



## MP information sheet January 2012: Big Lottery Fund programmes in England

The Big Lottery Fund (BIG) is committed to bringing real improvements to communities, and to the lives of people most in need.

We believe in:

- making best use of Lottery money
- using knowledge and evidence, and
- being supportive and helpful.

### CURRENT OPEN FUNDING PROGRAMMES

#### Awards for All

**Grants available: £300-£10,000**

**Who can apply?** Voluntary and community groups, schools and health organisations, parish and town councils. Awards for All is a rolling grants programme set up to help small local groups and communities. The application form is short and simple. The programme aims to make a difference to communities and the lives of those most in need and will focus on social and environmental projects that benefit local communities.

For further information: [www.awardsforall.org.uk](http://www.awardsforall.org.uk)

#### Reaching Communities

**Grants available: £10,000-£500,000**

**Who can apply?** Registered charities, charitable or not-for profit companies, statutory bodies, schools and social enterprises. Reaching Communities funds projects that help people and communities most in need. Projects can be new or existing activities, or the core work of the organisation.

#### Reaching Communities Buildings

**Grants available: £100,000-£500,000**

**Who can apply?** We want to fund projects that will replace or improve buildings where a wide range of community activities take place. We want to fund buildings that are well used by their community and have an impact long after the building work is finished. Organisations should check whether they can apply by using the eligibility checker.

We have limited funds available and since we know demand will be high, we are targeting funding at the most deprived 'Lower Super Output Areas' in England, but also take account of rural needs.

Further information:

[www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/reachingcommunities](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/reachingcommunities)

#### Heroes Return 2

**Grants available: £150-£5,500, depending on the number of people taking part and the destination**

**Who can apply?** World War II 'active service' veterans, resident in the UK or the Republic of Ireland. Heroes Return 2

provides funding to help veterans attend commemorations (whether in the UK or overseas) of the end of WWII. War widows and widowers of veterans are also eligible, and carers and spouses can receive funding to travel with veterans.

**No fixed deadline for applications at this time**

Further information: [www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/heroesreturn](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/heroesreturn)

#### International Communities

**Grants available: £50,000 to £500,000 for projects**

that last between two and five years Who can apply? UK-based non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and other voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations that are working with local partners overseas to run the project.

Up to £80 million will be available under the International Communities programme to fund projects that tackle the causes of poverty and deprivation and bring about a long-term difference to the lives of some of the most disadvantaged people in the world.

**Application deadline:** 31 March 2014, with final grants awarded by 21 March.

#### Communities Living Sustainably

The Communities Living Sustainably programme is the first of our strategic investments under our Sustainable and Resilient Communities Strategy. The funding will support a range of different communities including vulnerable groups as well as geographically diverse communities to adopt integrated approaches to tackling the impacts of a changing climate that focus on social, economic and environmental challenges.

The lead organisation must be a registered charity.

Partnerships must include each section of the community – its residents, businesses, voluntary and community sector and public sector.

The programme has up to £10 million available. Projects can apply for up to £10,000 to develop a project delivery plan. Grants are available of between £500,000 and £1 million for up to five years. This is mainly a revenue programme and we will only fund up to £60,000 capital costs.

We will fund up to 30 projects at development stage and up to 10 projects at full application stage.

**Application deadline:** 31 January 2012

Further information:

[www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_communities\\_living\\_sustainably](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_communities_living_sustainably)

## OTHER FUNDING PROGRAMMES

### Millennium Now

The Millennium Now programme aims to build upon the legacy of the Millennium Commission. We have joined forces with Channel 4 to ask the public how they would spend £10 million of lottery money, 'The Big Decision', to make sure it gets to the places and people who need it most.

The call out for public views on which areas we should fund began on 3 October at <http://www.channel4.com/programmes/the-big-decision/articles/your-say>

We will use the information gathered through the website and the results of an Ipsos MORI poll to inform the development of the Millennium Now programme.

Ultimately 5 projects will be awarded grants of up to £2 million. We also understand that large projects like this need the right support so we will be providing up to £1 million in development funding.

Further information:

[http://news.biglotteryfund.org.uk/pr\\_021111\\_mn\\_uk\\_how\\_would\\_you\\_spend\\_10\\_million](http://news.biglotteryfund.org.uk/pr_021111_mn_uk_how_would_you_spend_10_million)

### Big Local Trust (£200 million England-wide Trust)

**Who can apply?** 50 areas have been identified for the first wave and will receive at least £1 million each. The programme aims to help people in overlooked communities to meet their needs and make their communities better places to live in, now and in the future. We have selected communities which may have been overlooked for funding in the past, particularly from BIG.

We have appointed a partnership led by the Community Development Foundation to set up and run the £200m Big Local programme in up to 150 disadvantaged areas which have been overlooked for funding in the past. The official launch of the new Trust to be endowed with this £200m investment is scheduled for February 2012.

Further information:

[www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_biglocaltrust](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_biglocaltrust)

### Forces in Mind (£35 million)

**Who can apply?** Forces in Mind will help veterans with the transition to civilian life. It will focus on problems that veterans can experience when returning to civilian life, such as mental health problems, social exclusion, family breakdown, alcohol problems and crime.

BIG has set up a UK-wide Trust with an expendable endowment of £35 million through a partnership led by the Confederation of British Service and Ex-service Organisations (COBSEO).

Further information:

[www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_forces\\_in\\_mind](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_forces_in_mind)

### Social Impact Bonds (SIBs)

With the Ministry of Justice, BIG created and is supporting the first SIB in the UK, delivered at HMP Peterborough by the St Giles Trust. This landmark £6.25 million scheme helps short-sentence prisoners avoid re-offending.

BIG has also invested a further £5 million to develop three more SIBs.

Further information:

[www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/socialimpactbond](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/socialimpactbond)



### Useful links

**Big Lottery Fund:** [www.biglotteryfund.org.uk](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk)

Phone advice line: 0845 4 10 20 30

### Other National Lottery Funding

To apply for National Lottery funding or information about Lottery grants (notably from other Lottery distributors across arts, sports and heritage): Phone: 0845 275 0000 (local call rate). Website: [www.lotteryfunding.org.uk](http://www.lotteryfunding.org.uk)

We would like to work closely with your offices to ensure you and your constituents are familiar with the work we do and the benefit of our funding in the region.

To see first hand the impact our funding can have, why not let us take you on a project visit.

**Contact: Mark Breen, Parliamentary and UK external relations manager**

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The regional team is happy to work with you and your constituents. For further information contact:

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