A Spotlight on the Yorkshire Building Society Charitable Foundation...

**How does the Charitable Foundation work?**

The Yorkshire Building Society’s [Charitable Foundation](https://www.ybs.co.uk/your-society/charitable-foundation/index.html) has been around for over 20 years and has donated over **£8 million** to local charities and good causes. But the funding pot is getting smaller, and we need your help!

Each quarter colleagues and members can nominate causes close to their hearts to be in with a chance of securing £250 - £2000 for their chosen charity. Nominations are then reviewed by the Charitable Foundation’s trustees and assessed against the Foundation’s strategic prioritises: Alleviating Poverty and Improving Health/ Saving Lives.

At YBS we know our colleagues care about people and always think about how they can positively impact their customers and communities. It is just one of the ways we live our purpose Real Help with Real Life. So, it is not surprising that the Charitable Foundation is inundated with nominations each quarter. To put this into perspective, between January and March 2022, over £241,000 of applications were submitted, but only £77,000 was available to donate. It made the decision making incredibly hard!



**How is the Charitable Foundation funded?**

All the funding comes from our members! Every time they open an account, they are given the option to opt into the Small Change Big Difference Scheme (SCBD), which means they choose to donate the annual pence of interest from their savings or mortgage to the Charitable Foundation. Without these donations, the Charitable Foundation would not exist.

Unfortunately, every quarter we see the income from SCBD going down. Now more than ever, we need the support of our colleagues and members to help increase the funding. From making sure you are asking customers if they want to opt-in to checking your own YBS accounts to see if you are contributing.

**How does YBS support the Foundation?**

YBS strives to improve financial capability across the whole of the UK. That is why we aim to support 500,000 people to achieve greater financial wellbeing by 2024. So, in 2021 YBS chose to donate  £100,000 to the Yorkshire Building Society Charitable Foundation. This funding created the Opportunity and Resilience Fund to support financial resilience, digital and employability skills, training and opportunities for underserved communities.

Through this fund, the Charitable Foundation has helped four charities launch projects supporting vulnerable young people and people from socially excluded ethnic minority communities in 2021-2022:

* Refugee Action – providing an employability skills course for refugees.
* Smart Works – helping people prepare for job interviews, including providing suitable clothing.
* Groundwork North East – supporting vulnerable young people with digital inclusion.
* Canopy Housing – helping homeless and vulnerable individuals towards employment in construction through accreditation, work experience and job opportunities.

Thanks to the fantastic work these charities do, we have been able to support **65 people** in the first six months. Watch out for updates in the coming weeks about these and the announcement of the 2022 charities that we can help.

**What do the Charitable Foundation trustees do?**

We could have written a long paragraph and listed out the responsibilities of a trustee, but instead, we thought it was better to hear from them. So grab yourself a cuppa and take watch …



For branch and agency colleagues, it will be in the usual place in your WORD shared folders

For people WFH or in Broadoak here’s the vimeo link: <https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/714089929/8a56cf187a>

For people in YD or BG, here’s the link to the shared drive: [\\ybslwc02-fsq\Shared\Media\Charitable\_Foundation\_Trustee\_QandA\_C\_20220528.mp4](file:///%5C%5Cybslwc02-fsq%5CShared%5CMedia%5CCharitable_Foundation_Trustee_QandA_C_20220528.mp4)

Or use the QR code below to view it on your own devices.



If you enjoyed the video of the trustees and want to hear more about the Charitable Foundation, leave a comment below to share your questions.