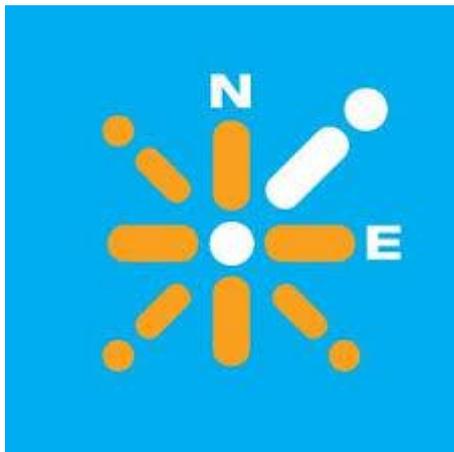




**DURHAM
COMMUNITY
ACTION**

COMMUNITY NEWS

Welcome to the April 2020 Edition



Help make the case for more support for the Voluntary and Community Sector

Help VONNE, VCSE Local Infrastructure Organisations (LIOs) including DCA and members of the North East Funder's Network to understand the ongoing impact of Covid-19 on you and your beneficiaries.

Giving us this information, which builds on the findings from the initial sustainability survey carried out last month, helps us effectively represent the sector and influence how funders focus their support, both now and in the future recovery period.

Findings will be shared with stakeholders including local authorities, LEPs, private sector organisations and the health system, to make the case for additional support and resources for the sector, and with national infrastructure partners including NCVO, ACEVO, NAVCA and the Charity Finance Group, to help us influence government decisions affecting the sector.

We realise how busy you are but your input is vital to enable us to work more effectively on your behalf and that of the sector in the region. The survey, which will take no more than 15 minutes, will be open to responses until **9am on Monday, May 4th**.

Complete the survey [HERE](#)



COVID-19 and Potential Grants for Community Buildings

Did you know your community building may be eligible for a £10,000 grant from Durham County Council? The Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Grant is one fund that some buildings in County Durham have been successful in accessing

Find out more [here](#)

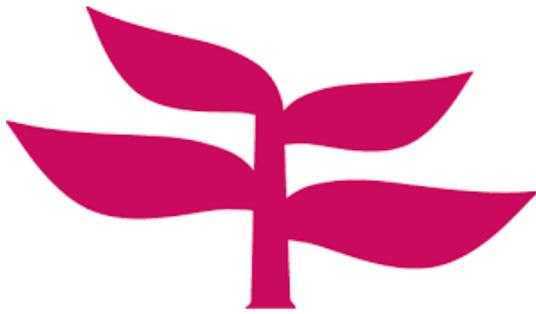
COVID-19 Updates

We have a dedicated page on our website with the latest updates on COVID-19 including a series of guides for volunteers, volunteer involving organisations and community buildings. There are also links to sources of support for charities, public health and local authority information. We are constantly updating this page so please check back regularly. Visit the page [here](#)



COVID-19 Response Funding

There are a number of funders and organisations who are offering COVID-19 response funding to voluntary and community sector organisations. You can find links to the latest information on our website [here](#)



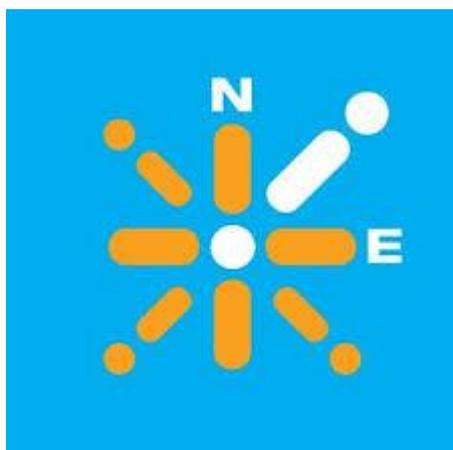
CDCF and DCA COVID-19 Response Volunteering Micro-Grant Programme

We are delighted to announce that the County Durham Community Foundation has awarded a small grant fund to DCA, which we will administer as a Micro Grants programme. The fund is to add further support to self-organised mutual aid groups and newly emerging volunteer groups which are responding to the impact of Covid-19 in their communities. Read [more](#)



Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme now open

Employers can now claim for wages through this scheme - claims can be made for 80% of your employee's wages, plus any employer National Insurance and pension contributions, if you have put them on furlough because of coronavirus (COVID-19). To make a claim please click [here](#). There is also a step by step guide for employers which can be accessed [here](#)



Social Tech North East #TechLunchTuesday

Join VONNE and Consult and Design for Tech Lunch Tuesday – a virtual drop in session for the digital technology and voluntary, community and social enterprise communities to come together and chat. The session will give you the chance to share your current experiences, ask questions to the rest of the community and find out where you can get support. For upcoming dates and to book click [here](#)



Guidance for consumers on coronavirus and food

The Food Standards Agency have recently issued guidance on what consumers need to know about coronavirus and food including advice on food hygiene. You can read the guidance [here](#)

News Highlights from across the sector

- National VH Survey extended to 30th April - read [more](#)
- Latest updates for voluntary and community organisations from NCVO on coronavirus - read [more](#)
- Charity Commission information and advice for charities about coronavirus (COVID-19) related fraud and cyber crime - read [more](#)

Contact Us

Email info@durhamcommunityaction.org.uk



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