

Big Lottery Fund Funding Landscapes

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk





- Brief overview of Big Lottery Fund and how we work
- What do we fund and how we fund
- What mistakes to avoid when applying to us



Brief overview of Big Lottery Fund and how we work

Big Lottery Fund – Brief overview



- Lottery £1
- Main lottery distributors
- BIG's Mission: 'We are committed to bringing real improvements to communities and the lives of people most in need'

BIG's Outcomes



- People having better chances in life, including being able to get better access to training and development to improve their life skills
- Strong communities, with more active citizens, working together to tackle their problems

BIG's Outcomes



- Improved rural and urban environments, which communities are better able to access and enjoy
- Healthier and more active people and communities.

Our funding programmes



★ AWARDS FOR ALL



- Projects must meet **at least one** of the following outcomes:
 1. People have better chances in life
 2. Stronger communities
 3. Improved rural and urban environments
 4. Healthier and more active people and communities
- Grants of between £300 and £10,000
- Legally constituted not-for-profit groups, schools, town and parish councils and health bodies can apply



AWARDS FOR ALL



Examples of what a grant could pay for:

- equipment hire or purchase
- information technology equipment
- building and refurbishment work
- sessional workers
- updating equipment and premises for health and safety reasons
- training
- volunteer expenses
- venue hire

Most common reject reasons – Y & H region

- Application does not meet one programme outcome
- Applying for excluded items e.g.
 - repeat activities and the group's usual work (ongoing)
 - building projects over £25k
 - salaried workers
- Insufficient evidence of need
- Projects primarily for the advancement of art, sports or heritage



www.awardsforall.org.uk

Reaching Communities



A Reaching Communities project must show how it meets at least one of the programme outcomes:

- Outcome 1: People having **better chances in life**, with better access to training and development to improve their life skills
- Outcome 2: **Stronger communities**, with more active citizens, working together to tackle their problems
- Outcome 3: Improved **rural and urban environments**, which communities are better able to access and enjoy
- Outcome 4: **Healthier** and more active people and communities

Reaching Communities



Who can apply?

- Registered charities
- Charitable or not-for-profit organisations or companies
- Social enterprises
- Statutory bodies including schools

Reaching Communities



Two strands:

- Reaching Communities revenue and small capital – funding from £10,000 to £500,000 for revenue projects and/or smaller capital projects up to £50,000
- Reaching Communities buildings – funding of between £100,000 and £500,000 for large capital projects
 - **Total** project cost (all sources of funding) must not be more than £750,000
 - Associated organisational costs - principle of full cost recovery
 - Existing projects as well as new

Reaching Communities - Buildings



- £100,000 - £500,000
- Total cost of project no more than £750,000
- Up to 2 years
- Targeted at most deprived urban and rural areas
- Can include up to £15,000 revenue
- Multi purpose multi user buildings

Reaching Communities



Improvements to Reaching Communities

- If you apply for less than £40,000 for each year there is a simpler application process
- If you are invited to complete a full application form you will have a better chance of being funded
- The new improved outline proposal form is now available to download – please do not use any earlier versions
- We have made it easier for groups to describe the ‘outcomes’ of their projects when they apply .

Improving your chances on Reaching Communities



- Show strong evidence of need
- Have at least two project outcomes that demonstrate a clear difference
- Clearly link your activities to your outcomes and need
- Involve your beneficiaries in planning, design and delivery
- Demonstrate value for money
- Other funding



Reaching Communities - Equalities

We ask for equality information because:

- we want to know who benefits from the projects we fund, so that we can find out if we need to give more support to some applicants, target our funding or change how we run our programmes
- we're keen to learn how our funding can reach the widest range of people as possible
- by sharing what we learn, those running projects can find out how to reach the widest range of people who could benefit.



Mistakes to avoid when applying to us

Common mistakes



- Project Planning and Costing
- Not enough evidence of need
- Not enough information provided
- Unlikely to lead to stated outcomes

BIG's approach to outcomes



- What problems/issues do your beneficiaries face – what needs to change?
- Evidence the need
- Develop an aim
- Develop outcomes
- Work up activities

Project outcomes



- Use words that indicate change like ‘more,’ ‘better,’ ‘increased,’ ‘reduced,’ ‘improved’
- **Structure – who** will benefit, **how** will things change and **what** will change?

For example:

People with disabilities will have increased self-confidence to manage and make changes in their lives

www.biglearningzone.org.uk

New online guide replaces 'Explaining the difference your project makes'



Getting Funding and Planning Successful Projects

BIG's Guide to Outcomes

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[Credits](#)

Introduction

Getting Funding and Planning Successful Projects: BIG's Guide to Outcomes

Big Lottery Fund is an outcomes funder and is driven by the difference its funding makes for individuals and communities.

We have recently revised our approach to outcomes and have produced Getting Funding and Planning Successful Projects for organisations applying for a Big Lottery Fund grant from 1st November 2010. It is a simple step-by-step introduction to the fundamental concepts and principles that you will need to know about if you are going to apply for funding from us. Please invest some time in exploring this resource - it will help you increase your chances of getting funding and of making a difference once you do.

Getting Funding and Planning Successful Projects is part of a set of essential materials for our applicants. If you are applying to us for funding ***you must also read:***



Awards for All website

www.awardsforall.org.uk

Big Lottery Fund website

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk

BIG Advice Line 0845 4 10 20 30

Text phone 0845 6 02 16 59