

2025/26

THE GUIDE TO

NEW TRUSTS

14th edition

Jessica Threlfall



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Foreword

1973 – the year the UK joined the European Economic Community, a fuel crisis led to a three-day working week and the Old Bailey was bombed. Over 50 years ago now, and a very different era, but it was also the year the Zurich Community Trust (ZCT) was created.

ZCT was the brainchild of Baron Joel Joffe CBE, who set up Hambro Life Assurance alongside Sir Mark Weinberg. He wanted to give back to the community by making an annual donation of business profits. Since then, ZCT has worked with a huge range of charities, of all shapes and sizes, across the UK and overseas, and has donated over £100 million in addition to hundreds of thousands of volunteering hours.

While we may consider ourselves to be well established and, indeed, one of the oldest corporate foundations in the UK, there are those grant-makers, such as The Henry Smith Charity (at nearly 400 years old) and City Bridge Foundation (at over 900 years old), that, by comparison, make us look distinctly like new kids on the block! But time has benefitted all of us as grant-makers – for each new grant awarded, we all learn something new about ourselves and about our beneficiaries, and each new precedent helps our

policy-making evolve. As the external environment changes, we also all seek to adapt and change with it, to find new ways best to serve the communities we work with. Through the accretive process of time, strategic plans, grant-making policies and relationships with communities gradually mature.

So what must it be like without a past to help steer your future? For newly founded grant-making charities such as those in this guide, that is their challenge. From a standing start, how do you establish a functioning organisation? How do you decide who to give to, what criteria to apply and how to reach the communities you want to help? Resources such as *The Guide to New Trusts 2025/26* play their part brilliantly. By summarising the aims, characteristics and contact details of new grant-makers, this guide gives charities the information they need to reach out to funders that are still deciding on their approach to grant-making and may be looking to define their criteria and policies further. I warmly commend this guide to its readers.

Sarah Covington, National Partnerships and Development Manager, Zurich Community Trust

Introduction

Welcome to the 14th edition of *The Guide to New Trusts*. In this book you will find over 100 new grant-making charities which were registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales (CCEW), the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) or the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (CCNI) between April 2024 and March 2025. None of the charities featured in this edition have previously appeared in any of the funding guides published by the Directory of Social Change (DSC).

In order to make this guide as relevant as possible for readers, our research focused on grant-makers with broad charitable purposes that operate across a wide geographical area. Consequently, many of the funders in this guide operate predominantly UK-wide or across large areas of the UK, and are described as having ‘general charitable purposes’. As shown in figure 1, attention was also given to broad charitable causes such as education, health and social welfare, although the guide also includes several grant-makers with more specific purposes, such as social inclusion, the arts, recreation and the environment. We have included these grant-makers because, although they concentrate on particular issues, they could, in principle, benefit a sufficient proportion of the public.

Since the last edition of *The Guide to New Trusts*, the charity sector and the country as a whole have been grappling with a period of change and uncertainty. The arrival of a new government, civil unrest across the UK and a difficult economic climate have further complicated an already challenging landscape for charities to navigate.

Charities continue to face a rise in demand for services. In research by the Charities Aid Foundation, 86% of charities reported that demand for their services had risen over the previous 12 months and 50% of charities noted increased competition for funding.¹ Together with the 6.7% rise in the national living wage,² as well as changes to employers’ National Insurance contributions which will see the average employer facing an extra £26,000 in annual costs,³ charities continue to experience increasing pressure.

However, despite these difficulties, there is cause for optimism. In October 2024, the new Labour government announced the creation of Civil Society Covenant,⁴ an agreement that offers the chance for civil society to improve its relationship with the government and aims to support collaboration between the two. It is also reassuring to find that, despite the current financial challenges, a

