



Since 2004 we have distributed over £4.4 billion across the UK to projects covering health, education, the environment and charitable purposes. Our mission is to bring real improvements to communities and the lives of people most in need. BIG is an outcomes funder, we are interested in what works and what makes a positive difference to the communities in which we deliver funding. We are also able to deliver non-Lottery funding.

Social Impact Bond (SIB)

Big Lottery Fund (BIG) has invested up to £11.25 million for a landmark social investment initiative – Social Impact Bond (SIB).

BIG are acting as joint commissioners of the Peterborough SIB with the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) as well as also funding the running costs for the development of the Bond. We were interested to be involved in this innovative pilot as we are keen to see how the use of Social Impact Bonds can help to solve key, entrenched, policy issues, such as reducing reoffending rates.

Initial evidence shows payment by results model such as a SIB can bring about significant long term savings for the Exchequer. However, we also know that potentially there are a number of benefits for beneficiaries and for the VCS organisations that work with them.

We are supporting the MOJ evaluation of the Peterborough SIB which will focus on how the SIB works towards supporting the reduction of re-offending. In addition to this we are also working with Social Finance to develop the marketplace further. As part of their £5 million grant Social Finance will develop three more SIBs over the next few years. These will focus on areas not directly related to re-offending such as substance abuse and supporting vulnerable young people.

In this pilot, BIG and MOJ act as the commissioner for the SIB and will pay the returns to investors related to the SIB's success.

Further information can be found here:

http://news.biglotteryfund.org.uk/pr_310810_uk_ri_big_paves_way_forward

Realising Ambition

Realising Ambition is a £25 million investment that will replicate effective, evidence based interventions that support young people aged 8-14 to fulfil their potential and avoid the pathways into offending and anti-social behaviour.

We have appointed a preferred specialist partnership led by Catch 22 and including the Dartington Social Research Unit, the Young Foundation, Rathbone and Substance to deliver the programme.

We will begin replicating projects in the summer of 2012. By the end of the programme we want more young people to have access to the highest quality, evidenced based support services.

Improving Futures

The Improving Futures programme aims to improve outcomes for children within families who experience multiple and complex problems – for example, to do with poor health, unemployment, debt, and housing problems – which can affect their children's wellbeing and life chances.

The programme forms part of our Replication & Innovation initiative that seeks to test out new ideas and interventions, develop partnerships, share knowledge and learning about what works in challenging areas of public policy.

Youth in Focus

Through Youth in Focus we have made up to £30 million available for projects in England that support vulnerable young people through difficult changes in their lives.

There are certain groups of young people who need more support at important stages in their lives. One of the groups we are targeting are those leaving youth offenders' institutions. Our funding will aim to help young people between the ages of 15 and 25 to develop their life skills and get better access to services, particularly young men with learning difficulties and young women.

Ex offenders

To date we have given over £17 million to projects that support projects for ex-offenders to help them settle back into mainstream society.

Legal Advice

BIG has made over £52 million of awards that support community legal advice. The Big Lottery Fund's Advice Plus programme aims to help people in need of access to good quality advice on their legal rights and responsibilities, so they can avoid or overcome disadvantage. Through our Advice Plus programme we have made an investment of £47.9 million specifically for the voluntary legal advice sector. Advice Plus made 111 awards to a range of providers. Alongside the central work of providing services, these projects often aimed to improve organisational efficiency

Through our Building and sustaining infrastructure services (BASIS), we have made £157 million of awards across England to improve the effectiveness of front-line third sector organisations. A number of these awards include improving legal advice, such as an award made to South Yorkshire Funding Advice Bureau which received £465,455 in March 2009 to commission specialist legal advice in a number of areas.

Victims of Crime

- ▶ BIG has made over £70 million worth of awards that support victims of crime and their families
- ▶ A number of these have dealt specifically with domestic violence and hate crimes, such as the £114,770 award through BIG's Reaching Communities programme to My Sister's Place Women's Advice Centre which provides counselling for victims of domestic violence.



Case Study – Routes out of Prison (Roop) – July 2008

Investing in Communities - £2,285,498

The Wise Group's 'Routes out of Prison' (Roop) project supports ex-offenders with multiple disadvantages to acquire life, relationship and employability skills that will help them resume their place within their family and society. Funded through the Big Lottery Fund's 'Life Transitions', this Scotland wide project is being delivered by the Roop partnership and will benefit 4746 offenders and 13 organisations over two and a half years.

One-to-one peer support will be provided to clients pre and post release by Life Coaches, who themselves are ex-offenders. Pre-release, clients will devise Individual Action Plans and Community Integration Plans, identifying positive aspirations and building confidence. Family counselling will be provided to a pilot group of 100 clients pre-release. Post-release, clients will receive continued advice/support on housing, benefits and general welfare. Job Developers will identify and support clients who would benefit from employment opportunities.

Family Learning

BIG's Family Learning programme aims to support families who face barriers to learning or who lack confidence helping their children learn.

- We have made £24 million of awards to support families with barriers to participation in learning; including families of offenders
- For example £150,000 was awarded to Children's Links in March 2008 to help children and their imprisoned parents to learn together during family visit days in the East Midlands

Further information on all programmes, awards and evaluation reports are available from www.biglotteryfund.org.uk

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