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**ROUNDTABLE SUMMARY**

**14 NOVEMBER 2019**

**THACKRAY MEDICAL MUSEUM**

Carla Marshall (Chair & Co-ordinator) Sir George Martin Trust

Funders & funding advisors in attendance:

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| Allen Lane Foundation | Tim Cutts |
| Charity Bank | Jeremy Ince |
| Community Foundation Wakefield District | Murray Edwards |
| Community Foundation Wakefield District | Jon Ingham |
| Forum | Jane Thompson |
| Futurekraft | Lisa Normington |
| Futurekraft | Emily Huggett |
| HEY Smile | Nick Middleton |
| Hillards Trust | Chris Hindle |
| Hull CVS | Helen Grimwood |
| Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust | Richard Sorton |
| Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust | Helen Robinson |
| Kirklees Council | Jo Bolland |
| Leeds City Council | Jennifer Rhodes |
| Leeds Community Foundation | Katherine Greathead |
| National Lottery Community Fund | Jenny Whitemore |
| National Lottery Community Fund | Jenny Dobson |
| National Lottery Heritage Fund | Helen Peacock |
| NOVA Wakefield | Stephen Robinson |
| Postlethwaite Music Foundation | Mike Holmes |
| Postlethwaite Music Foundation | Ruth Holmes |
| School for Social Entrepreneurs | Francis Wight |
| Sheffield Church Burgesses Trust | Ian Potter |
| Sheffield Church Burgesses Trust | David Quinney |
| SHINE | Eleanor Heathcote |
| SHINE | Leanne Marquis |
| Sir George Martin Trust | Carla Marshall |
| Sir George Martin Trust | David Coates |
| Sir George Martin Trust | Roger Marshall |
| Sir George Martin Trust | Martin Bethel |
| Sirius Minerals Foundation | Leah Swain |
| York Museums Trust | Liz Denton |

Apologies: Jan Garrill, Two Ridings Community Foundation

Karen Walke, South Yorkshire Community Foundation

Bianca King-Smith, South Yorkshire Funding Advice Bureau (SYFAB)

1. **CM welcomed everyone and each funder/funding advisor introduced themselves.**
2. **CM reminded attendees of the steps that had been taken to integrate the Yorkshire Grant Makers Forum and Yorkshire & Humber Funders Forum** and made sure that everyone is clear there is now one Forum – the Yorkshire Funders Forum.
3. **News & updates** – the following organisations gave an overview of what they do and why it’s important funders know about their work.

*Eleanor Heathcote and Leanne Marquis, SHINE (Support & Help In Education)*

* **Aim to** raise the attainment of children from low income homes across the Northern Powerhouse and help children to achieve the best possible qualifications so they can leave school with real choices for their future lives.
* SHINE was first established in 1999 by a group of committed philanthropists who wanted to improve the attainment of children from low income homes. Since then, they have invested over £27m in projects benefiting almost a million children from 15,000 schools.
* For the first 18 years, SHINE focused the majority of its funding and support in areas of high deprivation in London. At this time, just 22% of children from disadvantaged backgrounds in London were achieving the results they needed to access further education or high-quality employment. Today, the capital boasts better results than any other English region, and the proportion of children achieving good qualifications at school has doubled. More than this, there are now a plethora of other organisations who have been set up precisely to build upon and sustain the educational future of London school children.
* Unfortunately, these same successes have not been felt in all other parts of England. The Northern Powerhouse region overall is lagging behind London in terms of its educational results, and this is a key factor holding back the economic and social prosperity of the region.
* Faced with this stark and growing regional inequality, in 2017 SHINE took a bold decision, to leave London and refocus on the North. They are both pro-active and re-active funders and Hull is currently a ‘black spot’.

*Jo Crebbin, The Cranfield Trust*

* Cranfield Trust is a national charity taking practical action to support the development of successful voluntary sector organisations. For 30 years they have been transforming organisations by sharing business skills with charities to empower learning and improve lives. Cranfield Trust are able to offer all of their services at no cost, thanks to the generous support of funders, individual donors, corporate partners and their network of skilled volunteers.
* Jo is the Project Manager for Yorkshire and the Humber and her role is to build awareness of the charity across the region, whilst also recruiting volunteer mentors and partnering them with voluntary organisations which need support. Hull is a ‘black spot’ as well as the Yorkshire coast where they have volunteers but no groups.

