

Gateshead Fund (Capacity Building Fund) Advisory Group

16th February 2017

Item 3: Research Project update: Report from Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland

1. Purpose of Report

To outline the progress of the research project designed to grow and develop the Gateshead Fund.

2. Summary

As per the activity timeline presented at the last meeting we have focused on researching public sector opportunities and initial conversations about business and individual engagement.

3. Activity to date

3.1 Public sector opportunities

The first stage was to meet Gateshead Council to suggest some areas we could jointly look at as well as identify any opportunities they felt were worth pursuing.

The first three opportunities identified were linked to activities overseen by Gateshead Council.

Council held/managed trusts

We are aware that a number of local authorities own or manage trusts that are either dormant or perhaps not running as effectively as they could be. Combining them with the Gateshead Fund could unlock those funds making them work better for groups in Gateshead. Following investigation by council officers it was confirmed that there were none and so we will not pursue this further unless new information comes to light.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

We met with council representatives to discuss the opportunity to support the Gateshead Fund via the Community Infrastructure Levy. We discussed two options that officers could include in their thinking and proposals for the CIL to cabinet. The first was a standard grant programme aligned to The Gateshead Fund but with slightly different criteria as CIL funds are geographically limited to wards linked to CIL activities. The second was the suggestion to investigate the opportunity to invest the proceeds in an endowment fund to create a long-term grant programme. These options alongside others were to be discussed by the council in January 2017. This could mean substantial funds would be available. If any opportunity arises we will pursue it in the next stage of the research.

Community Led Local Development Funds (CLLD)

We were introduced to Steve Reay who is working on CLLD at Gateshead Council. The CLLD has a very specific focus on organisations supporting business and addressing long-term unemployment. Whilst there may be an opportunity for CLLD to support organisations that have gone through The Gateshead Fund it is clear that CLLD will not be able to provide financial support to the fund directly. Organisations require 50% match funding to access CLLD funds and grants from The Gateshead Fund may help fulfil this criteria. The benefit to The Gateshead Fund would be in the additional money groups may be able to leverage rather than growing the fund itself. It is an interesting opportunity but more an opportunity to signpost grantees from the fund.

In addition two other public sector partners have been identified and contacted to date.

NewcastleGateshead CCG

At the time of writing we have been unable to finalise a meeting with the Chair of NewcastleGateshead CCG. While trying to set up the meeting we had some informal conversations with individuals linked to the CCG who felt it was unlikely the CCG would be able to support the fund. However we will continue to pursue a formal conversation to confirm this as well as look for other ways to engage the CCG.

University of Northumbria

A very early conversation with University of Northumbria focussed on specific opportunities that may be of interest to them including student support for groups in Gateshead and links to a project between Gateshead Council, Gateshead College and the University. These do not look like direct financial support for the fund but will be followed up in the next stage of the research.

Research into other public sector opportunities will continue.

3.2 Business engagement

The first stage was to speak to Gateshead Council to better understand the business sector in the borough and attempt to identify the potential for support but also future opportunities via inward investment. It was quickly identified that there was no identified future inward investment opportunities and so we focussed on current opportunities. The conversation identified two core areas we could focus on, manufacturing and engineering businesses and a more generic group of the largest employers.

Manufacturing and engineering businesses are some of the biggest and longest established businesses in the borough and include; Akzo Nobel, Union Electric Steel, Komatsu as well as Kavli. Akzo Nobel already has a fund at the Community Foundation and we have spoken to some of the others in the past.

The largest employers include a range of retailers, mainly in the Metro Centre, WorldPay and Teleperformance. Whilst big employers it was recognised that most are headquartered outside the region and so may be difficult to engage.

We will pursue these conversations subject to the outcome of the bondholder network idea outlined next.

Officers shared with us initial ideas to create a Gateshead Bondholder Network along the lines of ones already established in Peterborough, Wakefield, Derby and Hull. The idea is still in the early discussion stages but could provide an opportunity or threat to engage businesses in support of The Gateshead Fund. We agreed that as we all wanted it to be the former we would hold off contacting any businesses for a few weeks while the idea was developed internally at the council. If it was then approved we will work with the Council to identify ways to involve the Gateshead Fund in the development of the network. This will be in the early part of the next stage of the research and so shouldn't delay any activities too much but as the plan develops we may need to adapt our approach to businesses and the Gateshead Fund. This could be an excellent opportunity to engage businesses directly in the fund as part of the network or to use the network as a platform.

3.3 Individual engagement

We did not set any specific activities until after this reporting period other than looking at the appetite for payroll giving through public sector bodies. This has been slightly delayed.

Via our work with Newcastle city Council we are pursuing a Crowdfunding campaign and will be able to bring our learning from this into our thinking earlier than expected.

