

# Our mission and values Wales

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## Big Lottery Fund mission and values

The Big Lottery Fund is responsible for giving out half the money for good causes raised by the National Lottery, giving us a budget of about £630 million a year. Our funding covers health, education, environment and charitable purposes.

We are committed to bringing real improvements to communities and the lives of people most in need. To do this, we have identified seven values that underpin our work. They are:

- fairness
- accessibility
- strategic focus
- involving people
- innovation
- enabling
- additional to government

Launched on 1 June 2004, the Big Lottery Fund is a new and different organisation, although we wish to build on the experience and best practice of the two Lottery distributors, the Community Fund and the New Opportunities Fund, that were merged to create us.

This leaflet aims to tell you about the Big Lottery Fund. If you would like more detail about our funding programmes and how to apply, please visit our website at [www.biglotteryfund.org.uk](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk) or call our information line on 0845 4 10 20 30.

## Our funding themes, outcomes and programmes

Our mission at the Big Lottery Fund is to bring real improvements to communities and the lives of people in need. We have a clear focus to fund projects and programmes within three key themes:

- supporting community learning and creating opportunity
- promoting community safety and cohesion and
- promoting well-being.

These three themes are supported by four outcomes for Wales, which will be published during summer 2005. Please visit our website for more information: [www.biglotteryfund.org.uk](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk)

Following a wide consultation, we are now launching a range of new funding programmes for the period 2005-2009, which support these outcomes. There will be separate programmes in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. A third of our money will go towards demand-led programmes. This means that we can support a variety of local schemes and ideas which meet our broad priorities for funding. In addition, there will be strategic programmes that target a particular area, activity or group of people. We have also promised that 60-70 per cent of our funding will go to the voluntary and community sector through demand-led and strategic programmes.

Our new programmes will all be open for business by April 2006.

### **Our values**

We have identified the following seven values that set out our approach and shape our funding.

## Fairness

### **Putting equality and diversity at the heart of our work.**

Equality and diversity are at the heart of what we do, both as an employer and as a funder. We want to make sure that people and communities across the UK have equal opportunities to access our funding. This might mean providing support to specific groups of people to help them apply for grants, or it may mean targeting our funding to meet the needs of a particular community or group of people. We recognise that there are obstacles and barriers for many people in society and we want our funding to help overcome these.



## Accessibility

### **Making it easier to access our funding and providing help to grant applicants and recipients.**

For many applicants, finding their way round the different trusts and grant-givers is a daunting task. At the Big Lottery Fund we will do what we can to make things simpler. We will ensure that our application materials and monitoring processes are “fit for purpose”. In other words, we would expect much less information for a £10,000 grant than we would for a £10 million grant. We will look at ways in which we can support applicants and recipients and, where appropriate, we will introduce a two-stage application process that reduces the burden on unsuccessful applicants. We have listened to the views of grant holders and as a result we will be flexible in the length of our funding, from one up to five years. And we will adopt the principle of full cost recovery by allowing all legitimate overhead costs to be recovered by voluntary and community organisations. We will make efficiency savings of between 10 – 20 per cent on our running costs and ensure that these are ploughed back in to projects.



## Strategic focus

**Working in partnership and joining up with existing strategies, developing programmes that are focused on the outcomes and the difference they make for communities.**

We asked people how they thought we should fund, and one of the strongest responses was that we should work in partnership with others. We will do this by encouraging partnership working through our grants and working with other organisations/funders to bring together initiatives and funding streams. We will work with partners in the voluntary, statutory and private sectors. Where appropriate, we will complement government priorities and programmes to achieve maximum benefit for communities.