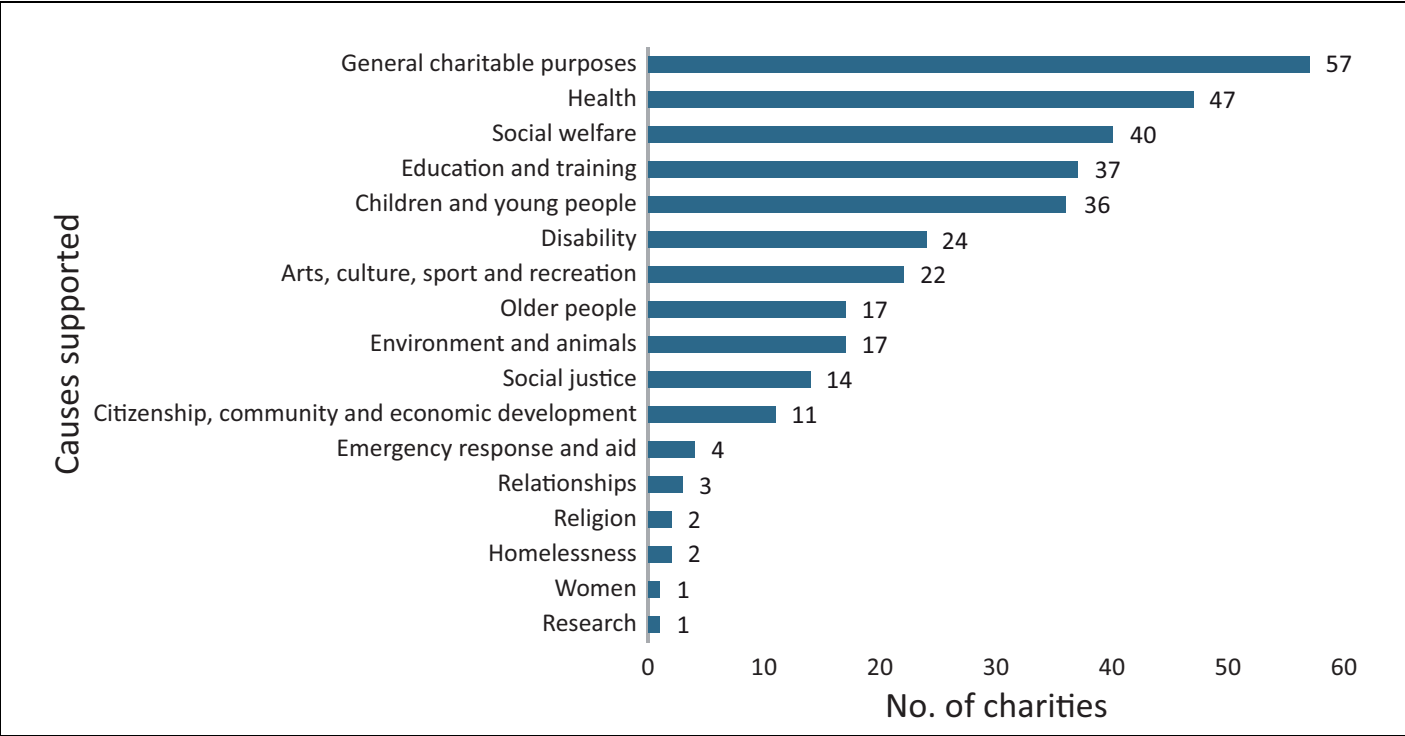


Figure 1: The causes supported by the funders in this guide. Note that many of these charities will consider supporting more than one cause.

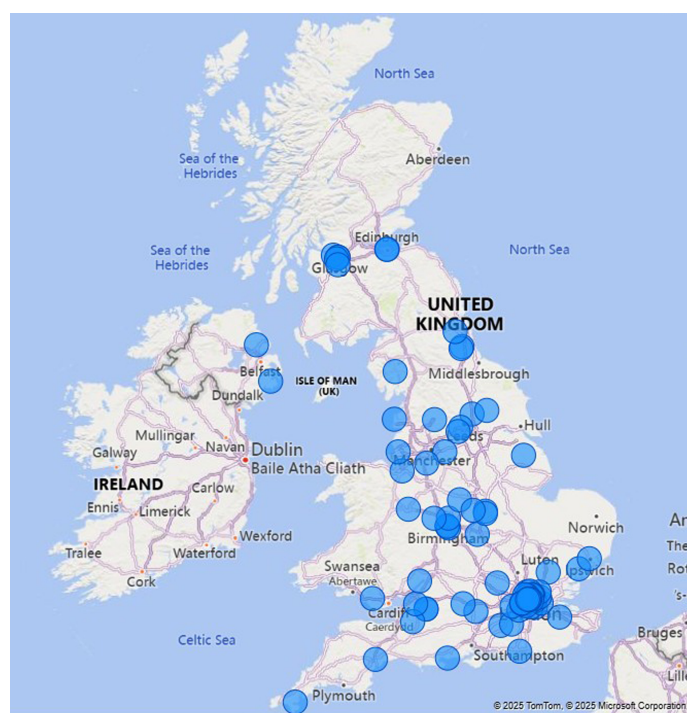


Figure 2: The locations of the head offices of charities featured in this guide.

