

**MINUTES**  
**THE NATIONAL LOTTERY COMMUNITY FUND**  
**MEETING OF THE SCOTLAND COMMITTEE HELD ON**  
**WEDNESDAY 17 MARCH 2021 AT 11AM**  
**BY MICROSOFT TEAMS**

**Present:**

Kate Still	Scotland Committee Chair
Jackie Brock	Scotland Committee Member
Grant Carson	Scotland Committee Member
Lindsay Graham	Scotland Committee Member
Martin Johnstone	Scotland Committee Member
Janet Miles	Scotland Committee Member
Aaliya Seyal	Scotland Committee Member

**In attendance:**

Neal Bennison	Funding Officer (item 11)
Evelyn Boyd	Head of Communications & Engagement
Roddy Byers	Head of Funding
Alice Cassels	Funding Officer (item 11)
Chris Dempster	Funding Officer (items 11 & 12)
Jen Fleming	Knowledge & Learning Officer (item 7)
Fiona Grant	Business Support Officer (Governance) (minutes)
Pauline Kerrigan	Funding Manager (items 11 & 12)
Cath Logan	Communications & Engagement Officer (item 9)
Rachael MacQueen	Funding Officer (item 11)
Barry McCormack	Funding Officer (item 11)
Allison Mathews	Head of Knowledge & Learning
Jennifer Mitchell	Funding Officer (item 11)
Kirsty Nairn	Head of Business Support
Marie Nicol	Funding Officer (item 11)
Neil Ritch	Scotland Director
Emily Robertson	Funding Officer (item 11)
Claire Scott	Funding Manager (item 11)
Laura Scott	Funding Officer (item 11)

**Guests:**

Steven Marwick	Evaluation Support Scotland (item 7)
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**1. OPENING REMARKS**

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the following:
- i. This is Evelyn's first Committee meeting in role as Head of Communications and Engagement
  - ii. This will be Allison's last Committee meeting as she is leaving the Fund to take up a new job with Inspiring Scotland

- iii. Steven Marwick from Evaluation Support Scotland will join the meeting for item 7
- iv. Place team representatives will join the meeting for decision making
- v. Kate Robinson, Knowledge & Learning Officer will observe the decision making.

## **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

- 2.1 There were no apologies for absence.

## **3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

- 3.1 Martin Johnstone declared an interest in the applications from Home Glasgow South and Home Start Glasgow North as his wife works for Home Start Glasgow South. It was agreed that this was a disqualifying interest.

## **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SCOTLAND COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 27 JANUARY 2021 (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE MINUTES 21/01)**

- 4.1 With one minor amendment at 12.1 the minutes of the Scotland Committee meeting held on 27 January 2021 were approved.

## **5. MATTERS ARISING**

- 5.1 Allison informed the meeting that the Early Action System Change Panel, which is made up of 2 Scotland Committee members and 2 members of the Scotland Management Team met in February to consider an uplift request from the South Lanarkshire partnership. The panel decided they needed more information and asked the partnership to consider some robust questions. As the partnership addressed the panel's questions an uplift request of £68,321 was approved.
- 5.2 Allison gave an update on the progress of the Social Action Inquiry. The Committee noted that the two Inquiry co-chairs have been recruited. The cohort met earlier in March to talk about the ambitions for the Inquiry. The recruitment is underway for the Inquiry Lead and Panel members. The Inquiry will start in May or June this year.

## **6. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P21/05)**

- 6.1 The Committee noted the Director's update.

## **7. EVALUATION SUPPORT SCOTLAND UPDATE ON LEARNING SUPPORT CONTRACT**

- 7.1 The Chair welcomed Steven Marwick and Jen Fleming to the meeting
- 7.2 Steven gave an update on learning support contract highlighting the following:
  - i. During the contract 276 organisations have been supported through workshops, one to one support and webinars
  - ii. 18 referrals have been closed without support
  - iii. Organisations have been able to improve their evaluation methods and amplify their service user voice

