

**DSG (2013)M004/A020 – Anna MacConnell to explore which part of Lottery funding are underutilised.**

The National Lottery or Big Lottery Fund stresses that its programmes are rolling programmes and as long as people keep buying lottery tickets the funds will be there to spend. Although a more detailed response was provided in a presentation to MSPs, there seemed an unwillingness to indicate whether any of the Lottery programmes were currently underutilised. However I did discover from another source that there may be a couple of funding streams that have had fewer successful applications as might have been expected, as well as a few other potentially useful pieces of information.

- The **Communities & Families Fund** gives grant of between £250 - £10,000. The Communities and Families Fund is funded jointly by the Scottish Government and the Big Lottery Fund. The fund will support local projects that help families and communities give children the best start in life and is concentrating on children, or families with children, aged 8 years and younger.
- **Young Start** £10k to £50k projects creating opportunities for children and young people aged 8-24 in the categories of confident, healthy, connected (inter-generationally) and enterprising. Funding has come from dormant bank accounts.
- The third round of the **Coastal Communities Fund** (Round 3) is due to open at the end of March 14. Grants of £50,000 and over will be available. All projects must contribute to the CCF programme outcome: *Coastal communities will experience regeneration and economic growth through projects that directly or indirectly create sustainable jobs and safeguard existing jobs*. Applications will be particularly welcomed from small and medium size coastal communities with a population of around 60,000 or less, facing economic challenges that promote sustainable economic growth and jobs through economic diversification activities in coastal communities that enable the growth of local businesses that complement strategic regeneration initiatives within coastal communities. Only projects that are able to demonstrate their ability to fully spend CCF funds by 31 December 2016 will be considered.
- Applications to all programmes are suffering a 6-8 week delay as a new application system has been installed and teething problems have caused a backlog.
- Sometimes there is a shortage of applications from particular regions, and in order to encourage those areas they can score higher during the assessment phase. However, Highlands & Islands have not recently (if ever) fallen into this category.

A summary of current programmes is below:

**2014 Communities** ; £300 - £2,000 to encourage people to take part in physical activities.

**Awards for All**; £500 to £10,000 projects that help people to actively bring about change in their communities inc, arts, heritage etc,

**Celebrate;** £500 to £10,000 for arts, sports, heritage and local events to celebrate the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Scotland.

**Coastal Communities Fund;** (see above)

**Communities and Families Fund;** (see above)

**Forces in Mind;** to help the psychological wellbeing and successful and sustainable transition of veterans families to civilian life

**Heroes Return ;** £165 to £8,140 to help WWII veterans make commemorative visits.

**International Communities;** for disadvantaged communities outside of the UK

**Growing Community Assets;** £10k to £1m to help communities take more control of assets, usually buildings or land but can be energy.

**Investing in Communities – Life Transitions;** £10k to £1m – to support people at key times of change to make their lives better, examples include vulnerable young people, older people, homeless people.

**Investing in Communities ; support to 21<sup>st</sup> Century life;** £10k - £1m for projects that build stronger families and stronger communities.

Investing in Ideas; £500 to £10,000 for project that aim to develop a way of working that brings benefits to communitais.

**Our Environment – Our Future;** projects that help young people improve the local environment. £30m between 25 to 35 projects across the UK, closing date 16<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

**Rethinking Parks;** £100k for projects that rethink public parks.

**Scottish Land Fund;** £10k to £750k to help rural communities ownership and management of land and land assets.

**Young Start** (see above)

<http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/funding>