

MINUTES
THE NATIONAL LOTTERY COMMUNITY FUND
MEETING OF THE SCOTLAND COMMITTEE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 13 MARCH 2024 AT 10.30AM
AT CITIZENM HOTEL, GLASGOW & TEAMS

Present:

Kate Still	Scotland Committee Chair
Jackie Brock	Scotland Committee Member (on teams)
Lindsay Graham	Scotland Committee Member
Martin Johnstone	Scotland Committee Member
Janet Miles	Scotland Committee Member
Naila Wood	Scotland Committee Member

In attendance:

Roddy Byers	Head of Funding
Joao Goncalves	Funding Officer (item 14 on teams)
Fiona Grant	Business Support Officer (Governance) (minutes)
Lucy McDonald	Head of Knowledge & Learning
Neil Ritch	Scotland Director
David Sinclair	Head of Business Support
Landa Sullivan	Head of Communications & Engagement (items 8-16)

Guests:

Christine Owen	The Innovation Unit (item 8)
Nick Webb	The Innovation Unit (item 8)
Jacqueline Paton	NHS Scotland (item 8 on teams)
Joan Tranent	Midlothian Council (item 8 on teams)
Keren Hadden	NHS Scotland (item 8 on teams)
Mark Merrell	EVOG (item 8 on teams)
Lynsay Johnston	Perth & Kinross Council (item 8 on teams)

1. OPENING REMARKS

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the following:
- i. We will be joined for item 8 by Christine Owen and Nick Webb from the Innovation Unit along with some of the partners via Teams involved in the project
 - ii. The agenda has been slightly amended and the Communications Report will be taken after the presentation from the Innovation Unit

[Secretariat note - the items were taken in a different order to the agenda]

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 2.1 There were apologies for absence from Aaliya Seyal.

3 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

- 3.1 Martin Johnstone declared an interest in the Inverclyde Faith in Throughcare uplift request due to his previous role establishing a network of throughcare centres in Scotland and currently as a Trustee with Faith in Community Scotland. It was agreed that this was a disqualifying interest and he would leave the room for the discussion of the uplift request.

4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SCOTLAND COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 30 JANUARY 2024 (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE MINUTES 24/01)

- 4.1 The minutes of the Scotland Committee meeting held on 30 January 2024 were approved.

5 MATTERS ARISING

- 5.1 Jackie Brock gave an update on the UK Funding Panel meeting that took place on 26th & 27th February 2024 which the Committee noted. A list of the funded projects from the first panel meeting will be shared with Members.

ACTION, Fiona Grant

- 5.2 The Committee thanked the team that worked hard to pull together the Scottish Parliamentary reception held on 6 March 2024. It was a great opportunity to meet funded groups, stakeholders and MSPs.
- 5.3 The Chair highlighted that she had recently met with Rachel Mathers who is leading the Young Start development project. The Young Start team will come to a future Scotland Committee meeting to talk about the work they have been doing on the project.
- 5.4 Lucy provided an update on ongoing work to refine and ensure the appropriate presentation of the Misson Framework.

6 DIRECTOR'S UPDATE (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P24/07)

- 6.1 The Committee noted the Director's Update.

7 PLACE UPDATE (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P24/08)

- 7.1 The Committee noted the place update and commented that it shows the breadth of work and the different types of projects that teams highlight.

8 PRESENTATION FROM THE INNOVATION UNIT - NEURODIVERSITY AND YOUNG PEOPLES SERVICES

- 8.1 The Chair welcomed Christine and Nick and the partners to the meeting.
- 8.2 They gave a presentation about taking a community led approach to support neurodiverse children and young people to thrive in partnership with Perth & Kinross, Edinburgh and Midlothian, highlighting the following:
- i. The crisis facing neurodiverse children and young people across Scotland
 - ii. The current responses are not working despite national policy and the efforts of many practitioners

- iii. There are three interconnected challenges - long waits; lack of whole system thinking; and a lack of skills and knowledge for all those supporting neurodiverse children and young people
- iv. The opportunities of a systems change approach
- v. The proposed approach that will create a bold new vision through connection and deep learning; test and learn new ways of working and will scale and transition into new sustainable ways of working
- vi. The outcomes of the proposed approach include improved mental health and wellbeing and a whole system response

8.3 During discussion the main points raised were:

- i. The approach is designed to reach more sites than just the initial ones
- ii. With early intervention the possibilities for children and young people will be greatly improved
- iii. Things that can help neurodiverse children can help everyone
- iv. The learning from this work can be applied across Scotland

8.4 The Chair thanked all of the presenters for their incredibly interesting presentation and strong articulation of the issues.

