



Investing In Ideas



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Print
Photography

Further copies available from:

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Our website www.biglotteryfund.org.uk

Accessibility

Also available upon request in Braille, on audio-cassette, in community languages and in large print.

Our equality principles

Promoting accessibility; valuing cultural diversity; promoting participation; promoting equality of opportunity; promoting inclusive communities; reducing disadvantage and exclusion.

We care about the environment

The Big Lottery Fund seeks to minimise its negative environmental impact and only uses proper sustainable resources

The Big Lottery Fund is committed to valuing diversity and promoting equality of opportunity, both as a grantmaker and employer. The Big Lottery Fund will aim to adopt an inclusive approach to ensure grant applicants and recipients, stakeholders, job applicants and employees are treated fairly.

Big Lottery Fund is the joint operating name of the New Opportunities Fund and the National Lottery Charities Board (which made grants under the name of Community Fund).

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What's the big idea?

The Big Lottery Fund has money to invest – and we want to use it to turn ideas into reality. **Your** ideas.

You have an idea that could help benefit your local community but do not know if it would work? Investing In Ideas could help you find out.

You would like to start up a new activity for older people in your area but do not know if people would back it and make it viable? Investing In Ideas could help you carry out a survey and see if there is support for your idea.

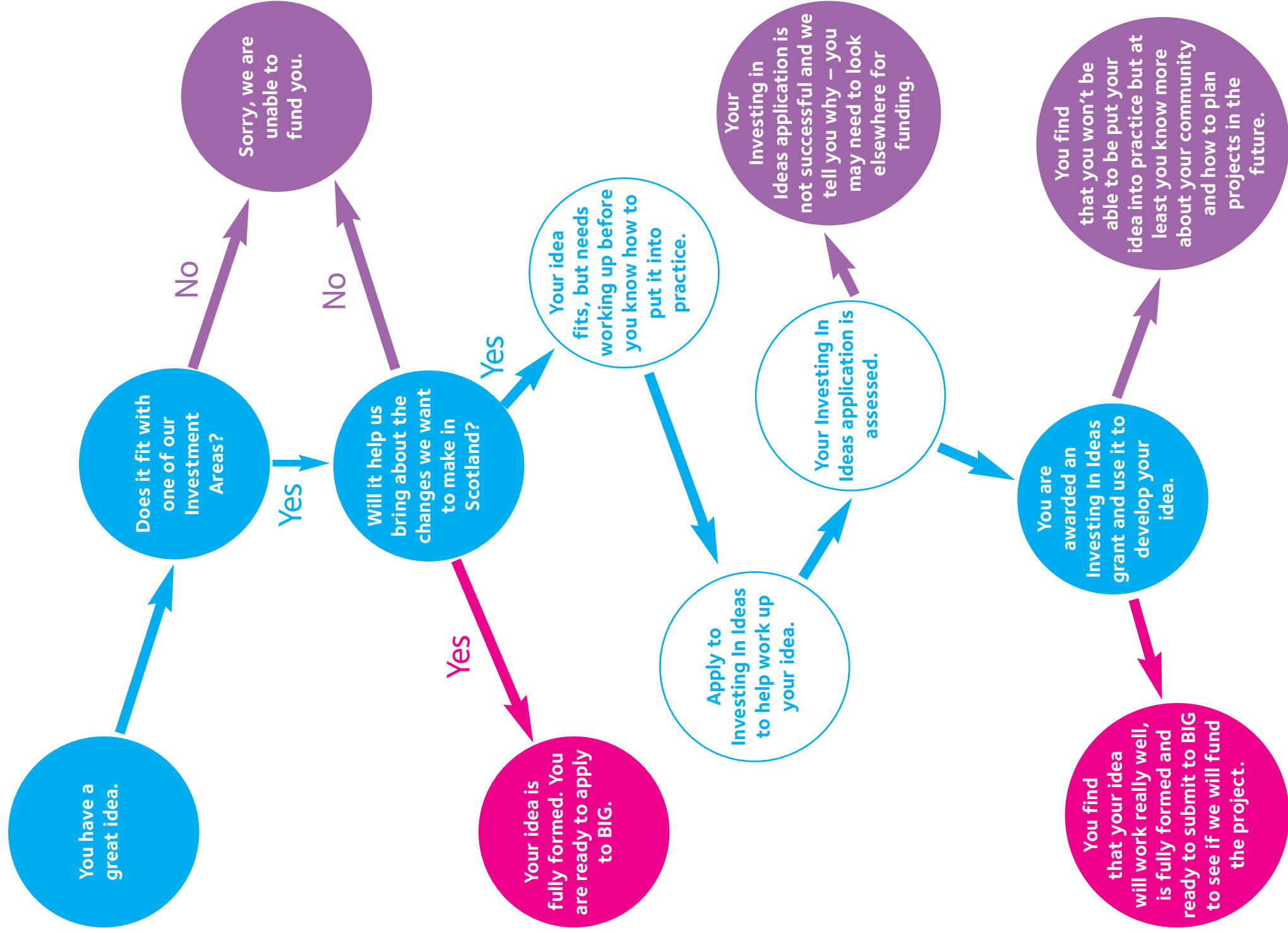
There is a building that your neighbourhood could use as a workspace or a place to meet if you could convert it properly? Investing In Ideas could pay for the technical help you need to check that out.

Get the idea?

BIG wants to invest in communities – but we want communities to come to us with ideas we can invest in. We have £4.6 million available to develop ideas that could eventually become fully-fledged projects. We may be able to fund your project too, but first we want to help you develop your idea and make sure your project will work.



Here's how Investing In Ideas works



Investing In Ideas can pay for:

- market research
- feasibility studies
- business planning
- training for your committee
- exchange visits in the UK to see how other projects work
- community consultation
- professional advice
- technical reports and scheme design studies
- surveys

...and many other things that can help turn your basic idea into a well-planned project (or help you realise that your idea will not work at all and you will need to think of something else).

Once your idea shows signs of becoming a well-planned project, we may consider funding it if it fits within one of our four investment areas, that is it will:

- help communities own or control their own assets (this could mean buying land, or building a community centre)
- enable people to handle the transitions they go through in life (this might mean the transition from school into employment or employment into retirement, but it could also mean leaving prison or moving on from addiction, for example)
- give people the means to cope with 21st century life, its stresses and the pace of change (these projects might bring together the older and younger generation to provide support for one another, or they might explore technology and how it can help people play a full part in 21st century communities, and there are many more examples)

- build dynamic and inclusive communities by encouraging voluntary organisations to engage more fully with local communities and play a stronger part in developing them.

Investing In Ideas is not a source of funding for your **project**. Your project is what you will do **after** your idea has been tested out or developed. First of all, Investing In Ideas will help you explore your idea at an early stage - so that your project will be better planned and more likely to succeed.

Got the idea?

If you'd like to apply to Investing In Ideas, call 0845 606 1199 for an application pack. Or visit our website www.biglotteryfund.org.uk

If you would like to discuss your idea to see if we are likely to help you develop it, phone us on 0870 240 2391.

