

Appendix 5

17th October 2017

To all community bodies in Northumberland

Dear Colleague



Community Action Northumberland

Supporting Community Action Northumberland (CAN)

Over many years, we have greatly appreciated the support that many local community groups have given us. Although we currently receive grants from DEFRA and charitable sources, support from local community bodies (including councils) is vital in enabling us to continue the work we do, providing advice and support to organisations and communities across Northumberland and acting as a critical 'rural voice.'

You may be aware of the activities and services we offer, from reading our regular newsletters (CAN News and CAN e-News), reading our annual report, attending one of our meetings or discussing issues with our staff and trustees. This includes specialist advice to a wide range of community groups, on such matters as building projects, grant aid, community-led plans and consultations, project development and planning, constitutions, insurance, the law, regulations etc. We provide bespoke advice and training to village hall/community building committees, on matters such as governance, funding, licensing matters, insurance, food hygiene, health and safety and more. We also assist charitable trusts to channel their grants to unconstituted or unregistered community projects. In addition, we are currently running a range of specific projects such as our award winning 'Warm Hubs' project, Rural Employment Hubs and energy related services. Our work complements the services of the Northumberland Association of Local Councils, the community buildings consortia and other networks, with whom we have a close and very productive working relationship.

CAN has responded to the ever changing financial and political environment by comprehensively reviewing our services and activities as well as diversifying our range of income sources. This enables us to continue to provide a modest level of free service whilst achieving full cost recovery on more detailed work.

A donation from you will help us to continue to work with and on behalf of your community and others in the county. Donations are a critical element of our annual funding package and enable us to clearly demonstrate the commitment of local communities to our work which also then helps to generate additional funds. Donations traditionally vary according to each organisation but tend to range between £20 and £200.

We do hope you are able to consider a small donation to CAN to enable us to continue to serve Northumberland's communities. If you would like to discuss this further or would like any additional information please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Dean
Chief Executive

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