North East Ltd	Towards the cost of employing a development worker and to contribute towards the running costs of a social enterprise in Gateshead.	2	£95,972
Wearside First Credit Union	Towards capital and revenue costs for a new credit union in Sunderland.	3	£95,242
Soil Association	To promote the development of organic farming in Cumbria.	2	£90,052
The Shaw Trust	To employ an enterprise development manager in Middlesbrough.	3	£80,000
Trimdon 2000 Ltd	To employ a manager for a community regeneration project in Trimdon Village, County Durham.	3	£78,934
Employment Opportunities for People with Disabilities	To provide job training courses for unemployed disabled people throughout the North East.	3	£78,481
Amble Development Trust	Towards the running costs of a community regeneration organisation in Northumberland.	3	£75,000
Headland Development Company	To employ a project manager at a community regeneration project in Hartlepool.	3	£75,000
Growing Well	Towards a new social business providing sheltered employment for adults recovering from mental illness in South Lakeland, Cumbria.	1	£72,785
North Pennines Heritage Trust	Towards the core costs of heritage and conservation work providing jobs in Cumbria.	3	£61,516
Alnwick People's Trust	To employ a manager to develop a community-led regeneration project in Northumberland.	3	£60,000
The Fawside Foundation	Towards the core costs of a community regeneration organisation based in Allendale, Cumbria.	3	£58,226
Weardale Railway Trust	Towards the purchase of a steam engine for a heritage railway in the Wear Valley.	1	£53,000
Community Campus 87 Ltd	To contribute towards the costs of a training programme in construction skills in a project for homeless young people on Teesside.	3	£45,000



ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION	YEARS	GRANT
Greengate Community Development Centre	To employ a support co-ordinator to train people in IT and other skills to assist them in finding employment in Cumbria.	3	£45,000
Shotton Partnership 2000 Ltd	Towards running costs of the Shotton IT Centre in County Durham.	2	£45,000
St Aidan's Community Trust	Towards core and capital costs to develop a rural regeneration project in County Durham.	1	£43,450
Pioneering Care Partnership	To provide training and work placements for disabled people in Sedgefield, County Durham.	2	£39,458
East Ashington Community Partnership	Towards the running costs of a new development trust in Northumberland.	2	£37,000
Development Trusts Association – NW	To provide support to development trusts in Cumbria.	3	£34,749
Impact Housing Association Ltd	Towards revenue funding to support the start up of a café project providing training for unemployed young people in Carlisle.	3	£32,921
North Ormesby 2001 Ltd	Towards the partnership manager's salary of a regeneration organisation in Middlesbrough.	2	£32,725
West Cumbria CVS	Towards employing an enterprise development worker at a project in Whitehaven, Cumbria.	3	£30,000
Newcastle City Council Employees CU Ltd	To employ a part-time development worker and a full-time financial officer to form a new credit union from a coalition of 11 credit unions.	1	£29,325
The Lingla Centre	Towards the capital costs of reorganising a café in a community building in Cumbria.	1	£15,000
The Wheels Project	To employ a full-time trainer at a motor vehicle project in Hebburn, Tyne and Wear.	1	£15,000
Business Dynamics	Towards staging five multimedia events to promote self-employment as a career option to school children in Newcastle.	1	£14,658
Weardale Railway Trust	To purchase three items of machinery for the railway in the Wear Valley, County Durham.	1	£14,500
Independent Living Project	To purchase kitchen equipment for a café providing work placements for learning disabled people on Teesside.	1	£14,330
Patterdale Community Development Centre	To employ a development officer to liaise with the community in Cumbria.	2	£13,694
St Peter's Parish Centre	To gap fund the salary of the project co-ordinator in North Tyneside.	1	£12,159
Wallsend St Peter Community Support Group (The Group)	To equip a training room in a primary school in Wallsend, North Tyneside.	1	£6,000
Growing Well	To support the development of a new social business to provide sheltered employment for adults recovering from mental illness in South Lakeland, Cumbria.	1	£4,275
The Salvation Army (Monkwearmouth Corps)	Towards an external evaluation of the services offered to residents of Southwick and Redhouse in Sunderland.	1	£3,600

ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION	YEARS	GRANT
Rising Sun Farm Trust Limited	To identify market opportunities for the sale of organic produce grown on a community enterprise in North Tyneside.	1	£2,500
Unium Enterprise Trust	Towards the cost of employing an auditor and a solicitor at a community enterprise project in Northumberland.	1	£2,500
Regeneration Total	42 grants		£2,364,225