significant number of grant-makers were registered within the past year, ready to provide much-needed support to vital charitable causes across the UK. This highlights the resilience and commitment from individuals, families and companies to support their communities, even during difficult times.

In previous editions – and in line with DSC’s calls for funders to be more transparent – we have stressed the value of online resources, as many grant-makers (for various reasons) do not make information on their grant-making practices easily accessible. For newly registered charities in particular, there is often a lack of detailed information available. During our research, the online registers of CCEW, OSCR and CCNI were helpful in providing a platform from which we were able to launch deeper investigations elsewhere; however, we often found that this was, in fact, the final and only source of information.

Where grant-makers did have a website or social media, this usually allowed us to determine their relevance to our readers. We were often able to tell if the broader objectives listed by funders at the time of registration with CCEW, OSCR or CCNI had since become more refined; if funders were actively making grants in support of charities; if an application process or specific eligibility criteria were already in place; and, more generally, how established the charity was.

And so, the need for greater transparency in the grant-making sector continues. We would encourage new funders to use social media, alongside a clear and informative website, as a means to provide extra details, such as intended focus areas and eligibility criteria. When funders do provide the correct information, ineligible applications can be reduced, saving valuable resources for both the applicant and the grant-maker. Where available, we have included the website address and social media details of the

grant-makers listed in this guide, as an extra source of up-to-date information for fundraisers.

The grant-making charities in this book

The grant-makers featured in the 14th edition of this guide have been established by a wide range of individuals, families and companies. Founders include famous footballers, TV personalities, a media executive, a motorcycle group, a famous actor and many others.

In order for the guide to be relevant to as many readers as possible, the grant-makers listed generally have broad charitable purposes and operate across a large geographical area. Figure 1 shows the range of causes supported by the grant-makers in this guide. As expected, general charitable purposes is the most commonly funded area, followed by health and then social welfare. This mirrors the same order as in the previous edition.

The funders in this guide operate predominantly UK-wide or across large areas of the UK, such as England, Scotland and Wales. However, as figure 2 shows, many of these charities’ head offices are based in southern England, particularly in London, regardless of their area of benefit. Having said that, we can see that the geographical distribution of newly registered charities is continuing to become more even.

Of the grant-makers included in this guide, 7.5% are registered with OSCR (compared with 10% in the previous edition), and only 3% are registered with CCNI (compared with 4% in the previous edition). This is because most of the charities registered with OSCR and CCNI that we identified during our research focus on fairly specific causes or areas of benefit, so we have deemed them to not be relevant to most readers of this guide. We hope to feature more Scottish and Northern Irish charities in future.


The trend for companies establishing a grant-making charity, to embody their corporate social responsibility values, continues in this guide, with at least 15% of the listed funders having been set up by companies. For example, this edition features Collective Futures, the corporate charity of TDR Capital LLP, a private investment firm headquartered in London. The charity was established by the firm as a way to use its resources to support positive change. Its initial focus is on child development in the UK, and it chooses to fund in ways that add to existing work in that sector. It should be noted that, although they have the potential to give more widely, many of the corporate charities listed in this edition may give priority to causes and organisations in the areas in which the companies’ offices and operations are located.

Poignantly, a number of charities have been formed in memory of friends or family members to support charitable causes based on the interests and values of that individual, and as a way to continue their legacy. One such example is the Kevin Campbell Foundation, which was established in memory of the well-loved English footballer who died in 2024. The foundation aims to continue Kevin’s passion for supporting good causes by funding projects that advance the lives of children and young people.

Grant-makers in alphabetical order

The 1809 Charitable Trust


 General charitable purposes

 England and Wales

CC number: 1209760

Trustee: Ludlow Trust Company Ltd.