9 COMMUNICATIONS REPORT (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P24/06)

9.1 Landa introduced the Comms Report highlighting the following:

- i. The event at the Scottish Parliament went well and Cath has also attended a drop in event for MPs in Westminster
- ii. A newsletter is going out to MSPs next week
- iii. Meeting with Allwyn to talk about an event for the 30th birthday of the National Lottery

9.2 The Chair thanked Landa for the report.

10 NEW PORTFOLIO IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P24/09)

10.1 Neil introduced the paper highlighting the following:

- i. The work in the context of portfolio reviews being undertaken across the Fund
- ii. A communications timeline taking account of scenarios for the expected UK General Election
- iii. Considerations relating to the closure of the main two existing responsive programmes (Improving Lives and Community Led)
- iv. An initial programmatic model outlining the products we could utilise to implement the new funding portfolio, along with illustrative budgets
- v. This requires further development but we would welcome feedback from the Committee at this stage
- vi. A draft outline of Scotland priorities set against the organisational Mission Framework

10.2 During discussion the main points raised were:

- i. The paper provided helpful clarity
- ii. The amount of time that people are not able to access funding needs to be limited and the opening of the new programmes should not move into 2025

- iii. The implementation team who will lead this work will be in place soon and their priority will be to develop our new offer
 - iv. The timeline for staff is important as they need to be trained and well informed in order to advise people well
 - v. It is important that groups who receive bigger grants can demonstrate the integration of environmental considerations within their proposals
 - vi. We need to do some work on partnerships and connections
- 10.3 The next steps will include:
- i. The new programme development process will be handed across to the development team
 - ii. A further update on this will be given at the June Scotland Committee meeting and the Committee will have the opportunity to meet the portfolio development team

ACTION, Neil Ritch & the Portfolio Development Team

11 COMMITTEE MEMBER RECRUITMENT (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P24/10)

11.1 David introduced the paper highlighting the following:

- i. During 2024, we will be undertaking a recruitment process for Scotland Committee members in preparation for the departure of four long-serving members in early 2025
- ii. This will be a significant period of transition for the Committee
- iii. It will be helpful if Committee members can share their views to inform and enhance the recruitment process and to ensure that we best support the Committee members who will be stepping down

11.2 During discussion the main points raised were:

- i. Using the missions to ensure effective ways are found for young people and those at the margins of society to be involved in the decision making process
- ii. The following attributes & knowledge would help to strengthen the Committee:
 - a. Practical understanding of delivering environmental themed projects
 - b. Knowledge of rurality and representation of highlands/islands
 - c. Knowledge of disability issues
 - d. Contemporary experience of active voluntary/third sector work
 - e. Knowledge of emerging AI and technology
- iii. It is important that new Members feel comfortable to voice their opinion and be respectful
- iv. It is also important to get soundings from the staff team on the opportunity to strengthen the Committee

- 11.3 David thanked Members for their feedback and highlighted if they have any further views on Committee recruitment or the induction process they can email him or Fiona.

ACTION, Members

12 OVERVIEW PAPER (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P24/11)

- 12.1 Roddy introduced the paper highlighting the following:
- i. Demand remains high
 - ii. The current budget position
 - iii. The pipeline for Supporting Great Ideas

13 GRANTS FUNDING BUDGETS 24/25 (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P24/12)

- 13.1 Roddy introduced the paper highlighting the following:
- i. Scotland Committee is required to set and approve a Grants Budget for the coming financial year
 - ii. This year is slightly more complicated as it spans current and future activity which we expect to be in different formats
 - iii. Some of the format and structure is still under discussion and development and we expect a Portfolio Development Team to firm up the detail during quarters 1 and 2 of the financial year 24/25
 - iv. This will mean that this base budget will be required to flex at some points in year although our performance will remain benchmarked against the initial base budget set
 - v. Awards for All and Young Start Programmes will remain open throughout the year and the budgets reflect this basing on current enquiries, applications and approvals
 - vi. The proposed Grants Budget for 24/25
- 13.2 During discussion the main points raised were:
- i. There will be a mixture of old new programmatic activity as the budget reflects that we will be shut to our main programmes for a few months
 - ii. We will still have some flexibility within the budget
- 13.3 The Committee:
- i. Noted the proposed Grants Budget for 24/25
 - ii. Approved the Grants Budget for 24/25 as set out in the paper

Martin Johnstone left the meeting.

14 UPLIFT REQUEST - INVERCLYDE FAITH IN THROUGH CARE (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P24/13)

- 14.1 The Committee approved the uplift request of £18,750 to Inverclyde Faith in Throughcare.

Martin Johnstone rejoined the meeting.

15 AOB

- 15.1 The Committee noted the rescheduled date of Friday 24th May for the Board and Committee Members online session.

15.2 A Member highlighted that there had been discussion at a recent place based decision making meeting about funding a faith based project at a time when there are heightened tensions due to world events. Officers responded that we can support colleagues and ourselves to be confident in making those decisions.

16 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

16.1 The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 1st May 2024 at a central Glasgow venue.

17 FINISH

17.1 There being no further business the meeting finished at 2.20pm.