

## An Introduction and an Invite

Having joined the Community Foundation as Chief Philanthropy Officer just a few months ago, I am delighted to welcome you to the latest edition of our quarterly newsletter for professional advisors and supporters.

Collaboration with professional advisors and supporters is essential to our work of connecting generous people with local, good causes. Many of the charitable funds managed by our team were established following introductions made by professional advisors and supporters, and their collective impact on communities across the region is hugely significant. Our donors and fund-holders are directly supporting youth, mental health programmes, employability, the arts, homelessness, the environment, and much more. And yet, with local charities seeing a surge in demand for their services, particularly during the cost-of-living crisis, there is so much more we can do.

A top priority for our team is to find new and effective ways to partner with professional advisor firms and regional businesses more generally. We have a strong history of supporting businesses to give back to the community, not only financially but through gifts of time and expertise. As we aim to do more, I'd like to invite you to talk to us about your company's goals when it comes to community impact. Is there a particular cause or issue your company would like to help address? Would your team like support with charitable giving? Are leaders within your business looking for new ways to share their skills and expertise? How can we serve as a strategic partner for your business? Our door at Philanthropy House, in Gosforth, is always open and we'd be more than happy to visit your business.

Please feel free to contact me directly:

John Hollingsworth

Chief Philanthropy Officer and deputy CEO

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Meanwhile, in this newsletter, we also want to bring you:

An **Insight** into how we can help unlock money sat in dormant charitable trusts for the benefit of our local communities. The Berwick upon Tweed Nursing Amenities Fund had sat dormant for many years due to outdated objects and the trustees passing away before succession arrangements could be made. Through the [Revitalising Trusts Programme](#) run in conjunction with the Charity Commission and our umbrella body UK Community Foundations, we were able to work with the administrator to wind up the trust and add the released assets to our Northern Angel Fund for Berwick to boost the grant-making for the benefit of the people of Berwick. Please do share with anyone you know who is a trustee of a trust that could benefit from knowing about the Revitalising programme.

A **Reminder** that as we approach the end of the tax year charitable donations can be beneficial to an individual's tax planning, with income tax relief for higher rate tax payers and capital gains tax relief on gifts of assets including shares, property or land. Further details can be found [here](#).

An **Update** on our Cost of Living Fund where we allocated the first £152,000 from the Fund in December in unrestricted grants of between £3,000 and £6,000 to 33 organisations. We are still fundraising for this fund and will make a further round of grants in the coming months. You can read more about the fund [here](#).

For more information or to discuss any of the above please contact Lisa on 0191 222 0945 or email [lc@communityfoundation.org.uk](mailto:lc@communityfoundation.org.uk)

Best wishes  
Lisa & John