Basics

Eden Mind	To continue to employ the manager for three years in Cumbria.	3	£98,974
Durham Initiatives For Support In The Community Ltd	To employ a development worker supporting young carers affected by domestic violence in County Durham.	3	£94,312
Skills for People	To continue to employ a senior training manager based in Newcastle, working on increasing the involvement of learning disabled people in planning services.	3	£90,686
The Art Studio	Towards staffing costs for the Art Studio in Sunderland, supporting people with mental health problems through creative activities.	3	£81,900
Whitehaven Citizens' Advice Bureau	Towards the refurbishment of new premises in Cumbria.	1	£80,000
The Pool c/o The Edward Lloyd Trust	Towards activities and events for people with learning disabilities in Newcastle.	2	£79,991
Mind in Gateshead	Towards the core costs of providing services to people with mental ill-health.	3	£75,600
Blyth Star Enterprises	To employ two staff members providing support to clients with more severe mental health problems in Northumberland.	3	£69,321
Changes North East	To continue to employ the manager of a mental health project based in Northumberland.	3	£69,282
West Cumbria Alzheimer's Society	To provide core funding for the carers' support service.	2	£68,510
Age Concern South Tyneside	To continue to employ a full-time information and advice worker.	3	£68,024
Age Concern Sunderland	To continue to employ an advice worker.	3	£67,515
Middlesbrough Mind	To continue to employ the crisis support worker.	3	£67,319
Rethink	Towards the core costs of the organisation supporting people with profound mental ill-health in Cumbria.	3	£66,408
Adult Survivors of Childhood Abuse	Towards running costs for a self-help group in Newcastle.	2	£65,000
Derwentside Domestic Violence Forum	To employ a full-time project manager in County Durham.	3	£64,490
Age Concern Carlisle and District	To employ a day care support worker to develop the services in Carlisle.	3	£64,347
Mental Health in South Tyneside	To fund the manager's post.	3	£62,967



ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION	YEARS	GRANT
Washington Asylum Seekers Project	Towards employing a full-time co-ordinator/administrator at the project in Tyne and Wear	3	£61,770
Stockton and District Advice and Information Service	To employ a full-time debt advice worker.	3	£60,986
Alzheimer's Society – Teesside	To employ a branch manager.	2	£60,000
Force4Disability	To establish and run a project supporting older disabled people to live independently in Alnwick, Northumberland.	2	£60,000
Manna House	Towards core funding for the organisation's services to homeless people in Cumbria.	3	£60,000
The National Autistic Society	Towards employing a regional development officer in the North East and Cumbria.	3	£60,000
Zayis Raanon	To employ a senior care assistant and to pay running costs for an organisation supporting older Jewish women in Gateshead.	2	£59,694
The Barrow Domestic Abuse Project	To employ an administrator to help address domestic abuse in Cumbria.	2	£59,306
Age Concern Carlisle and District	To develop the advocacy service to reach a wider population.	2	£59,186
Shiney Advice and Resource Project	To employ a co-ordinator and contribute towards running costs of the organisation in Tyne and Wear.	2	£58,661
Tynedale Citizens' Advice Bureau	To employ an IT trainer/support worker for the advice bureau in Northumberland.	3	£57,144
Tynedale Summer Activities Scheme	To increase services and activities for children and young people with learning disabilities in Northumberland.	2	£55,669
Caring Hands	Towards the costs of work to support older people's independence in Newcastle.	2	£55,000
Newcastle Women's Aid	Towards the employment of a full-time outreach worker.	3	£54,152
Allerdale Disability Association	Towards core funding of the disability information service in Cumbria.	2	£54,045
Them Wifies	To provide a programme of health and educational development for learning disabled women and arts-based training for carers based in Newcastle.	1	£52,338
Spinal Injuries Association	Towards extending the network of peer support in the North East and Cumbria.	3	£51,336
Manor Residents' Association	To continue to provide a welfare benefits advice service at a project in Hartlepool.	2	£50,700
Chester-le-Street and District Citizens' Advice Bureau	To employ two debt advice workers at the Bureau in County Durham.	2	£50,000
Workington Citizens' Advice Bureau	Towards a designated officer to be responsible for recruitment, training and developing volunteers in Cumbria.	2	£50,000
PANAH	Towards the staff salaries of a refuge supporting black and minority ethnic women in Newcastle.	3	£49,500
Tyneside Tool Aid	Towards the core costs of the organisation which works with disabled people in Newcastle.	2	£47,845

ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION	YEARS	GRANT
The Chester-le-Street and District Voluntary Welfare Committee	To recruit a development officer to provide support to vulnerable groups in County Durham.	3	£47,084
Age Concern Barrow and District	To provide core funding for an information and advice service for older people in Cumbria.	2	£45,870
My Sister's Place	To fund the project administrator's salary for a women's advice centre in Middlesbrough.	3	£45,000
The Rights Project	Towards the continuation of the welfare rights service in the west end of Newcastle.	1	£42,523
Hebburn Neighbourhood Advice Centre	Towards core funding to provide free and independent advice for those disadvantaged in Hebburn, Tyne and Wear.	2	£42,249
Liberty From Addiction	Towards the salary of a part-time worker and the running costs of an organisation supporting carers of addicts in Chester-le-Street, County Durham.	2	£38,947
Relate	Towards core funding of the organisation in Cumbria.	2	£31,000
Bell View – Belford	Towards extending the project manager's post to oversee work on a residential and daycare centre in Northumberland.	1	£30,160
The Duke of Edinburgh's Award	To fund a post to expand access to the Award for young people with learning disabilities and mental health issues throughout the North East.	3	£25,000
Blackwell Sailing	To employ a combined part-time manager and sailing instructor developing activities with learning disabled people in Cumbria.	3	£23,154
Women's Health Advice Centre	Towards the core costs of an organisation promoting women's health issues in Ashington, Northumberland.	1	£20,666
British Red Cross – Northumbria Branch	To re-establish a Home from Hospital project in Newcastle.	1	£15,000
Carlisle Mind	Towards core funding of the organisation.	1	£15,000
Elswick Community Minibus Association	To provide core funding for a community transport scheme operating in the west end of Newcastle.	1	£15,000
Hartlepool Carers	Towards the core costs of the organisation on Teesside.	1	£15,000
Hartlepool Families First	To take out toys and learning equipment to families with children with special needs on Teesside.	2	£15,000
Hartlepool Special Needs Support Group	To support families and children with disabilities.	3	£15,000
Postnatal Illness Support (Cumbria)	Towards the core costs of the organisation.	2	£15,000
South Tyneside Women's Aid	To purchase and fit a new kitchen and dining area within the refuge.	1	£15,000
Tools for Self Reliance Middlesbrough/Allied Resource Community	Towards the running costs of a tool repair workshop in Middlesbrough.	3	£15,000



ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION	YEARS	GRANT
Child Deaf Project	To continue to employ two part-time youth workers supporting Teesside's young deaf people.	1	£14,991
New Directions	To employ a project co-ordinator offering support to people with mental health issues in Stockton.	1	£14,988
Castle Morpeth Disability Association	Towards the refurbishment of new, accessible premises benefiting older disabled people in Northumberland.	1	£14,590
Age Concern Eden	Towards a part-time information advice and advocacy worker in Cumbria.	3	£13,909
Northern Fells Rural Community Development Group	To support isolated elderly and disabled people in Cumbria.	3	£13,744
Riding for the Disabled Association Incorporating Carriage Driving – North Region	Towards support and training for groups in the North Region.	3	£13,500
Easington District Communicare	Towards continuation funding of the project manager's salary in County Durham for work supporting older people's independence.	1	£13,106
Shopmobility Furness	To purchase electric wheelchairs for use by older disabled people in Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, to help them retain their independence.	1	£12,800
Samaritans of Hartlepool	Towards the costs of recruiting and training volunteers.	3	£12,000
Common Ground Sign Dance Theatre	Towards providing young Deaf people in Tyneside and Cumbria with training and performance opportunities in Sign Dance Theatre.	2	£11,561
Furness Homeless Support Group	Towards refurbishment of premises offering supported accommodation for homeless people in Cumbria.	1	£11,500
Workington and District Credit Union	Towards the running costs of a credit union in west Cumbria.	2	£10,000
Settlement Furniture Services	Towards core funding to support the recycling and redistribution project in the North East.	1	£9,650
ADDvance	Towards core funding for work with young people with Attention Deficit Disorder in Hartlepool.	1	£9,504
The Link Centre For Deafened People	To provide three self-management courses for deafened people in the North East and Cumbria.	1	£9,120
Hartlepool Mencap	To maintain and extend support and activities for learning disabled people and their carers on Teesside.	3	£9,000
Third Age Learning Community	Towards the move to and rental of new premises, and for additional security in Longbenton, North Tyneside.	1	£7,000
The Three R's Club	Towards the running costs for an elderly club in Hartlepool.	3	£6,480
Manic Depression Fellowship Newcastle	To purchase computer equipment and support the core costs of the organisation's newsletter and other mailings.	3	£5,905

ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION	YEARS	GRANT
Thornley Age Concern	Towards renewing radiators and pipework to a building used by older people in Easington, County Durham.	1	£4,770
North Durham Domestic Violence Forum	To produce a series of short videos highlighting the effects of domestic violence.	1	£4,048
West Cumbria Domestic Violence Support	To run courses for victims and perpetrators of domestic violence.	1	£4,044
Carlisle People First Ltd	To purchase computer equipment for learning disabled people with visual and hearing impairments.	1	£4,000
Ouston Housebound Club	To provide core funding to support the luncheon club in County Durham.	3	£3,000
Epilepsy Action – Cumbria Forum	Towards hosting a one-day epilepsy advice conference.	1	£1,875
Basics Total	85 grants		£3,323,716

Better Sector

Project North East	To provide a programme of infrastructure support, building upon the skills of the voluntary and community sector throughout the North East.	3	£1,837,500
Directory of Social Change	Towards intensive training for workers and management committee members managing voluntary organisations and community groups in the North East.	1	£360,000
Voluntary Organisations Network North East	Towards building the capacity of the voluntary sector to play a fuller part and be represented in regional matters.	2	£112,514
Newcastle Council for Voluntary Services	To employ an additional worker to deal with increasing demands on the information service.	3	£95,306
Stockton-on-Tees Voluntary Development Agency	To employ a volunteer development worker.	3	£92,667
Middlesbrough Voluntary Development Agency	To provide support, training and advice to voluntary and community organisations.	2	£90,256
Blyth Valley Council for Voluntary Service	To employ a development officer, to extend the range of services in Northumberland.	3	£87,313
Carlisle Council for Voluntary Service	To employ a full-time organisational development officer and part-time administrator to provide support to new and emerging groups.	2	£78,946
Tees Valley Tomorrow Ltd	Towards a service providing pro bono work for community and voluntary groups.	2	£75,000
Skillshare	To cover staff costs and provide training to voluntary groups in Hartlepool.	3	£74,693
Federation of Community Associations in South Tyneside	To provide support to all the community associations based in South Tyneside.	2	£70,215



ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION	YEARS	GRANT
Sunderland Council for Voluntary Service	To employ a capacity building officer to support new and emerging community groups.	3	£69,992
County Durham Consortium	Towards core funding for a mental health consortium in County Durham.	2	£69,437
Cumbria Association of Councils for Voluntary Service	Towards providing training and development support to organisations.	3	£67,000
Community Accounting Tyne and Wear	Towards the salary of a full-time accountant to support voluntary organisations in Sunderland.	2	£58,995
Eden Council for Voluntary Service	To enhance the capacity and effectiveness of voluntary and community groups in Eden, Cumbria.	2	£56,175
The Coalfield Forum	To employ a full-time development worker in Sunderland.	2	£50,000
Cumbria Community Foundation	To fund the business buddies co-ordinator's post in Cumbria.	3	£46,733
New Philanthropy Capital	Towards training courses for voluntary groups on full cost budgeting in the North East and Cumbria.	1	£29,293
Project North East	Towards a management and personal development training programme in Tyne and Wear.	2	£25,100
St James United Reformed Church	Towards a study to establish how the church premises in Newcastle might provide affordable space for voluntary organisations.	1	£13,700
Consett South Community Partnership	To provide core funding for the community partnership's office in County Durham.	3	£12,000
Community Regeneration Trust North East	Towards payment of fees allowing the manager to attend the Community Enterprise course at Cambridge University's Judge Institute of Management.	2	£11,000
Voluntary Action Cumbria	Towards university fees for a manager to attend a course on Community Enterprise at the Judge Institute of Management, University of Cambridge.	2	£10,000
Linskill Centre General Committee	Towards a study into the use of this or an alternative site for voluntary organisations in North Shields, Tyne and Wear.	1	£9,000
Gateshead Access Panel	To employ a part-time quality assurance manager.	1	£8,504
Centre for Strategy and Communication	To provide training in communication and public affairs in Tyne and Wear.	1	£8,120
The Management Centre	To provide a presentation skills course for voluntary sector workers in the North East.	1	£6,613
Headland Development Company	Towards providing a paralegal study course in Hartlepool.	1	£5,905
Institute of Fundraising North East	To encourage attendance by small organisations at a regional conference on fundraising.	1	£5,785
Children North East	Towards reviewing the strategic futures for Children North East and to develop the management team.	1	£5,100

ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION	YEARS	GRANT
Riverside Community Woodwork Project	To maintain the services provided to the community in North Tyneside.	1	£5,000
National Pensioner Convention Northern Region	Towards the annual running costs of the North Region Convention.	3	£3,000
Mind in Gateshead	Towards a two-day residential event in order to produce a business plan.	1	£2,902
Southwick Neighbourhood Youth Project	To employ a consultant to review an employment support project based in a youth centre in Sunderland.	1	£2,475
Cleveland Family Mediation Service	Towards a management committee and staff away day for the organisation based on Teesside.	1	£2,000
Hartlepool People's Centre	To hold a training event for staff, volunteers and management committee members.	1	£1,592
Gateshead Harriers and Athletic Club	Towards the costs of hiring a consultant to assist with financial planning.	1	£1,500
Washington Citizens' Advice Bureau	To hold a training and team building day for all staff and volunteers.	1	£1,040
Funding Information North East	To fund the consultation meeting for the North East Funders Forum.	1	£1,000
Better Sector Total	40 grants		£3,563,371

Aspiration

Amber Associates	Towards developing a five-year programme of film and video production and distribution, working with communities in the North East.	5	£500,000
Northern Centre for Cancer Treatment	To establish a permanent arts project as part of the Centre's treatment programme.	7	£315,500
Bede's World	To achieve world heritage status for the project in South Tyneside.	3	£216,000
The Samling Foundation	To core fund music and visual arts projects across the North East.	3	£150,000
English Heritage	To hold the Fashion at Belsay event, incorporating the work of top British designers at Belsay Hall in Northumberland.	1	£130,000
Northumberland Wildlife Trust	To employ a community liaison officer in south east Northumberland.	3	£94,398
Dodgy Clutch Theatre Company	To support a creative team to plan large-scale events in the North East.	3	£90,000
Exhibition and Brandling Parks Community Trust	To employ a development worker for Exhibition Park in Newcastle.	3	£90,000
Opera North	Towards supporting Opera North's programme at the Newcastle Theatre Royal Autumn 2003 – Spring 2004.	3	£90,000
Generator North East	Towards support for musicians in Tyne and Wear through courses for young bands, showcase opportunities and industry seminars.	3	£86,160



ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION	YEARS	GRANT
balletLORENT	Towards core funding and the development of the dance company in Newcastle.	2	£80,000
Lake District Summer Music Ltd	To hold an arts festival in Cumbria.	2	£68,000
New Writing North	To support and develop live literature programming and develop audience activities on Tyneside.	2	£60,000
The Wordsworth Trust	Towards the costs of the exhibition programmes in Cumbria.	2	£53,400
The Customs House Art Centre	Towards the restoration and refurbishment of the annex building in South Tyneside.	1	£50,000
VANE	To hold three international annual exhibitions, working with artists from the North East.	1	£50,000
Newcastle Community Green Festival	Towards core funding for the Green Festival.	3	£46,777
University Gallery	Towards the building of a new wing, and renovation of the existing University of Northumbria Gallery in Newcastle.	1	£45,000
Tyneside Cinema	Towards a digital new media festival in the North East.	1	£37,000
Durham Victoria County History Trust	To provide gap funding of the editors' salaries.	1	£33,000
YIPP Films Ltd	Towards the production of the digital film challenge in Gateshead.	1	£30,256
Dance City	To develop the youth dance project in the North East.	1	£30,000
The Senhouse Museum Trust	To provide additional core funding for the organisation in Cumbria.	3	£30,000
Northern Print Studio	Towards the regeneration of North Shields Fish Quay, Tyne and Wear, through resident artists making temporary public art.	1	£26,808
Durham Victoria County History Trust	To provide gap funding for staff salaries.	3	£25,500
Chester-le-Street Youth Development Trust	Towards capital costs of an indoor cricket centre at the riverside site in County Durham.	1	£25,000
Whitley Bay Playhouse	Towards the costs of the Whitley Bay International Jazz Festival.	1	£15,000
Durham City Arts Ltd	Towards the costs of a contemporary bandstand in Durham.	1	£14,100
Hancock Museum	To create the Discovery Den and employ a facilitator to promote it to pre-school children in Tyne and Wear.	1	£13,800
Alnwick Northumbrian Gathering Committee	Towards developing the traditional musical event – the Alnwick Northumbrian Gathering.	3	£10,500
Holy Island of Lindisfarne Community Development Trust	Towards a new exhibition area and accompanying exhibition for a facsimile copy of Lindisfarne Gospels being donated by the British Library to Holy Island, Northumberland.	1	£10,000
Literary and Philosophical Society	Towards a consultancy exercise and development of a strategic plan up to 2010 in the North East.	1	£10,000
The Customs House Art Centre	To support a festival of professional theatre in South Tyneside.	1	£10,000

ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION	YEARS	GRANT
Ambleside's Armit Museum and Library	To improve the quality of exhibitions, encouraging a wider audience for the work in Cumbria.	1	£7,995
Avison Charitable Trust	Towards a feasibility study and business plan for acquiring the 18th century Assembly House in Newcastle.	1	£7,187
Cloud Nine Theatre Production	Towards a play on the life of dramatist Tom Hadaway in North Tyneside.	1	£6,400
Tenth Avenue Band	To stage the international festival of street music in Newcastle.	1	£4,000
Derwentside District Council	To host two arts festivals for the community in County Durham.	1	£3,500
Chinese Festivity Group	Towards the costs of celebrations for the Chinese New Year in Newcastle.	1	£3,000
Aspiration Total	39 grants		£2,568,281

Buildings to Inspire and Delight

The Bowes Museum	Towards major repair work to the museum in County Durham.	1	£500,000
The Theatre Royal Trust	Towards extending and improving the Theatre Royal, Newcastle.	1	£400,000
Wansbeck District Council	To redevelop the ancient monuments of Woodhorn Colliery Museum in Northumberland.	1	£390,000
Northern Stage	Towards the costs of redeveloping Newcastle Playhouse.	1	£300,000
The Alnwick Garden Trust	Towards building the world's biggest wooden treehouse in the garden in Northumberland.	1	£250,000
HMS Trincomalee Trust	Towards capital cost of a visitors' centre for this historic ship in Hartlepool.	1	£242,150
Chester-le-Street Youth Development Trust	Towards building an indoor cricket centre at the riverside site in County Durham.	1	£236,000
Buildings to Inspire and Delight Total	7 grants		£2,318,150

Exploration

MENCAP	To provide support to learning disabled parents in the North East.	3	£185,472
Institute for Public Policy Research	To establish IPPR North, a policy and research think tank in the North East.	3	£180,000
University of Bristol	Towards research on the practical needs of domestic violence offenders to be undertaken jointly with the Home Office using information drawn from the existing database of North East offenders.	1	£67,877
Durham Family Welfare	To explore whether a working foundation can be made between birth and adoptive parents for the benefit of the adopted child.	2	£40,700



ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION	YEARS	GRANT
NACRO	To carry out research based in the North East into ways of maintaining positive family relationships whilst a parent is in prison.	1	£37,464
The Weston Spirit	Towards providing personal development opportunities to young people nearing release from Hassockfield Secure Training Centre in Northumberland.	1	£20,290
University of Sunderland	To undertake a feasibility study into establishing a professional apprenticeship course in community and youth work in Tyne and Wear.	1	£14,841
Exploration Total	7 grants		£546,644

