

BRIEFING SHEET: BIG LOTTERY FUND CONSULTATION WITH COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS AND SCOTTISH LOTTERY OFFICERS GROUP ON 18 MARCH 2005

Purpose	The Big Lottery Fund is seeking views on its proposed outcomes , priorities and ways of engaging with the voluntary, community and statutory sectors.
Strategic Fit	<p>The Big Lottery Fund is a new organisation formed from a merger of the Community Fund and New Opportunities Fund. Overarching themes for BLF are set by UK Government and are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) community learning and creating opportunity2) promoting community safety and cohesion3) promoting well-being <p>In Scotland, outcomes have been proposed by Scottish Ministers and the potential priorities reflect phase one consultation findings and areas identified by Scottish Ministers.</p>
Outcomes	<p>Are designed to be relevant to Scotland and provide a flexible framework that will potentially enable local need to take priority over nationally prescribed programmes. The new funding framework is attached and the outcomes are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) People have better chances in life2) Communities are stronger and work together to tackle inequalities.3) People and communities are healthier4) People have access to better and more sustainable services and environments.
Priorities	<p>For outcome 1) childcare, confidence, employment, financial exclusion, lifelong learning, community networks.</p> <p>For outcome 2) strengthening voluntary and community action, capacity building, impact of discrimination and harassment, locally shared values and inclusive communities.</p> <p>For outcome 3) community involvement in regeneration, community environments and green spaces, access to services in rural areas, community land ownership, environmental awareness and good practice, community approaches to biodiversity, sustainable food and energy.</p> <p>For outcome 4) improving health and tackling health inequality esp. through diet, physical activity and young people, new approaches to mental health and well-being, good practice in community based health promotion, links between health and well-being and community regeneration.</p>
Consultation with CPP	<p>BLF are exploring ways of working with Community Planning Partnerships and asked the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How, if at all, can Big Lottery Fund use Community Planning as a grant-making tool?2. Does Community Planning offer a short cut to strategic fit on evidence of need and How can Big Lottery Fund outcome funding help deliver local regeneration needs?3. Should Big Lottery Fund consider investing some funding in facilitating partnership working?4. Where and how could we deploy this funding?5. Could our funding have an impact in legitimising the role of the voluntary sector within community planning? <p>Suggestions on the day included (i) using the CPP Plan as evidence of need but minimum standards required of CPP, (ii) having regular meetings with key partners such as the local authority, council for voluntary service, Communities Scotland and other CPP partners as appropriate to discuss local issues and sustainability of projects, (iii) building the capacity of community representatives and indeed other</p>

partners around the table to facilitate partnership working. BLF will provide a written note from the day should you wish to see this. Please note that working with CPPs is only one of a host of ways of funding projects in Scotland.

Timescale Deadline for this, the second stage consultation, is 16 May 2005.

Further info Consultation questions are on-line at www.biglotteryfund.org.uk.

*Arlene Cullum
Corporate Funding Officer
Argyll and Bute Council*

BIG LOTTERY FUND – COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIPS RESPONSE TO SECOND STAGE CONSULTATION

The following response has been prepared by Muriel Kupris on behalf of the CPP. The Management Committee is invited to discuss the response prior to it being submitted to the Big Lottery Fund.

1. How, if at all can Big Lottery Fund (BLF) use Community Planning (CP) as a grant-making tool?

We would suggest that BLF participate in meetings with Argyll and Bute Council, CVS, other CPP members and also other Lottery Funders e.g. Heritage Lottery Fund, SportsScotland and Scottish Arts Council. This would be a first step in addressing local issues, especially those that are related to the interaction of the funders themselves, timescales and priorities etc and provide some hope of sustainability for successful projects. This builds on the previous 3-way agreement that the former Community Fund had with councils and CVS network.

2. Does CP offer short cut to strategic fit on evidence of need and how can BLF outcome funding help deliver local regeneration needs?

CP could offer important detail on local need and strategic priorities through the information gathering process of all partners and the link to a wide range of strategies and plans. The Regeneration Outcome Agreement (ROA) for Argyll and Bute CPP will evidence clear priorities within the worst 15% of deprived areas, Community Planning and Argyll and Bute Council are collating information in relation to the wider issue of rural deprivation and participating in the work of the Rural Advisory Group within the Scottish Executive.

3. Should BLF consider investing some funding in facilitating partnership working?

Yes. The co-ordination of numerous initiatives and funding streams is critical to ensure best use of resources, especially in a large dispersed rural authority. Funds could be deployed to develop potential for joint projects.

4. Where and how could this funding be deployed?

If funding was available for this function, it would be best directly managed by the CPP and reported back to either the Management Committee or a theme group.

5. Could BLF funding have an impact in legitimising the role of the voluntary sector within CP?

Working through the CPP, the Community Regeneration Board and ROA would access large community and voluntary representation. If this were linked to improving partnership working across all sectors, it would be possible to enhance and encourage the meaningful participation of the voluntary sector.

*Muriel Kupris
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