

BIG Lottery Fund – Investing In Ideas

INTRODUCTION

Investing in Ideas aims to help groups develop better projects by improving their skills and knowledge and it is hoped that the programme will enable groups to make stronger funding applications as a result of the work they carry out. The Big Lottery want to invest in ideas for projects which will deliver lasting change in Scotland in line with their priorities: people and communities are healthier; people have better chances in life; communities are safer and stronger and more able to work together to tackle inequalities; people have better and more sustainable services and environments.

Key Facts

Grants of up to £10,000 to enable organisations to put ideas into practice

Projects which will create lasting change for people and communities across Scotland

Final Date for Applications: 31st March 2010

FUNDS AVAILABLE

A total of £4.6m is available and organisations are able to apply for up to £10,000 to test and develop their ideas.

WHO CAN APPLY

Investing In Ideas is open to a wide range of organisations and agencies. These include:

- Voluntary and community organisations
- Social enterprises
- Charities

- Public bodies such as local councils, schools, health bodies and community councils
- Companies limited by guarantee

Priority will be given to smaller voluntary and community organisations with an income of less than £50,000. Individuals or companies that distribute profits will **not** be funded.

WHAT CAN BE FUNDED

Ideas for projects must fit into one of the following areas:

- **Growing Community Assets** - giving more communities the chance to own or control assets whether land, building, facilities or services.
- **Dynamic Inclusive Communities** – helping communities to play a fuller part in what goes on around them.
- **Life Transitions** – supporting people through transitions at different stages in their lives: growing up; growing old; moving out; moving on.
- **Supporting 21st Century Life** – helping people to cope with the pace of change and build better connections and relationships within families and communities.

Funding is available for:

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| • Needs analysis | • Skills audits of communities |
| • Surveys | • Valuations |
| • Market research | • Legal assistance (purchase of assets) |
| • Business planning | • Professional fees |
| • Feasibility studies | • Sessional fees |
| • Company formation and training | • Small pilot projects |
| • Research and evidence gathering in relation to social issues | • Specialist advice to consider environmental impact |
| • Capacity building for you organisation | • Exchange visits in the UK |
| • Design schemes | |

CONTACT

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