



CHANGE UR FUTURE



Big Lottery Fund

The Big Lottery Fund is a new Lottery distributor created by merging the New Opportunities Fund and the Community Fund. The Big Lottery Fund will hand out 50 per cent of the money from the National Lottery that goes to good causes. Our first programme is the Young People's Fund, which will give out £200 million to projects run by and for young people across the whole of the UK.

The Big Lottery Fund is committed to valuing diversity and promoting equality of opportunity, both as a grant-maker and employer. The Big Lottery Fund will aim to ensure grant applicants and recipients, stakeholders, job applicants and employees are treated fairly. It is the responsibility of all staff and Board members to uphold and implement our equality policy.



Young People's Fund

In Northern Ireland, there is £14.8 million available through the Young People's Fund. The aim of the programme is to target resources at young people at greatest risk of exclusion and/or offending.

We want to give money to young people themselves, and can fund organisations working on behalf of young people. We want to make sure that our money helps young people feel the benefits long after our grants come to an end.

The Young People's Fund puts young people at the centre of creating, planning and delivering projects that will achieve four main outcomes:

1. Increased participation of young people
2. Improved health and well-being for young people
3. Increased achievement and learning for young people
4. Wider family and community support for young people

Projects will also achieve at least one of the following three cross-cutting themes:

- ▶ Impact of conflict and tackling sectarianism
- ▶ Transition from infancy to young adulthood
- ▶ Additional needs of vulnerable, socially excluded and disaffected young people

We want young people to come up with their own ideas for projects and be involved from start to finish. We recognise that lots of young people are disadvantaged and face challenges when it comes to getting involved in activities. They are our priority under this programme.



Who can apply for funding?

Under this programme we will make grants to voluntary, community, statutory or private sector organisations or a partnership of different organisations.

Young People's Fund – Change UR Future programme

The Change UR Future programme is one part of the Young People's Fund, also aiming to achieve the outcomes and themes detailed on page 2. It has £10.8 million, to support projects, in Northern Ireland, that:

- focus on young people aged 0-25 years
- last up to five years
- target resources at those young people at greatest risk of exclusion and/or offending
- involve young people in the design, delivery and evaluation of the project.

A project under this programme must achieve outcome 1, and either outcome 2 and/or 3, and at least one of the cross-cutting themes of the Change UR Future programme (see page 2).

There will be two grant sizes available under this programme:

Large Grants

- £250,000 to a maximum of £500,000
- three to five years
- organisations **must** work in partnership.

Medium Grants

- £40,000 to a maximum of £150,000
- two to five years
- organisations **may** work in partnership.

Young People's Fund – Award Partner

Valued at £4 million

The Big Lottery Fund will also be appointing an Award Partner to deliver both a small grants programme that will support young individuals and groups of young people, and to develop strategic programme(s) that will support young people 0-25 as decision-makers. More information will be available on this programme in early 2006.

Some project examples

Beat the Bully

Four Derry/Londonderry teenagers have created an innovative board game to help young people beat the bullies. The group approached their local youth worker with the idea after deciding to take a stand against the people who had bullied them at school.

The four friends, who attend the same school, can now talk with confidence about their experiences of being bullied over the years.

Creating the game, which offers important advice to young people who are being bullied, helped them to come to terms with their own experiences. The project was a team effort with them all playing a part in developing this.



Loughshore Challenge

Loughshore Education Resource Centre, through receipt of a Big Lottery Fund grant, developed the Loughshore Challenge programme. This programme provides an outdoor pursuit's co-ordinator to run activities such as archery, high ropes climbing and canoeing for young people at risk of being excluded from school. These young people, for various reasons, suffer from many emotional and behavioural problems such as low self-esteem, anger, and lack of confidence. However, through the encouragement and support from staff, and following the set rules of the programme, the young people increase their skills while, at the same time, developing a greater sense of achievement, respect and self-belief.

Beyond Survival

New Life Counselling in partnership with Challenge for Youth ran the Beyond Survival Project as an initial cross-community pilot project with eight young men. Through a course of 16 sessions, including one residential, the young men learned practical skills through outdoor activities coupled with more reflective activities designed to help personal development and explore coping tool skills.

The project was developed after an internal analysis of beneficiaries at New Life showed a gap in young males taking up their services. At the same time, Challenge for Youth found that while doing youth work in the Ardoyne area, issues around suicide and other aspects of mental health were being raised. The two organisations decided to come together, share their strengths and pilot a project that challenged young men, developed their skills, and also gave time to examine emotional well-being.

The organisations used an external evaluation to look at a number of issues. A variety of evaluation tools focused on the young people, including the use of video diaries recorded by each of the participants. Additionally, the partnership itself was evaluated.

YouthBank

The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland set up a project called YouthBank. The Big Lottery Fund provided funding for this three year project. This project has enabled young people aged 16-25 to act as grant-makers for locally-based youth-led projects.

For example in June 2001, the young grant-makers gave a grant of £200 to the New Beginnings group in Derry/Londonderry, set up as a self help group to bring young people together to share their own experiences of bereavement, separation or divorce of a parent.

YouthBank developed links with 4 regional organisations (Newtownabbey Community Development Agency, Ballymena Community Forum, St Columb's Park House in Derry/Londonderry and the Southern Education and Library Board in Craigavon) which now host YouthBanks in their local area.

How do you apply?

We have divided the programme based on the size of grant you wish to apply for. **If you are applying for a medium or large grant, you must first submit an outline proposal form.**

These can be submitted on any date after 28 September 2005, but we must receive it at least one month before the full application deadline, as outlined below.

	Outline Proposal must be with us by:	Full application deadline
Medium Grant applications (first closing date)	5pm Monday 27 February 2006	5pm Monday 27 March 2006
Medium Grant applications (second closing date)	5pm Tuesday 29 August 2006	5pm Monday 25 September 2006
Large Grant applications (one closing date)	5pm Monday 27 February 2006	5pm Monday 27 March 2006

For more information

You can:

- download an outline proposal form and Guidance Notes from our website – www.biglotteryfund.org.uk
- contact our information team on:

Email:

enquiries.ni@biglotteryfund.org.uk

Phone: 028 9055 1455

Textphone: 028 9055 1431.

Fax: 028 9055 1445

Other sources of Lottery funding for young people

The Young People's Fund is not the only source of funding for projects for young people. If you would like to find out more about Lottery funding visit www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk.

Awards for All

Awards for All is a Lottery grants programme making simple and straightforward grants of between £500 and £5000. These are aimed at extending access and participation, increasing skill and creativity and improving the life of local communities. For more information visit www.awardsforall.org.uk.

Phone: 0845 600 2040 for an application pack for Awards For All

Textphone: 028 9055 1431