Exceptional

Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art	Towards activities to complement Antony Gormley's <i>Domain Field</i> at the Centre for Contemporary Art in Gateshead.	1	£99,762
Abilitynet	To establish a North East and Cumbrian IT support resource for disabled people.	3	£90,000
The Industrial Trust	To support 300 Open Industry experiences for disaffected young people and to support a local student on a Year in Industry placement in Newcastle.	1	£13,200
Association of Charitable Foundations	Exceptional grant to membership body for trusts towards additional expenditure in 2003.	1	£1,000
Exceptional Total	4 grants		£203,962

Total Grants	343	£18,754,080
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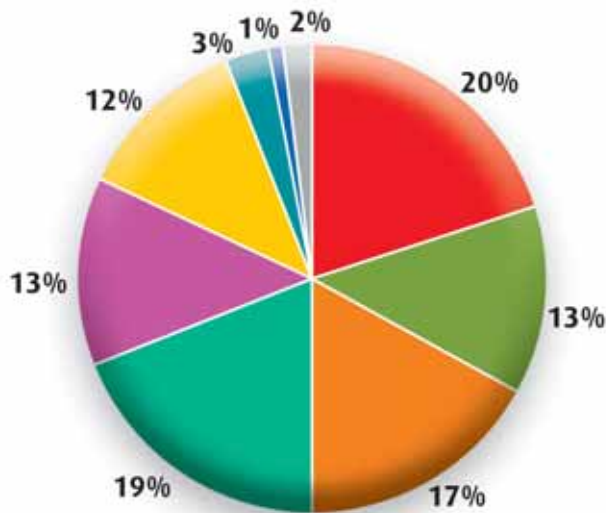
Loans

Anybodycan Ltd	Towards an employment project for disadvantaged and disabled people in Newcastle and Sunderland.	2	£15,000
The Lazarus Centre	A loan towards core operating expenses of the centre in Sunderland during a period of crisis.	1	£15,000
Loans Total	2 loans		£30,000

Grand Total	345 grants and loans	£18,784,080
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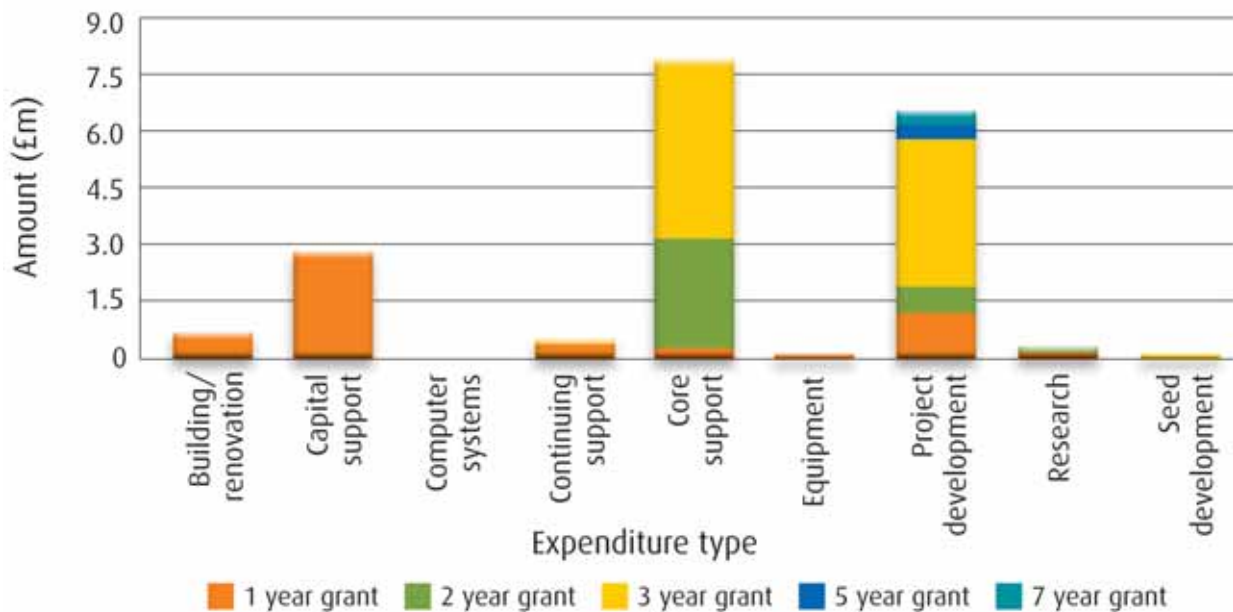
Grant analysis

2003 approved amounts by grant programme



Amount Awarded (£000)	
Prevention	3,866
Regeneration	2,364
Basics	3,324
Better Sector	3,564
Aspiration	2,568
Buildings to Inspire and Delight	2,318
Exploration	546
Exceptional	204
Other	415
TOTAL	19,169

