



The Tenants Fund

Money is available to tenants and residents associations in Newcastle to cover their running costs. Groups are eligible if they represent council tenants and actively address issues around housing and related topics.

Where does the money come from?

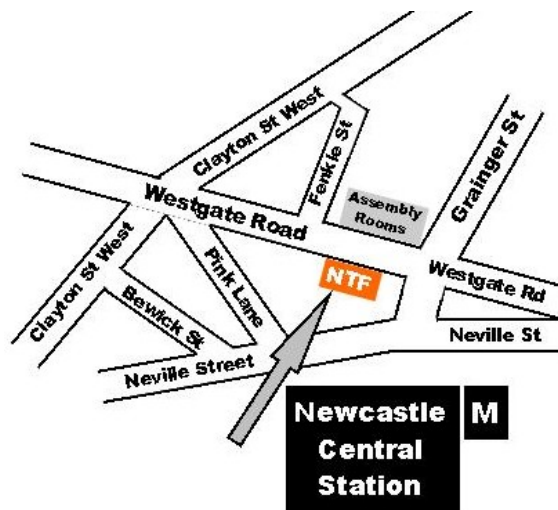
Newcastle City Council provides the grants from income they receive through your rents. The Tenants Federation administers the fund on behalf of the Council.

How much funding can groups apply for and what can it be used for?

Grants vary, **but all groups can expect a minimum of £150**. Usually the grant is used to cover costs such as room hire for meetings, crèches, refreshments, stationery, production of publicity materials, travel costs and other relevant activities. We offer book-keeping training to enable you to monitor your group's spending.

For further details of the Tenants Fund, please ring Newcastle Tenants Federation on (0191) 232 1371.

How to find us



Accessibility

Our offices at 63 Westgate Road are on the ground floor, please press our intercom to enter.

Please ring us for more details and to arrange further assistance, if needed.

Produced by

Newcastle Tenants Federation
Ground floor, 63 Westgate Road
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 1SG
Tel: (0191) 232 1371
Fax: (0191) 233 0467
info@newcastletenantsfed.org.uk
www.newcastletenantsfed.org.uk

Please ring us before you pop in so we can guarantee a member of staff will be there to help you - thank you.



Newcastle Tenants Federation

What is the Tenants Federation?

Newcastle Tenants Federation was formed in 1977 to represent tenants and residents associations throughout Newcastle upon Tyne. It is an independent voluntary organisation.

The Federation's day-to-day work is organised by an Executive Committee of volunteers from different member tenants and residents associations.

The Federation receives grant aid from Newcastle City Council to pay for its offices and currently employs 4 full-time and 1 part-time worker.

The information in this leaflet can be made available on audio tape. Interpretation into community languages can be arranged on request by ringing us on (0191) 232 1371.

What we do

The Federation's main aim is to support the setting up of representative and democratic tenants associations, developing these groups so that they can play a full part in decisions about their housing. The help we offer includes:



Support and advice to tenants associations

We can advise you on how to set up a tenants association, run your committee, keep accounts and organise meetings with the Council and Your Homes Newcastle. If there is already a group in your area, we will put you in touch with it.

If you want to negotiate improvements to your housing service we can help you to prepare your case.

We have information you can use, such as Council and Your Homes Newcastle minutes, information about tenant's activities in other cities and information on housing issues, like repairs.

We can put you in touch with other tenants associations with similar problems, so that you can swap information and experiences.

We hold regular open events for all tenants associations on particular issues of concern such as repairs, housing management, etc.

We can also help you produce publicity and information for your groups, such as posters, leaflets and newsletters.



Representing your interests as tenants

The Federation represents your interests in negotiations with the Council and Your Homes Newcastle. We put forward tenants' views on housing issues and try to influence their decisions

We also represent Newcastle tenants nationally, such as at meetings of the Tenants & Residents Organisations of England (TAROE).



Training sessions

The Federation can provide a range of training sessions to help your group run effectively. These include how to encourage involvement, the roles and responsibilities of committee members and managing finances.

All of our training is provided in an informal, straightforward way.

We can either arrange training sessions for groups in their own areas or, alternatively, we might arrange training at a more central location and invite several groups along.



Information

We produce a range of useful information for tenants associations around housing issues. These include our newsletter 'Tenants News' which is published every 2 months, regular reference papers and discussion documents.

These all contain important information about decisions and policies affecting tenants, as well as updates on the activities of different groups.



What we don't do

Unfortunately we do not have the resources to provide advice to individuals about specific housing issues.

If you do have a problem with your home, please contact your local Citizens Advice Bureau or your local Housing Office (the numbers will be in Yellow Pages), or try Shelter North East Housing Aid Centre on 0844 515 1601.