

**MINUTES**  
**THE NATIONAL LOTTERY COMMUNITY FUND**  
**MEETING OF THE SCOTLAND COMMITTEE HELD ON**  
**WEDNESDAY 22 JUNE 2022 AT 10.30AM**  
**AT NATIONAL LOTTERY COMMUNITY FUND OFFICE, GLASOW**

**Present:**

Kate Still	Scotland Committee Chair
Jackie Brock	Scotland Committee Member
Lindsay Graham	Scotland Committee Member
Martin Johnstone	Scotland Committee Member
Janet Miles	Scotland Committee Member

**In attendance:**

Roddy Byers	Head of Funding
Fiona Grant	Business Support Officer (Governance) (minutes)
Alayna Imlah	Head of Knowledge & Learning
Aine Lovedale	Project Lead - 2023 Portfolio Team (item 10)
Neil Ritch	Scotland Director
Landa Sullivan	Head of Communications and Engagement

**Guests:**

John Dickie	Child Poverty Action Group (item 6)
Fiona McHardy	Poverty Alliance (item 6)

**1. OPENING REMARKS**

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the following:
- i. The first in person Committee meeting since the start of the pandemic
  - ii. We will be joined by John Dickie from the Child Poverty Action Group and Fiona McHardy from the Poverty Alliance for item 6

**2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

- 2.1 There were apologies for absence from Aaliya Seyal, Naila Wood and Kirsty Nairn.

**3 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

- 3.1 There were no declarations of interest

**4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SCOTLAND COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11 MAY 2022 (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE MINUTES 22/03)**

- 4.1 The minutes of the Scotland Committee meeting held on 11 May 2022 were approved.

## **5 MATTERS ARISING**

- 5.1 The Chair gave an update on the UKFC meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022 which the Committee noted.

## **6 PRESENTATION ON OXFAM - MENU FOR CHANGE**

- 6.1 The Chair welcomed John Dickie and Fiona McHardy to meeting.
- 6.2 John and Fiona gave a presentation on the impact of the menu for change project and the cost of living (CoL) crisis highlighting the following:
- i. Menu for Change was a partnership led by Oxfam Scotland with CPAG in Scotland, Nourish Scotland and The Poverty Alliance
  - ii. The four work streams included supporting local practice and policy development and research
  - iii. Achievements included improved awareness of alternatives to food banks and improved delivery of cash support at a local level
  - iv. The project established “cash first” as a guiding principle in local and national government response to food insecurity
  - v. Following the end of the project “cash first” has been established as a guiding principle in local and national government response to food poverty
  - vi. “Cash first” has also informed the response to the pandemic and the CoL crisis and the Scottish Government has published draft plans on ending the need for food banks
  - vii. The methodological research approach and focus on taking an asset-based approach in our interviewing as well using participatory tools has influenced further studies into food insecurity and the CoL crisis
- 6.3 The presentation is attached as annex A to these minutes.
- 6.4 During discussion the main points raised were:
- i. There is a role for funders to support responses that also give broader access to support
  - ii. Menu for Change has deepened the understanding for dignity in provision of emergency food provision
  - iii. Autonomy of being trusted with cash
  - iv. How it is framed is important - offering a choice of products that a child will eat versus a food parcel
  - v. Advocate a system change approach ongoing process - cost of living environment
- 6.5 The Chair thanked John and Fiona for their presentation. It was admirable in terms of layout what has been done and seen system change.