2003 type of support





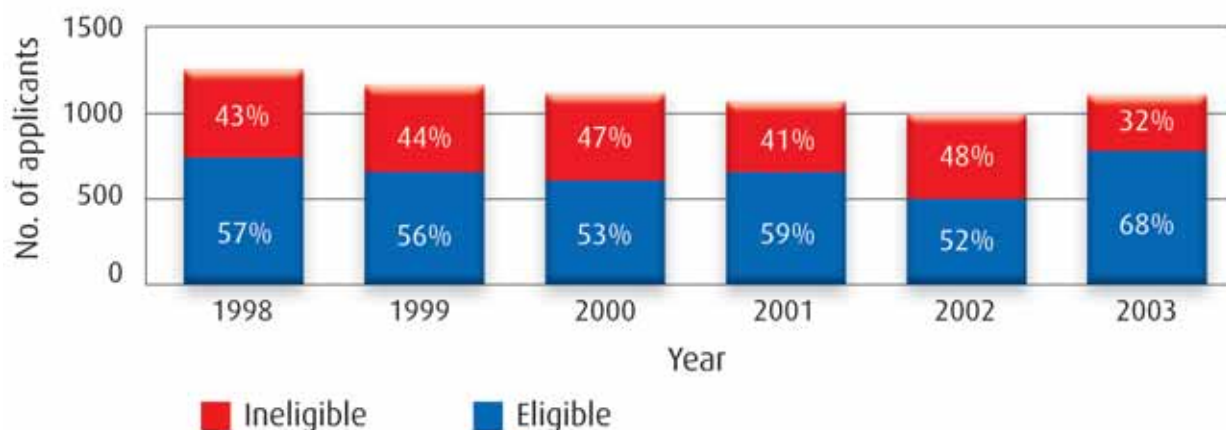
2003 grants approved by region and per capita

(For statistical purposes we use 'North East and Cumbria' when the area of benefit covers more than one of the sub-regions.)

Region	Approved amount (£)	% of amount approved	No of awards	Population (from 2001 census)	Amount approved per capita (£)
Cumbria	2,511,581	13	62	487,607	5.15
Durham (inc Darlington UA)	2,098,637	11	42	591,308	3.55
<i>North East and Cumbria</i>	<i>4,373,601</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>3,003,049</i>	<i>1.46</i>
Northumberland	2,338,857	12	40	307,190	7.61
Teesside	1,505,076	8	41	541,006	2.78
Tyne and Wear	5,926,328	33	123	1,075,938	5.51
Total	18,754,080	100	343	3,003,049	6.25

Summary of number of applications received

In 2003 we received 1,144 grant applications, of which 370 (32%) were ineligible.



Summary financial statements

Statement of Financial Activities

(incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended 31 December 2003

	Income Funds 2003 £'000	Designated Funds 2003 £'000	Total Funds 2003 £'000	Total Funds 2002 £'000
Incoming Resources				
Covenant from Northern Rock plc	19,340	–	19,340	16,312
Investment Income	747	–	747	565
Other Income	2,303	–	2,303	6
Grant Received	4	–	4	2
Total Incoming Resources	22,394	–	22,394	16,885
Resources Expended				
<i>Cost of generating funds:</i>				
Investment management fees	134	–	134	51
<i>Charitable expenditure:</i>				
Grants payable	18,876	100	18,976	12,996
Support costs	291	–	291	269
Management and administration*	730	–	730	414
	19,897	100	19,997	13,679
Total Resources Expended	20,031	100	20,131	13,730
Net Incoming Resources	2,363	(100)	2,263	3,155
Other Recognised Gains and Losses				
Realised gain on Investments	312	–	312	50
Unrealised gain/(loss) on Investments	659	–	659	(2,190)
	971	–	971	(2,140)
Net Movements in Funds	3,334	(100)	3,234	1,015
Balances brought forward 1 January	24,202	100	24,302	23,287
Transfer between Funds	(100)	100	–	–
Balances carried forward 31 December	27,436	100	27,536	24,302

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

*The 2003 figure includes a one-off transaction of £230,000 for a fee relating to a tax reclaim from the Inland Revenue of £2.3 million.



Balance Sheet

at 31 December 2003

	2003 £'000	2002 £'000
Fixed Assets		
Investment in Northern Rock plc	–	–
Tangible Fixed Assets	1,055	1,049
Investments under fund management	13,884	12,789
Other Investments	2,030	1,500
	<u>16,969</u>	<u>15,338</u>
Current Assets		
Debtors	10,178	8,789
Short-term deposits	18,148	12,333
Investments	4	3
Cash at bank and in hand	221	20
	<u>28,551</u>	<u>21,145</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	<u>(11,979)</u>	<u>(9,251)</u>
Net Current Assets	16,572	11,894
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities	33,541	27,232
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		
Grants authorised and not yet paid	(6,005)	(2,930)
Net Assets	27,536	24,302
Unrestricted Funds		
Income	27,436	24,202
Designated	100	100
	<u>27,536</u>	<u>24,302</u>

The above information is a summary of the financial transactions of the Foundation for the year ended 31 December 2003 and does not purport to be full or audited accounts. Our auditors PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP have given an unqualified audit report to the accounts, which can be obtained from either Alison Graham at the Northern Rock Foundation or the Foundation's website www.nr-foundation.org.uk

The financial statements were signed and approved by the Trustees on 15 March 2004.