Correspondent: The Trustees, Ludlow Trust Company Ltd, First Floor, Tower Wharf, Cheese Lane, Bristol BS2 0JJ (tel: 0117 313 8200; email: charitabletrusts@ludlowtrust.com)

 <https://funding.ludlowtrust.com>

General information

This trust was registered with the Charity Commission in August 2024. Its corporate trustee, Ludlow Trust Company Ltd, is a wealth management company that oversees multiple charities across the UK. It has offices in London and Bristol. According to its Charity Commission record, the trust will make grants to organisations for general charitable purposes.

Applications


Applications can be made via the Funding Enquiry Gateway on Ludlow Trust Company's website. Applications submitted via the gateway will be matched to any relevant grant-makers managed by Ludlow Trust Company based on their specific objectives.

Sources of information

Charity Commission record.

The Ashbrook Foundation

 General charitable purposes

 UK, with a preference for north London

CC number: 1211172

Trustee: Andrew Kirkham.

Correspondent: Andrew Kirkham, Chair of Trustees, 77 Westbury Road, London N12 7PB (tel: 07879 426729; email: pkirkham2014@gmail.com)

General information

This foundation was registered with the Charity Commission in November 2024. According to its Charity Commission record, it will make grants for general charitable purposes, to registered charities working to support communities in the UK, with a preference for those working in north London.


Applications


Contact the foundation for more information.

Sources of information

Charity Commission record.

The Harry and Janice Banks Foundation

 The relief of poverty, arts and heritage, social welfare, citizenship and community development, disability, amateur sport and the environment

 England, in particular the north of England, with priority possibly given to organisations in County Durham

CC number: 1212225

Trustees: Harry Banks; Lucy Hinds; Helen Keating; Janice Banks.

Correspondent: Nicola Hunter, Inkerman House, St Johns Road, Meadowfield, Durham, County Durham DH7 8XL (tel: 0191 378 6100; email: nicola.hunter@banksgroup.co.uk)

General information

This foundation was registered with the Charity Commission in February 2025. According to its Charity Commission record, the foundation will make grants to charities and organisations that work in the following areas:

- ▶ The relief of poverty
- ▶ The relief of those in need due to age, ill health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage
- ▶ Amateur sports, in particular where it promotes health
- ▶ Arts and heritage
- ▶ Citizenship and community development
- ▶ The environment