*Abigail Olaleye, Winning Pitch/Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership (LEP)*

* Winning Pitch – a public sector economic development support organisation – are working with the LEP to support individuals at social enterprises and SMEs to develop their business and finance skills. <https://www.the-lep.com/for-businesses/skills-and-training/>
* This brought up questions about specifically which types of organisations are eligible for this and as Abigail has just started the job unfortunately she wasn’t able to answer this clearly, but it raised the point that VCS legal structures is a complex subject and something that should be covered at a future YFF.
* *Note: The Charity Commission are attending the next Roundtable on 5th February and we will ask them to start off by going through all the different structures.*

*Liz Denton, York Museums Trust (YMT) and Museum Development Yorkshire (MDY)*

* YMT runs a number of museums and venues in York and Museum Development Yorkshire supports museums across the region through small grants (£3K) and training. Liz manages the MDY Health and Wellbeing Museums cohort. Much of their funding comes from the Arts Council.

1. **9th October Focus on Funding event update** – Karen and Bianca couldn’t attend due to the South Yorkshire flooding but provided Carla with the key information.

* 76 funders and funding advisors attended in the morning and146 VCS groups attended the funding fair in the afternoon. This was an increase on last year’s event in Hull.
* The funders who attended said it was an excellent event and that they met a good cross section of groups from across the whole region, not just South Yorkshire where the event was held.
* The post event survey showed that 83% of VCS groups said they had more awareness of what funders are looking for in applications since attending the event; 73% felt more confident to make an application for funding and 86% said they would attend another Focus on Funding event.
* 18 funders gave financial support this year and due to the lost cost of the Hull 2018 and Barnsley 2019 events there is likely to be around £3,000 to carry over to a 2020 event.
* Jane from Forum confirmed that face-to-face opportunities for VCS groups are vital and the group agreed it was a good idea to run another Focus on Funding.

**ACTION:**

* As the event is rotated around the region each year and it is scheduled to be North Yorkshire in 2020, Leah from Community First Yorkshire confirmed that in theory they would be happy to lead on the event and will be able to confirm in the New Year.
* 2019 event team to draft full report for circulation.
* Final decision about 2020 event to be decided at 5th February Roundtable.

1. **FAWN (Funding Advice Workers Network) update**

* Jane from Forum confirmed they had recently run a very successful funding fair in Grimsby, with 120 VCS groups attending and 24 funders.
* Jenny from the National Lottery Community Fund confirmed that they were being asked to fewer funding fairs than in the past, but they are getting more out of them and the team find they are very well run.
* Jane said feedback from groups in relation to funders was often related to monitoring and reporting. It is helpful if they know what is expected of them and when, before they apply and potentially get a grant.
* Grimsby and Northern Lincolnshire is a bit of a ‘black spot’.

1. **AOB**

Carla reminded the group about the YFF meetings taking place in December and that the YFF are working with ACF to try and hold another Assessing Grant Applications training course in early 2020 as the 12th December session sold out in two weeks.

* School for Social Entrepreneurs (SSE) & YFF Funder Plus meeting – 3rd December, 1.30-3.30pm, Leeds
* IVAR (Institute of Voluntary Action Research) & YFF Aligning Reporting Principals workshop, 9th December, 2.00 – 4.00pm, Leeds
* Carla and Tim showed the group the new YFF website and asked people to email Carla if they had anything they thought would be useful to add to the Resources page [www.yorkshirefunders.org.uk](http://www.yorkshirefunders.org.uk)

1. **2019/20 meeting dates and locations**

* 5th February, YFF Roundtable 10.00am – 12.30pm at Leeds Civic Hall with ACF’s Stronger Foundation’s session 1.00 – 4.00pm
* Mid-May, YFF Spring Conference 9.30am – 4.00pm in York, venue and theme TBC