## **7 COST OF LIVING CRISIS: FORMING A SCOTLAND RESPONSE (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P22/24)**

- 7.1 Roddy introduced the paper highlighting the following:
- i. The Directorate has spent the last few months checking in with a range of grantholders and stakeholders, targeting some specific scenarios like transport projects, community assets and organisations with a significant overhead burden likely to be impacted by rising costs
  - ii. The response of other portfolios to date
  - iii. The proposals for responding to these challenges for current grant holders and funding for new projects
  - iv. The financial implications of the proposals

- 7.2 During discussion the main points raised were:
- i. We need to respond to the crisis and ensure that our funds reach those individuals, households and communities most affected
  - ii. We recognise the current resource challenges on the Directorate and need to ensure that our responses are deliverable within those current constraints or make the case for additional resourcing
  - iii. The implications of programme closure need to be considered and we should ensure that we can still deliver larger grant awards for CoL issues after IL and CL close
  - iv. We should find out what other funders are doing so work is not duplicated and have discussions with the Scottish Government
  - v. The sense of urgency is not there yet in the sector in the same way it was in responding to the pandemic
  - vi. We also need to ensure that we have plans in place for the autumn and the following 12 months
  - vii. The Committee would like to ,within the Fund rules, take a “direct support/cash first” approach
  - viii. There are specific issues to consider around rurality
- 7.3 The Committee agreed that:
- i. We will contact all larger grantholders to explain how we can help, look at current cost re-profiling as a mitigation and agree any required uplift against current budget lines that will relieve cost of living pressures
  - ii. The current open programmes in Improving Lives and Community-Led are sufficiently broad and flexible to accommodate any new propositions emerging from the Sector as specific Cost of Living responses but we need to have a CoL route post closure of IL and CL.
  - iii. Moving £3m from future unallocated resources to support immediate uplifting in 2022/23
  - iv. We need to ensure that our funds reach people, households and communities most affected.

## **8 DIRECTOR’S UPDATE (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P22/22)**

- 8.1 The Committee noted the Director’s Update.

## **9 COMMUNICATIONS REPORT (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P22/23)**

- 9.1 Landa introduced the Communications report highlighting the following:
- i. The online survey on our new Scotland portfolio has received 170 responses since it was launched on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June
  - ii. The team are working out the details with the Sunday Mail to be the media partner in Scotland for the People’s Projects
  - iii. There had been good coverage of the Climate Action Fund award to Greener Kirkcaldy

- 9.2 The Chair thanked Landa for her helpful report.

## **10 FOLLOW UP FROM SCOTLAND COMMITTEE STRATEGY DAY**

- 10.1 Neil lead a short workshop focussing on prioritisation following on from discussions at the Scotland Committee Strategy Day in April.

**11 OVERVIEW PAPER (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P22/25)**

- 11.1 Roddy introduced the paper highlighting the following:
- i. We are making steady progress against budget spend
  - ii. Funding staff are continuing to re-engage with customers in community settings
  - iii. We have just completed the first phase of our partnered work with Scottish Refugee Forum resulting in provision of £750,000 of new funds to small groups; phase two will start shortly
  - iv. Our CEMVO partnership is also now ready to start

**12 PLACE UPDATE (SCOTLAND COMMITTEE P22/21)**

- 12.1 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.
- 12.2 The Committee welcomed the update on funded projects and would like to maintain the links with the place teams built up from their presentations at Committee meetings. They would also like to learn more about the impact of both small and larger grants.
- 12.3 It was agreed that we will look for opportunities for projects to come along and present at future Committee meetings with representatives from the place team.
- ACTION, Roddy Byers/Fiona Grant**

**13 SCOTLAND COMMITTEE SURVEY**

- 13.1 The Chair informed the Committee that we will be carrying out a survey of Committee members. The survey will take a temperature check of individual experience as a Scotland Committee member and identify areas for further development and improvement. We would like members to be as open and honest as possible.
- 13.2 Members noted that the Survey will be sent out in early July and the initial results will be shared at the August Scotland Committee meeting.
- ACTION, Fiona Grant**

**14 AOB**

- 14.1 The Chair thanked the Scotland team on behalf of the Committee for the hard work that goes on behind the Scotland Committee meetings especially when staff are stretched.

**15 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

- 15.1 The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2022.

**16 FINISH**

- 16.1 There being no further business the meeting finished at 2.10pm.