



## What is Durham Rural Community Council?

Durham Rural Community Council (DRCC) is a registered charity formed in 1935 to support the rural communities of County Durham. We offer advisory services and support to a wide range of voluntary and community groups who are working to improve the quality of life for their communities.

We have a proven track record of supporting both new and existing groups. Here are some examples of the assistance we can provide:



### Funding advice

DRCC can help groups to raise funds to deliver projects. From supporting the development of the project through to identification of the most appropriate funding sources, we can provide practical and accessible guidance from the outset. We also offer ongoing support with the establishment of management systems and capacity building for volunteers unfamiliar with grant management requirements.



## Support for Community Buildings

DRCC can offer an extensive range of information and advice for the management committees of community buildings.

Volunteers can access independent advice on complex issues including asset transfer, help with insurance, and practical advice on legal issues from our fully qualified Village Halls Adviser. Other enquiries include constitutions, energy efficiency and health and safety.



## Support for Parish and Town Councils

Parish and Town Councils have an important contribution to make to local community empowerment. They are often the most immediate form of representation and act as a focal point for local debate and identity.

Parish and Town Councils can also be effective at connecting with local people and encourage enthusiasm for getting involved. DRCC assists this first level of local government with

advice and support on parish and community planning, a vital way of collecting, recording and acting on issues raised by the concerns of residents.

We work closely with the County Association of Local Councils, and currently manage a Quality Parish Council bursary scheme on behalf of Durham County Council.



## Support for individuals and community groups

DRCC has a team of experienced and well qualified community development workers who have built up a wealth of expertise and local knowledge over many years.

In particular, we have experts who can advise on community planning, village hall management, funding opportunities, insurance for community groups and healthy living.

We are always ready to meet community groups or individuals to discuss their requirements and agree appropriate support.

*Annfield Plain Aycliffe Barnard Castle Beamish Belmont Bishop Auckland Bishop Middleham Blackhall Bowburn Bowes Brancepeth Brandon Brignall Burnhope Burnopfield Castle Eden Castleside Cassop Chester-le-Street Chilton Cockfield Cornsay Coundon Coxhoe Consett Copley Cornforth Cotherstone Coundon Craghead Crook Croxdale Dawdon Delves Lane Dipton Durham City Easington Eastgate Edmondsley Eggleston Escomb Esh Etherley Evenwood Ferryhill Fishburn Frosterley Gainford Grange Villa Great Lumley Greta Bridge Hamsterley Haswell Haswell Plough Hesleden Hett Holwick Horden Hunderthwaite Hutton Henry Hutton Magna Ireshopeburn Kelloe Kimblesworth Kinninvie Kirk Merrington Kyo Lanchester Langdon Beck Langley Park Lartington Leadgate Littletown Ludworth Lumley Maiden Law Medomsley Mickleton Middlestone Middridge Middleton-in-Teesdale Mordon Murton Newbiggin Newfield Oakenshaw Ouston Pelton Peterlee Pittington Plawsworth Quarrington Hill Quebec Rokeby Romalldkirk Rookhope Rowley Sacriston*



## Hands on Health

DRCC's popular Hand on Health project promotes food preparation and healthy living skills at locally accessible venues. In a friendly and relaxed environment, participants cook from simple recipes, using fresh ingredients.

Participants gain an understanding of how to eat a healthy balanced diet on a low income. The short courses bring people together, fostering participation in education, training and community involvement. Hands on Health is mainly funded by local Primary Care Trusts.



## Supporting communities

DRCC works with other agencies to seek the retention of local services including shops, schools, and post offices.

We also seek out new opportunities, including grant programmes, service delivery contracts, group insurance schemes and training.

We ensure that community groups have the necessary skills and knowledge to allow them to deliver projects and services in the most appropriate and effective ways by providing advice & training. Visit our website or check out 'Community News', our regular newsletter, for more information, news and views from across County Durham.



## Contact



Durham Rural Community Council  
Park House  
Station Road  
Lanchester  
Co. Durham DH7 0EX

Tel: 01207 529621  
Fax: 01207 529619  
E-mail: [info@durhamrcc.org.uk](mailto:info@durhamrcc.org.uk)  
[www.durhamrcc.org.uk](http://www.durhamrcc.org.uk)

Charity Number: 229119

We are a member of the  
Rural Community Action Network



*How can we help?*

-  Supporting communities
-  Support for Parish & Town Councils
-  Help for community groups and organisations
-  Hands on Health
-  Advice and training
-  Sharing best practice
-  Funding advice

*Promoting voluntary action  
in rural County Durham*

Seaham Seaton Sedgfield Shadforth Sheraton Sherburn  
Shildon Shincliffe Shotton South Moor Spennymoor  
St Johns Chapel Staindrop Stanhope Stanley Startforth  
Sunderland Bridge Tanfield Tantobie Thornley  
Toft Hill Tow Law Trimdon Tudhoe Urpeth Waldrige  
Waterhouses West Auckland Westgate Wheatley Hill  
Whorlton Willington Wingate Winston Witton-le-Wear  
Witton Gilbert Witton Park Wolsingham Woodland