

**MINUTES**  
**THE NATIONAL LOTTERY COMMUNITY FUND**  
**MEETING OF THE SCOTLAND COMMITTEE HELD ON**  
**WEDNESDAY 8 MARCH 2023 AT 10.30AM**  
**AT NATIONAL LOTTERY COMMUNITY FUND OFFICE, GLASOW**

**Present:**

Kate Still	Scotland Committee Chair
Jackie Brock	Scotland Committee Member (items 1 - 8)
Lindsay Graham	Scotland Committee Member
Martin Johnstone	Scotland Committee Member
Janet Miles	Scotland Committee Member
Aaliya Seyal	Scotland Committee Member
Naila Wood	Scotland Committee Member (items 5 - 19)

**In attendance:**

Roddy Byers	Head of Funding
Mel Eaglesfield	Deputy Director Funding Strategy, Design & Development (item 12)
Fiona Grant	Business Support Officer (Governance) (minutes)
David Lamont	Funding Officer (item 16)
Tom Leftwich	Senior Strategy Advisor (item 7)
Cath Logan	Comms and Engagement Officer (item 10)
Kirsty Nairn	Head of Business Support
Neil Ritch	Scotland Director

**Guests:**

Kate Tobin	Dartington Service Design Lab (item 6)
Maxwell Murphy	Dartington Service Design Lab (item 6)

**1. OPENING REMARKS**

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the following:
- i. We will be joined by Kate Tobin, Scotland Director and Maxwell Murphy from Dartington Service Design Lab for item 6
  - ii. Knowledge and Learning Officer, Fran Langreth Strong, and Funding Officer, Donna Ross, will observe the presentation
  - iii. Alayna is due to leave the organisation on 31<sup>st</sup> March and the Committee thanked her for her contribution and wished her well for the future.

**2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

- 2.1 There were apologies from Landa Sullivan and Alayna Imlah.

**3 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

- 3.1 Martin declared an interest in item 12 - UK Portfolio Cost of Living Update as he is involved in a project that has funding from UK Programmes. Neil stated that as

this is an update about the UK Portfolio's cost of living proposals with no decision making required it is not a disqualifying interest.

#### **4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SCOTLAND COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 25 JANUARY 2023 (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE MINUTES 23/01)**

- 4.1 The minutes of the Scotland Committee meeting held on 25 January 2023 were approved.

#### **5 MATTERS ARISING**

- 5.1 Neil gave an update on about the Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust which the Committee noted.

#### **6 EARLY ACTION SYSTEM CHANGE PARTNERSHIP UPDATE & PRESENTATION (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P23/07)**

- 6.1 The Chair welcomed Kate and Maxwell to the meeting.
- 6.2 Kate gave a presentation on Early Action System change (EASC) project in Renfrewshire highlighting the following:
- i. the background to EASC and the involvement of Dartington in the Renfrewshire project
  - ii. The phased approach taken in Renfrewshire that started with understanding the system moving onto co-designing a systemic approach and then systemic evaluation and sustainability
  - iii. The successes including Co-creation: young people and families' creation of a suite of open-source resources to bring about change in mental health and coercive control
  - iv. The failures including Accountability: prioritised goals of those who held more 'power' in the system, rather than children and young people
  - v. The lessons learnt including: people know their part of the system incredibly well, but not how it connects to the bigger picture and the need to build capacity to tolerate uncertainty and resist quick 'fixes that fail'
  - vi. Future opportunities for The Fund include trialing different models of power distribution with innovative public sector partnerships
- 6.3 During discussion the main points raised were:
- i. This was a great piece of work and the presentation has highlighted rich insightful reflections
  - ii. Leadership at all levels can create cultural change the difference is those that apply the lessons and those that don't
  - iii. Funders have the power through their actions to help make system change
- 6.4 The Chair thanked Kate and Maxwell for their informative presentation.

#### **7 UPDATE ON STRATEGY RENEWAL**

- 7.1 The Chair welcomed Tom Leftwich to the meeting.
- 7.2 Tom gave a presentation on the strategy renewal framework highlighting the following:
- i. We are in the development phase of the strategy renewal process
  - ii. The key insights from phase 1 including, that we can be bolder and more purposeful in the role we play
  - iii. Changes from strategy renewal process will include being more explicit about our core purpose and having greater focus through agreed priorities

- iv. The Fund will continue to be a flexible, simple and proportionate grant maker
  - v. Full implementation of the new strategy is expected to take up to two years and a detailed implementation plan is being developed
- 7.3 During discussion the main points raised were:
- i. It will be important during the implementation phase of the strategy renewal process to be clear about what is changing and what is staying the same
  - ii. There will be implementation plans for each of the four priority areas and the implementation will be a two year process
  - iii. The community connections still need to be fleshed out
- 7.4 The Chair thanked Tom for his comprehensive walk through on the latest developments of the strategy renewal.

## **8 DIRECTOR'S UPDATE (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P23/08)**

- 8.1 The Committee noted the Director's Update.

## **9 UPDATE ON SCOTLAND COMMITTEE SURVEY ACTION PLAN (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P23/09)**

- 9.1 Kirsty gave an update on the Scotland Committee Survey Action Plan highlighting the following:

- i. The table provides members with a brief update on progress against these actions for the period October 2022 - Feb 2023
- ii. We are checking in with staff members about Committee can improve their connections with teams in Scotland and have issued a short survey
- iii. The results will be shared with Kate and then the rest of the Committee
- iv. A short pulse survey will be circulated to Members as follow up to the Committee survey that was carried out in July 2022

**ACTION, Fiona Grant**

- 9.2 The Chair highlighted that she will schedule more time with Members.