Trustees and staff

Trustees

Richard Harbottle (Chair)
until 31 December 2003

David Chapman

David Faulkner

Leo Finn
appointed Chair from 1 January 2004

Tony Henfrey
appointed 1 December 2003

Charles Howick

Christopher Jobe

Frank Nicholson

Dorothy Russell

Julie Shipley

John Ward

Staff

Carol Bell
Grants Officer

Emma Bennewith
Administration Assistant
(until December 2003)

Fran Bird
Finance Manager
(maternity cover for Alison Graham)

Anne Burleigh
Deputy Director

Barry Deans
IT and Administration Assistant
(until October 2003)

Fiona Ellis
Director



From left: Dorothy Russell, John Ward, Richard Harbottle, Frank Nicholson, David Faulkner, Julie Shipley, Tony Henfrey, David Chapman, Christopher Jobe, Leo Finn. © Simon Veit-Wilson



Sarah Gibson
IT and Administration Assistant
(from January 2004)

Alison Graham
Assistant Director – Finance and
Administration/Company Secretary

Karen Henderson
Finance Administration Assistant

Steph Hutchinson
Finance Administration Assistant

Susan Leonard
Office Manager

Lesley Parker
PA to the Director

Carole Rock
Administration Assistant

Lisa Thew
Grants Administrator

Sue Vaughan
Grants Officer

Penny Vowles
Grants Officer

Richard Walton
Grants Officer

Cullagh Warnock
Grants Officer

Rob Williamson
Assistant Director – Policy and Communications
(from May 2003)

Joan Woolley
PA to the Deputy Director

Susan Young
Administration Assistant (from December 2003)

Phyllida Shaw
Rock Reports Journalist



From left: Richard Walton, Anne Burleigh, Joan Woolley (front), Carol Bell, Cullagh Warnock, Fiona Ellis (front), Carole Rock, Alison Graham, Sue Vaughan (front), Rob Williamson, Penny Vowles, Karen Henderson (front), Lesley Parker, Susan Leonard, Emma Bennewith. © Simon Veit-Wilson

Grant programmes and other initiatives

Prevention

Preventing local and regional social decline – actions that stop social problems from developing or worsening – concentrating on: crime, discrimination, teenage pregnancy, parenting, substance abuse, environmental decay, youth disaffection, and poor community facilities.

Regeneration

Local initiatives that improve the economic prospects of an area or a community of interest and ensure money stays within it: social businesses, development trusts, job creation schemes and training for work.

Basics

Basic day-to-day services over and above what statutory bodies offer. Our priorities are: mental health and learning disability; independent living and advocacy; carers; victims of domestic violence; money, debt and welfare advice; financial inclusion schemes.

Exploration

Exploration and experiment – practical research, trying out, thinking, finding new ideas or ways to address social problems, with an emphasis on learning from what works and what does not.

Better Sector

A better, stronger voluntary sector – making the sector more capable of helping itself and others, articulating its needs and fighting its corner – through supporting umbrella bodies, and by improving the quality of individual organisations' work.

Aspiration

Assistance to arts, environmental, heritage and sporting charities seeking to provide enjoyable and stimulating activities of the highest quality that raise the profile of our area and make it a better place in which to live and enjoy life.

Cultural capital scheme

Support for significant, ambitious and high-quality proposals for new or refurbished buildings for arts, environmental, heritage or sporting organisations. We are interested in both the activities inside the building, and the quality of its design.

Loans

Loans can be for capital expenditure, bridging funds, working capital, the costs of developing new activities or to pay for regular commitments.

Special initiatives

In 2004 the Foundation will launch special initiatives on domestic violence and penal reform which we will run in partnership with organisations in the field.

Training and capacity building

The Foundation runs courses in partnership with a number of training providers. We also offer two small capacity building schemes: Community Training Awards – small grants to help organisations grow and develop, and Visit and Learn – support towards the costs of visiting similar organisations to learn from them.

More information about our programmes and initiatives is available on our website – **www.nr-foundation.org.uk** or by contacting our office on 0191 284 8412.



Valerie Moody MBE, a founding director of development trust North Ormesby 2001, on the site used by the fairground show people's community, see Regeneration (page 10). © Simon Veit-Wilson

Registered Office:

Northern Rock House, Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4PL

Registered Charity:

Charity Commissioners' Reference Number
1063906

Company Limited by Guarantee:

Registered Number 3416658

Independent Auditors:

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
89 Sandyford Road
Newcastle upon Tyne NE99 1PL

Bankers:

Lloyds Bank plc, Lloyds TSB, City Office
PO Box 72, Bailey Drive
Gillingham Business Park, Kent ME8 0LS

Northern Rock plc, Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4PL

Solicitors:

Legal Department, Northern Rock plc
Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4PL

Investment Advisor:

Group Treasury, Northern Rock plc
Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4PL

Investment Managers:

Merrill Lynch International Bank Limited
Quayside House, 110 Quayside
Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 3DX
(until 22 January 2003)

Gerrard Limited, Cross House, Westgate Road
Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4XX
(appointed 22 January 2003)

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