- iv. Carried out a young people in the lead mini project looking at ways to put young people in charge of evaluation
  - v. Young people like to have their voice heard and often their evaluation methods are better and their analysis richer
  - vi. Brought the 8 homelessness partnership projects together and coproduced outcomes and learning projects
  - vii. This is a good legacy of working better together
- 7.3 The slides are attached at annex A.
- 7.4 During discussion the main points raised were:
- i. The 18 referrals that were closed without support were mostly very small organisations whose grant was not paying for a full time member of staff or it is was not the right time for the referral
  - ii. It is good to get referrals towards the end of the first year of the grant as it has time to get going and consider the learning
  - iii. Learning gathered from the programmes is filtered through the Knowledge & Learning team
  - iv. Grant holders are positive about the National Lottery Community Fund as a funder
  - v. There is value in bringing together groups who share core themes to share learning and reassurance about the problems they are facing are not unique to them and they are braver about sharing what doesn't work
  - vi. Peer discussion and sharing ideas happens quite a lot during the training especially during coffee breaks; this is bit of sharing has been missing since training moved online
  - vii. ESS are running joint events on reporting with Glasgow and West place teams
  - viii. As the contract is coming to an end ESS are looking at doing something specific around COVID-19 learning.
- 7.5 The Chair thanked Steven for his enlightening presentation that gives food for thought. It is good to see the impact on grant holders.

## 8. COMMUNICATIONS REPORT (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P21/06)

- 8.1 Evelyn introduced the paper highlighting the following:
- i. There has been good press coverage over the past couple of months
  - ii. The press team have worked closely with each of three Scottish projects that were successful in the UK Portfolio's Leaders with Lived Experience programme in the lead up to the announcement to work on their publicity in their respective media outlets
  - iii. We have run two Scotland wide webinars covering our funding and top tips for applicants that have been well attended
  - iv. The team has been working with teams across the directorate and an external service design agency, We Are Snook, around making our Young Start fund more youth led
  - v. The team are looking for nominations for the National Lottery Awards from across the directorate and from Committee Members information about this will be sent to Members
- ACTION - Business Support Officer Governance**
- vi. The pre-election period of sensitivity begins on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March this means that we will not be able to make funding announcements and our external communications will be relatively limited until after 6<sup>th</sup> May

- vii. Guidance on this will be sent to Members.

**ACTION - Business Support Officer Governance**

**9. IPSOS MORI MP & MSP SURVEY RESULTS 2020 (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P21/07)**

9.1 The Chair welcomed Cath Logan to the meeting

9.2 Cath introduced the paper highlighting the following:

- i. Every year we take part in the annual survey of MSPs carried out in October and November and in addition IPSOS Mori undertake 2 surveys of MPs
- ii. The results of both surveys offer a broadly positive set of results for the Fund with improving familiarity, favourability and advocacy results compared to 2019
- iii. Our public affairs approach over the last 12 months is consolidating recognition of our new name and has given a solid base from which to build new relationships with new MSPs following the election in May
- iv. Over two thirds of MSPs know at least “a fair amount” about us
- v. MSPs who would support and advocate for us is significant at 62%

9.3 During discussion the main points raised were:

- i. There will be significant turnover of MSPs at the forthcoming elections in May including within our sponsor minister - Aileen Campbell, Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government and Roseanna Cunningham, Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform (with responsibility for the Scottish Land Fund) are both stepping down
- ii. There is a lot of good work to build upon when the new Ministers are appointed

9.5 The Chair thanked Cath for her presentation.

**10. OVERVIEW PAPER (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P21/08)**

10.1 Roddy introduced the paper highlighting the following:

- i. The final Improving Lives Large applications are being presented at this meeting
- ii. The number and value of applications presented at the meeting
- iii. Budget information
- iv. Application pipeline
- v. Options for future Committee formats

10.2 Members felt it would be helpful to have a session to discuss how to best utilise meeting time in grant funding and what information they might usefully want to receive.

**ACTION - Business Support Governance/Director, Scotland**

**11. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS - IMPROVING LIVES LARGE**

- 11.1 The Committee noted the question/answer document that was tabled.
- 11.2 The decisions are recorded in Annex B to these minutes.

**12. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS - SUPPORTING GREAT IDEAS**

- 12.1 The decisions are recorded in Annex B to these minutes.

**13. AOB**

- 13.1 Neil informed the meeting that we have been supporting Community Shares Scotland since 2014 and they have approached us with a further proposal. We have given them 6 months to develop the proposal and look at other types of broad based funding and that Committee should expect to see a proposal in due course.

**14. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

- 14.1 The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021.

**15. FINISH**

- 15.1 The Chair thanked everyone from their contributions and support during the meeting.
- 15.1 There being no further business the meeting finished at 3.35pm.