## **10 COMMUNICATIONS REPORT (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P23/10)**

- 10.1 The Committee noted the Communications Report.
- 10.2 Cath gave an update on the plans and role for Members at A Celebration of Communities Event at the Scottish Parliament on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023 that the Comms team have been organising.
- 10.3 The Chair thanked Cath for the helpful briefing documents that had been circulated to Members and for her overview of the event.

*(Post meeting note - due to circumstances outside our control A Celebration of Communities Event was cancelled on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023)*

## **11 PLACE UPDATE (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P23/11)**

- 11.1 Roddy introduced the paper highlighting the following:
- i. Each of the place-based funding teams have chosen a project they have funded recently and a project of interest in their area to highlight this month
- 11.2 The Committee commented that in particular Stitch the Gap was a practical and engaging project.

11.3 Roddy highlighted that the Ethnic Minority Development Fund (EMDF) opened for applications in February 2023. The EMDF has been developed in partnership between CEMVO Scotland and the Fund.

## **12 UPDATE ON UK PORTFOLIO COST OF LIVING PROPOSALS**

12.1 The Chair welcomed Mel to the meeting.

12.2 Mel gave an update on the UK Portfolio's cost of living proposals that the UK Funding Committee will consider later this month highlighting:

- i. Proposing a 2 pronged approach support uplifts to current grant holders and extend services to reach further participants
- ii. The cost of living response at a UK level will compliment and amplify the work of country portfolios as well as other funders
- iii. Projects supported will have a systemic and preventative approach to issues exposed by the cost of living crisis
- iv. It will be highly targeted and the team will work with each of the country portfolio teams

12.3 During discussion the main points raised were:

- i. If this develops into an agreed approach the Scotland Directorate will convene conversations with appropriate organisations who have capacity and ambition to make a formal submission to the UK fund with a strong Scottish perspective

## **13 COST OF LIVING UPDATE (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P23/14)**

13.1 Roddy introduced the paper highlighting the following:

- i. 130 Cost of living Awards for All applications have been awarded supporting a wide variety of projects
- ii. 311 Cost of Living uplifts have been made to current grant holders
- iii. Progress is steady and manageable for The Cost of Living Support Fund
- iv. The Community Anchors Fund has now closed having made 152 awards totalling £3.52million
- v. A further tranche of the Household Hardship Fund opened in January and is still open as demand has been more steady than for the first tranche

13.2 The Chair commented that the update highlights the incredible amount of work that has been undertaken.

## **14 COST OF LIVING NEXT STEPS (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P23/12)**

14.1 Roddy introduced the paper highlighting the following:

- i. We have now largely committed our initial package of activity developed in response to the Cost of Living Crisis
- ii. At the January Committee meeting we touched on future work in this area and Committee asked for some options to be presented for consideration
- iii. The options include:

- a. Providing an annual inflation uplift to all open grants over £10k
  - b. To continue resourcing the Household Hardship Fund in 23/24
  - c. To integrate Cost of Living into National Lottery Awards for All priorities
  - d. To integrate Cost of Living into Improving Lives
  - e. To work with a small number of Strategic Partners on longer term responses
  - f. To ensure that key players in Scotland are aware of and can access the £20m UK Cost of Living Programme currently being developed
- iv. These options could be progressed either individually or as part of a whole package
- 14.2 During discussion the main points raised were:
- i. Moving to a full External Delegation Award (EDA) approach for the Household Hardship Fund in 23/24 would mean that all associated cost would be met from from grants budget and not operating expenditure
  - ii. Awards for All will change to a ceiling of £20k per award in 23/24
  - iii. We are currently modelling a mid-year introduction of the new ceiling with Finance and can mitigate the introduction if or as it occurs, and we also need to be sighted on the preferences of the other Lottery Distributors who are part of National Lottery Awards for All
  - iv. We should pursue pro-active discussions with key players on cost of living work and longer-term strategic approaches we might consider for funding. The starting point for that was discussions with Committee members and Roddy to tease out who we should be talking to
- 14.3 The Committee agreed:
- i. To provide an annual inflation uplift of 5% to all open grants over £10K and that all variations connected to this uplift are fully delegated to Head of Funding to approve
  - ii. To explore continuing to resource the Household Hardship Fund in 23/24 and moving to a full External Delegation Award (EDA) approach
  - iii. To integrate Cost of Living into National Lottery Awards for All priorities
  - iv. To integrate Cost of Living into Improving Lives
  - v. To work with a small number of Strategic Partners on longer term responses
  - vi. To ensure that key players in Scotland are aware of and can access the £20m UK Cost of Living Programme currently being developed

## 15 OVERVIEW PAPER (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P23/13)

- 15.1 Roddy introduced the paper highlighting the following:
- i. An overview of the 2022/23 funding year to date
  - ii. The current budget position
  - iii. The pipeline for Supporting Great Ideas

**16 SUPPORTING GREAT IDEAS APPLICATION: SCOTTISH TECH ARMY**

16.1 The decision on this application is in Annex A to these minutes.

**17 AOB**

17.1 Neil highlighted that we have appointed Deloitte to carry out an organisational Governance Review and that Members will have received an email from the UK Chair Blondel Cluff about this. Members will be sent a link to a questionnaire and it would be very helpful to the process if they can complete this.

**18 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

18.1 The next meeting will be held on 3 May 2023.

**19 FINISH**

19.1 There being no further business the meeting finished at 3.30pm.