## Involving people

### **Involving local communities in our work and making sure the public know and care about our work.**

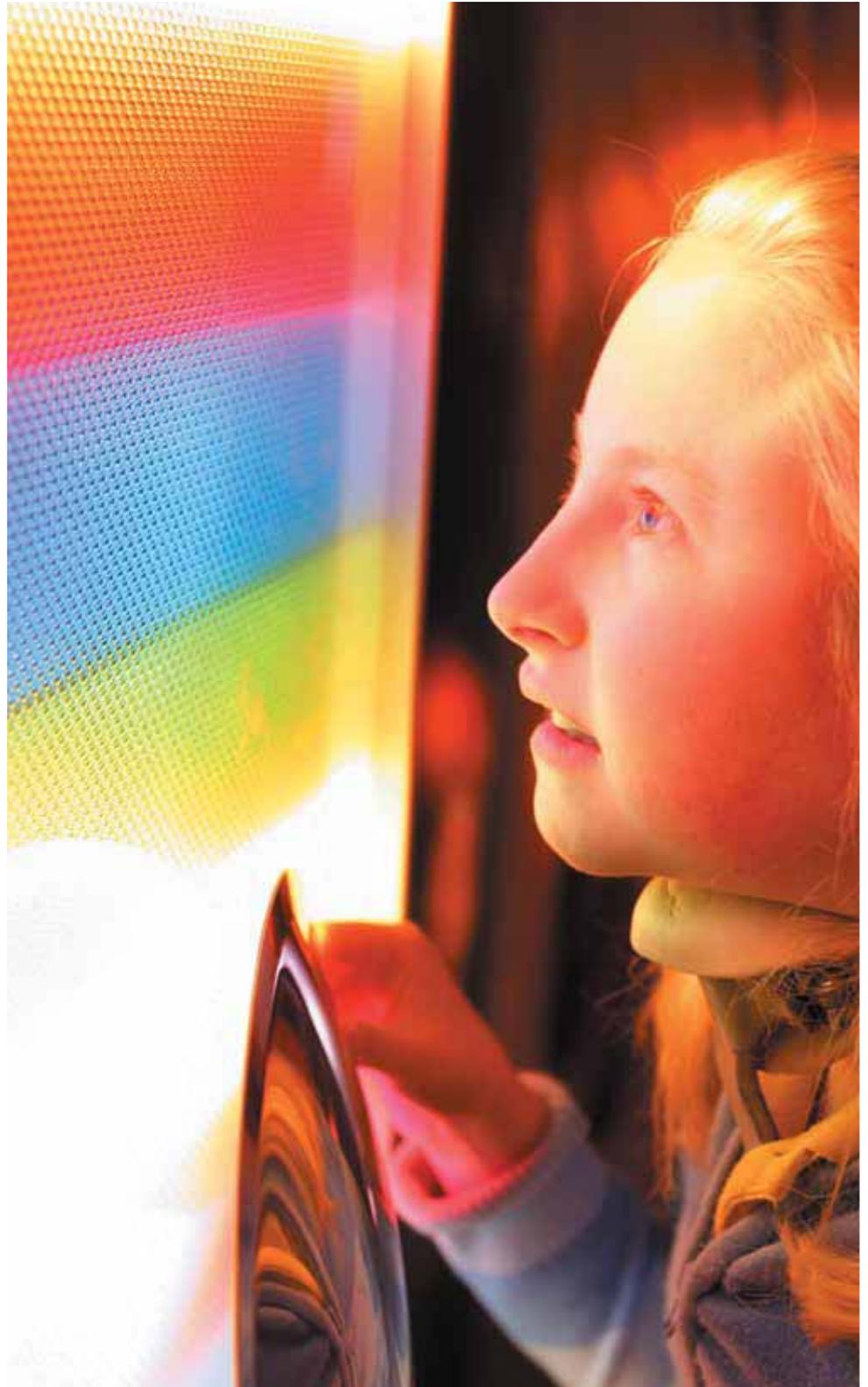
We believe that it is vital that we involve the public more in our work, both in shaping our funding priorities and in the funding decisions we make. That is why, when we launched the Big Lottery Fund, we did so with a wide spread two-stage consultation. The results of this are already informing our policies and programmes. We firmly believe that the public, when appropriately informed and interested in our programmes, can help us make better funding decisions. For example, for the Young People's Fund, we have recruited young people to sit on national and regional panels to help us decide where funding should go. We will continue to pilot and evaluate new ways of public involvement and we will make every effort to be an organisation that listens to and takes account of people's views.



## Innovation

### **Building evidence-based programmes, sharing what we learn and considering new ways of making grants.**

We will continue to support projects which improve the lives of people in need, even if that means funding some projects which are unpopular. We also want to ensure that innovative projects can access funding and we accept that there may be risks attached to supporting groundbreaking work. At the same time, we will not be ashamed to fund more popular causes and we will continue to support tried and tested projects that are based on what works. We will seek to learn from our funding through evaluation and research. We are committed to sharing learning with others and to influencing policy development at a local and national level.



## Enabling

**Working with communities, partners and other funders to help achieve lasting change.**

We recognise that our funding has the potential to achieve lasting change. It can be transformational. However, some groups and communities do not have the resources and skills to get the most from our funding. We will ensure that we make funding available to develop these skills and we will work with communities, with partners and with other funders to help communities get the maximum benefit from our funding.



## Additional to government

### **Ensuring our funding is distinct from government funding and adds value.**

We will ensure that our funding is additional and adds value. Like other Lottery distributors, we are a non-departmental public body and therefore responsible to the Government and Parliament. It is perfectly proper that our strategic framework (the themes and outcomes) should be agreed by the Government and devolved administrations. The Big Lottery Fund is responsible for determining the priorities within that strategic framework, deciding on our programmes and how they should be delivered, and making decisions on individual grants.



## Further information

This leaflet sets out how we want to work as a funder. It tells you about our vision and the values that inform all that we do. If you would like further details about our funding programmes please visit our website [www.biglotteryfund.org.uk](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk) or call our enquiries line on 0845 4 10 20 30. Alternatively, you can email us on [enquiries@biglotteryfund.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@biglotteryfund.org.uk)

## Big picture made small

### Information for readers

When was it published?	June 2005
Need more information?	The easiest way to apply is online: <a href="http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk">www.biglotteryfund.org.uk</a> Or call 0845 4 10 20 30
Reference	BLF-GEN73
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Photographers	Cover: by Adam Pope Page 4: Oldham Owls disabled basketball team by Ged Murray Page 5: Foyleview School by Brian Morrison Page 6: Chelsea Pensioners by Newscast Page 7: Gaelic football match by Adam Pope Page 8: Foyleview School by Brian Morrison Page 9: Isle of Gigha by John Borowski Page 10: Duncairn New Lodge Community Health Partnership by Brian Morrison
Further copies available by quoting the references given above:	<a href="mailto:enquiries@biglotteryfund.org.uk">enquiries@biglotteryfund.org.uk</a> Phone: 0845 4 10 20 30 Minicom: 0845 6 02 16 59
We provide publications in several formats	Also available on request in Braille, on audio-cassette, on disc in large print, in Welsh and community languages
We care about the environment	The Big Lottery Fund seeks to minimise its negative environmental impact and uses only proper sustainable resources
Our equal opportunities commitment	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 adopt an inclusive approach 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
The legal bit	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 the Community Fund)



Awarding funds from

**The National Lottery**™