3.4 Other Community Foundation funds to Gateshead groups

As outlined in our initial proposal, one of the advantages of working with the Community Foundation is groups who apply to The Gateshead fund but are unsuccessful may be taken to other funds at the Community Foundation for support. From the first round, seven applications were referred to other funds of which one has received a grant and six are awaiting decisions. (See Table below).

One group, Brundibar missed the deadline to the main fund. Following a discussion with council officers they were encouraged to put in an application to our Give2Gateshead Fund for which they were successful and allowed them to deliver their Holocaust Memorial Day project.

Applicant	Project	Action	Outcome
1 st Ryton Scout Group	Group capacity development	Referred to 1 fund	Pending decision
3 rd Gateshead Boy's Brigade	3 rd Gateshead Company Boy's Brigade	Referred to 2 funds	Pending decision
AFRIMEAD	Preventing alcohol abuse, crime, disorderliness and antisocial behaviours	Referred to 1 fund	Pending decision
Age UK Gateshead	Move to improve	No further action	Rejected
Dynamix Extreme Ltd	Dynamic Impact	No further action	Rejected
Experts by Experience	Camerados multiple and complex needs cafe	No further action	Rejected
Fighting All Cancers Together	Gateshead Healthy Lives	No further action	Rejected
Gateshead Redheugh 1957	Developing new coaches through coaching awards	Referred to 2 funds	Pending decision
Gateshead Sea Cadets (TS Flamingo)	Development of our service offering to Cadets	Referred to 1 fund	Awarded £600
GWK Woodshed CIC	Improving men's health	No further action	Rejected
Little Theatre Gateshead Ltd	New rehearsal space at Little Theatre Gateshead	No further action	Rejected
Peer Support North East CIC	Peer support for all	No further action	Rejected
Samaritans of Tyneside	Samaritans working in the Geordie community	Referred to 1 fund	Pending decision
Samosa Sisters	Gateshead BME Women's Empowerment Project	No further action	Rejected
Tyne & Wear Anti-Fascist Association	Organisational capacity development	No further action	Rejected
Washingwell FUNdraisers	Reading rooms at Washingwell	Referred to 1 fund	Pending decision
Workplace Gallery	Workplace Foundation Gallery Manager	No further action	Rejected

4. Activity and timeline summary

Sector	Partner	Planned Activity and Outcome	Timeline	Activity update
Public	Gateshead Council	Determine potential public sector partners, potential dormant trusts, existing charitable promotions and opportunities arising from levies. Develop marketing pitch before approaching partners.	Activity - Nov-Dec 16 Reporting - Jan 2017 Also update activity plan	Met and discussed potentials with David Andrew. Meetings with Gateshead departments on Community Infrastructure Levy, Community Led local Development opportunities and Business Development. All present opportunities and need further development.
Public	Public Sector Organisations	Meet and market engagement opportunities. Collate list of potential supporters and their interests and those unwilling support and reasons why. Develop initial products and partnerships	Activity - Dec 16-Jan 17 Reporting - Jan 2017 Also update activity plan	Despite repeated attempts to set up a meeting with the Chair of NewcastleGateshead CCG it has not yet happened. Will keep trying but means timeline will run later than anticipated.
Business	Gateshead Council	Determine potential business supporters and networks including attending Economic, Housing and Growth business breakfasts to approach at next stage.	Activity – Nov-Dec 16 Reporting – Jan 2017 Also update activity plan	Meeting held and top companies identified. Also discussed GMBC plans to engage business through a bondholder Network.
Business	Identified Businesses	Meet and market engagement opportunities. Collate list of potential supporters and their interests and those unwilling support and reasons why. Develop products for support.	Activity – Jan-May 2017 Reporting – June/July 2017 Also update activity plan	To be planned in line with above discussions.

Sector	Partner	Planned Activity and Outcome	Timeline	Activity update
Individual (stage 1)	Gateshead Council and public sector partners	Identify appetite for support promoting fund and implementing payroll giving	Activity - Dec 16-Jan 17 Reporting - Jan 2017	Delayed to early 2017.
Individual (stage 1)	Gateshead Council and Community Foundation donors	Identify High Net Worth Individuals	Activity – Jan-May 17 Reporting – June/July 2017	Ongoing
Individuals (Stage 2)	Community Foundation donors	Identify donors willing to support our own Give 2 Gateshead Endowment if they will not support the Gateshead Fund	Activity – On-going Reporting - On-going	Ongoing
Individuals (Stage 2)	Gateshead Council and other partners	Identify potential partners in donation and crowdfunding platform	Activity – On-going Reporting – Jul-Sept 2017	We are currently working with Crowdfunder UK on a project with Newcastle City Council. This will provide useful insight into this area.
Individuals (Stage 2)	Donation platform partner	Identify partner and develop opportunity	Autumn 2017	Subject to above
Individuals (Stage 2)	Crowdfunding partner	Identify partner and develop opportunity	Autumn 2017	Subject to above

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