### Research Brief

# The Guide to New Trusts – an introduction

The annual *Guide to New Trusts* tracks new grant-makers established each year, and offers their details in a clear, easy-to-understand format. The guide saves fundraisers time and resources by including more than 100 new funders, whose giving criteria are broad enough to be relevant to the greatest number of charities, and in this edition, registered with the Charity Commission or the Scottish Charity Regulator in 2017/18.

The guide provides fundraisers with details of each new grant-maker, their aims and objectives, the kinds of projects they fund and their application processes where available. In this seventh edition, several corporate charities have been included as well as information on grant-makers established by individuals, families and even a number of famous faces.



# Methodology

- DSC's researchers undertook systematic searches of the Charity Commission for England and Wales (the Commission) and the Office of the Scottish Regulator's (OSCR) database to collate data on grant-makers registered between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2018.
- Further data on grant-making charities was acquired by exhausting various sources such as: the charity's website; social media accounts; Companies House; and via email requests for further information.
- Charities' websites and social media accounts allowed us to determine their relevance to our readers. We were often able to tell, for example: if the broader practices listed at the time of registration with the Commission or OSCR had since become more refined; if funders were actively making grants in support of charities; if an application process or specific eligibility criteria was already in place; and, more generally, how well-established the charity was.
- The final data set included over 100 charities which were carefully selected to be listed in the guide based on their relevance to our readers.

# Key findings

## Geographical locations of grant-makers' head offices

- The majority of the funders included operate predominantly in Great Britain.
- Figure 1 shows the location of each grant-maker's head office, the majority of which are situated in London and the South East. This does not denote those charities' areas of benefit.
- 50% of the funders included give to charities in England and 35% give to both England and Wales.

#### **Causes supported**

- Of the grant-makers included in this guide, 93% are described as having 'general charitable purposes'.
- Attention was given to other popular charitable causes, such as education, health and social welfare.
- A small number of grant-makers listed in this guide focus on more specific purposes, such as animal welfare, music, and lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and transgender (LGBT) people's rights.
- This edition saw a rise in grant-makers supporting social welfare, with an increase of 18% in the number of grant-makers supporting people with disabilities, and a 28% rise in funders supporting older people (when compared to the previous edition).



Figure 1

#### Grant-making charities in this guide

- 36% of the grant-makers we have included in this guide are registered with the Commission or OSCR as Charitable Incorporated Organisations (CIOs).
- Of the 94% of charities that listed their trustees, 57% are men and 43% are women.
- 7% of the grant-makers listed in this guide have a social media account.

#### New to this edition

New to this edition are two indexes which will make the guide easier to use for our readers. The grant-makers are first indexed by the causes they support and then by their geographical area of benefit. These new resources will make the process of finding grant-makers more efficient for our readers.

Another new resource to this edition is the inclusion of funders' social media accounts, as these can be a valuable source of up-to-date information for fundraisers.

'The Guide to New Trusts was indispensable to our trust fundraising programme. It's been an excellent resource for finding new trusts by quickly assessing whether or not we match their criteria.'

Adele Kaupaityte, Trusts Fundraising Officer, The Honeypot Children's Charity

# Conclusions

In previous editions – and in line with DSC's calls for funders to be more transparent – we have stressed the value of online resources. When funders do provide the correct information, ineligible applications can be reduced. In such a way, valuable time and resources can be saved by both the applicant and the grant-maker.

The number of grant-makers in this edition supporting vulnerable groups (such as older people and those with disabilities), could indicate how the charity sector works to plug gaps left by government funding cuts. Local authorities are being forced to limit spending on much needed services as austerity measures continue to affect sectors across the UK. There is also a great deal of uncertainty around how Brexit may affect future funding. However, the grant-makers included in this guide show how the spirit of philanthropy continues to support charities in meeting the vital needs of others.

# About the authors

#### **Mairéad Bailie**



Mairéad joined DSC in June 2017 and contributed to *The Directory of Grant Making Trusts 2018/19*, as well as co-authoring *The Guide to New Trusts 2018/19*. She also works on policy issues and campaigns. Prior to joining DSC, Mairéad volunteered with various charities in Belfast before moving to Liverpool to complete her degree.

Mairéad is eager to make positive social change through her commitment to the voluntary sector and as a student intern with the Community Foundation Merseyside, where she contributed to their 'VitalSigns' report. Mairéad holds a BA (Hons) in Sociology and Criminology from Liverpool John Moores University.

#### **Judith Turner**



Judith joined DSC in January 2017 as a researcher. She was the co-author of the previous edition of *The Guide to New Trusts* and the lead author of *The Guide to Individuals in Need 2018/19.* She also contributes to DSC's other funding guides and fundraising websites. She works on policy issues and campaigns, particularly the Big Lottery Refund campaign.

Prior to joining DSC, Judith worked and volunteered in the charity and arts sector for over ten years. She holds a MA in Sociology from the University of Manchester and her dissertation examined how cuts to funding has affected the arts sector and artist employment in Liverpool.

#### **About DSC**

The Directory of Social Change (DSC) has a vision of an independent voluntary sector at the heart of social change.

We help independent charities, voluntary organisations and community groups to achieve their goals by:

- Providing practical tools that organisations and activists need, including publications, training courses, conferences and research
- Acting as a 'concerned citizen' in public policy debates, leading campaigns and stimulating debate on key policy issues
- Carrying out research and providing information to influence policymakers

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#### www.dsc.org.uk/research

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