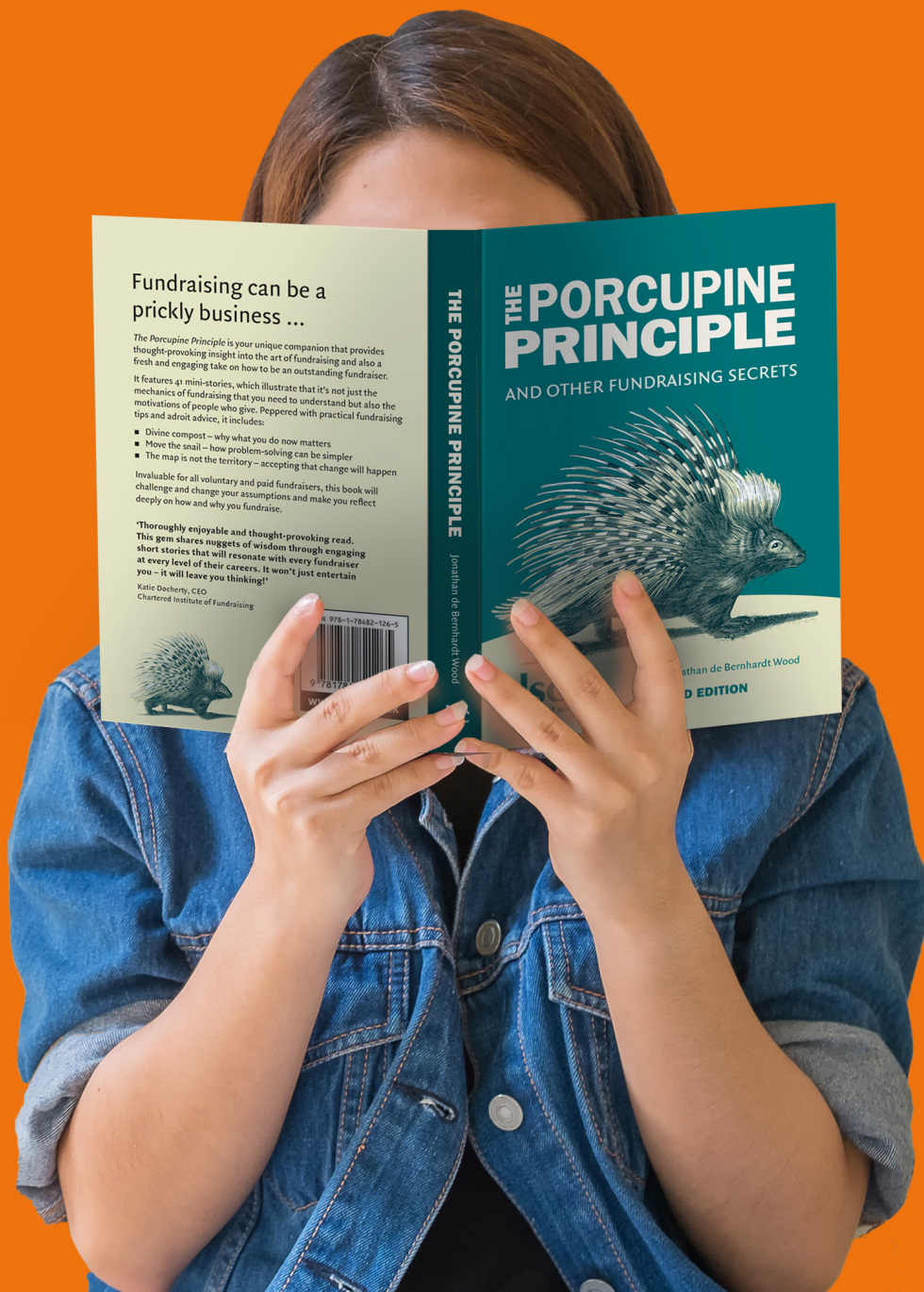
The foundation's chair, Harry Banks, is a co-founder and chair of The Banks Group Ltd, a property development and renewable energy company based in the north of England. Fellow trustee Lucy Hinds holds the role of executive assistant at the group.

The Banks Group Ltd has a history of charitable giving through its community fund, which was established by Harry Banks in the 1970s. According to Banks Group Ltd's website, Banks agreed that 'if every pub in Tow Law had a collecting tin on the bar for local community causes, he would donate a pound to match every pound that was put into it'. The fund has since supported various organisations with recent examples including Beamish Museum, Brandon Boxing Club, the Poverty Hurts Appeal and Wheels2Work.

Applications

Contact the foundation for more information.

Nothing beats a good book



www.dsc.org.uk/publications

THE GUIDE TO NEW TRUSTS

Finding new grant-makers is a time-consuming and intricate business. *The Guide to New Trusts* takes the legwork out of the process to help you beat a short path to new funders who might support your cause.

The grant-makers in this guide, all registered in 2024/25, were chosen for their wide geographical area of operation and the breadth of their areas of interest, making them relevant to a large number of charities.

At a glance, you can find essential, up-to-date information on:

- Grant-makers' aims and objectives
- The causes or types of project they do and do not fund
- Contact details, policies and application guidelines
- Any available social media accounts

This new edition offers a diverse range of opportunities, with grant-making charities established by individuals, families and companies. The list of founders and trustees includes footballers, TV personalities, a motorcycle group and a famous actor.

As the UK's leading guide to the latest grant-making charities, this is a vital resource for anyone seeking potential new funding for their organisation.

'The Guide to New Trusts contains a mine of information about 100 plus new grant-making charities. It is very clearly presented and a great time-saving resource to help fundraisers keep up to date with the latest charitable funders.'

Rosie Wilkinson, Development Officer, Salisbury Cathedral

'In an environment of continued competition for limited funding, *The Guide to New Trusts* is an invaluable tool for identifying potential new grant-making charities. It has helped us find new funders that often don't appear on traditional funding databases, might not have their own websites and are not yet required to submit annual reports to the Charity Commission. It has helped us filter out grant-makers whose priorities are not aligned with our area of work and, more importantly, to connect with those promising new funders that are.'

Mike Ward, Head of Statutory, Trusts and Foundations, The Felix Project