

Post 2009 National Lottery Consultation Big Lottery Fund 'Self-Assessment'

1. Introduction

- 1.1 In April 2005, DCMS invited Lottery distributors to complete a self-assessment form as part of the process of informing a national consultation on future uses of Lottery funding, to be carried out later this year. Given the wide scale consultation surrounding the creation of the Big Lottery Fund, it was decided that the consultation would not include good causes funded by us. However, given that the New Opportunities Fund (NOF) and the Community Fund (CF) have, since 1998, distributed half of all Lottery funding for good causes, we felt it might be helpful to outline some of the achievements of both legacy organisations to help complete the overview of the impact of Lottery funding.
- 1.2 Both CF and NOF have funded thousands of projects which have benefited communities across the UK. The Community Fund supported projects undertaken by charitable organisations, while the New Opportunities Fund supported projects in the areas of health, education and the environment. Between them, the two organisations have given £5 billion to benefit communities and support people in need.
- 1.3 By funding projects whose primary aim is to benefit communities, we have also contributed to good causes commonly funded by other distributors. Most notable is the £750 million investment to improve school/community sports facilities. On a smaller scale, projects have used the arts and sports to achieve educational, health, environment and community benefits.

Fitzrovia Youth in Action

Fitzrovia Youth in Action were awarded £182,145 to enable young people aged 14-19, of mainly Bangladeshi origin, to develop and manage projects to address community concerns. Current projects include an intergenerational street-planting project, a street party, a peer research project on drugs and organising the Camden Unity Cup football tournament. Users will also participate in workshops, residential trips, outdoor activities and opportunities to be peer facilitators and volunteer youth workers to develop skills such as problem solving, interpersonal skills and teamwork. The local adult community, particularly older people, will benefit from improved safety and environment.

2. Funding for charitable projects

- 2.1 The Community Fund awarded grants to projects run by charities and philanthropic and benevolent organisations. While CF set priorities for its funding, essentially its programmes were demand-led, offering VCS

bodies the opportunity to identify those areas of activity where funding was most needed. Achievements under this programme included:

- Over £121 million for the building, extension and improvement of more than 2,000 village and community halls.
- £780 million supporting children and young people.
- 1,582 projects benefiting scouts, guides and other youth groups.
- £297 million supporting older people and their carers.

Caring Together in Woodhouse and Little London - £86,926.

This group has received funding for several projects from us in the past. This most recent award will enable the group to provide a range of services and activities to older people that enable them to retain their independence and play a meaningful part in the local community. The development grant will enable established services within the neighbourhood to continue, whilst supporting the development of targeted work for groups of older people who are harder to reach, such as those with sensory impairments, black elders and older carers.

- 2.2
- £877 million supporting disabled people and their carers.
 - £254 million awarded to projects supporting black and minority ethnic communities.

Newport Chinese Community Centre - £59,852.

This project provides a drop in centre allowing people from the Chinese community to access advice, support and training, leading to better community relationships, increased employability and social well-being.

- 2.3
- 667 projects supporting the victims of crime.
 - 6822 projects helping people disadvantaged by rural isolation.

Foula Electricity Trust - £198,905.

Foula is the most remote inhabited island in the UK. It is not connected to the electricity grid and currently has an inadequate local supply from a small diesel generator. The project is designed to provide a reliable, 24 hour electricity supply to the community in an innovative & sustainable manner.

- 2.4
- 574 projects tackling substance abuse.

3. Funding for health, education and environment

3.1 The New Opportunities Fund awarded grants to health, education and environment projects. Although around 40% of funding went to voluntary and community groups, NOF was also able to fund public and private bodies. A range of funding mechanisms was used, including allocating funds to areas, working with award partners and soliciting applications for major grants.

Health

3.2 • 23.3 million people able to access wellbeing initiatives through 350 healthy living centres (HLCs).

Cook It! In ARC Healthy Living Centre - £334,775

The NOF grant is encouraging people in Irvinestown County Fermanagh to cook and eat healthier food. The grant is being used to train and support local people to deliver the programme in their communities. Activities include promoting healthier eating, enhancing cooking skills and establishing social networks.

3.3 • £84 million has been channelled into care, support and information for hundreds of hospices and carer-at-home schemes throughout the UK, to support people coping with life-limiting illnesses. This includes the single biggest investment in children's palliative care, with £48 million going to children's services.

- More than 1,172 grants totalling more than £400 million have so far been awarded for building or refurbishing sports facilities for schools and communities.

Langdon Community School Sports Hall - £1,700,000.

A brand new 6-court sports hall, changing rooms and fitness room will help improve health in an area that has London's shortest life expectancy for men and women. The development aims to provide better sports choices and improved facilities for 3,500 local student and members of the community outside school hours at low cost. Also on offer are sports conventions (events) designed to combat gender and race stereotyping, and health and well being initiatives.

3.4 • 1,121,375 children getting free fruit in school.

Education

3.5 • Out of school hours learning activities in 13,000 schools.

- Over 555,340 out of hours childcare places have been created.

Merthyr Tydfil Integrated Children's Centre - £389,000.

This new build project will benefit 1,053 children and 4,173 adults by developing an integrated children's centre. The services provided include a nursery, book/toy libraries, wrap around childcare, playgroups, creche and family rooms to support community-based learning.

- 3.6
- 485,000 teachers and school librarians receiving ICT training.
 - All of the UK's 4000 libraries have received computers and internet access, with 16 per cent of the public aged 16 years having used the Internet in a public library.
 - More than 20,350 people, including 9,724 veterans and 591 war widows, have been funded to journey to the battlefields where they saw action or where their loved ones fell. Eighty-four-year-old World War II veteran Leonard Owen from Litchfield has recently returned from his Heroes Return trip to Moussey in Eastern France where he visited graves and remembered those who lost their lives in the 'Valley of the Widows' during WWII. In recent years Mr Owen devoted his time and energy to building a special commemorative garden in their honour at the National Arboretum near Litchfield.

Environment

- 3.7
- 25,500 hectares bought into community ownership by Scottish Land Fund.

Acharacle Community Company - £96,420.

The project involves Acharacle Community Co. acquiring Acharacle Post Office, which comprises a post office, general store, tea-room and a private dwelling house. The applicant proposes to lease the post office/general store and tea-room business to private operators, and to provide Lochaber Housing Association with a 20-year let for the dwelling.

- 3.8
- Over 3000 green spaces and sustainable communities grants in two years.

Creggan Country Park Enterprises

Creggan Country Park Enterprises in Derry used a £49,750 grant under NOF's Green Spaces and sustainable Communities programme to develop an innovative project to generate electricity through a hydro-electric scheme. The Park is aiming to improve the local environment by developing sport and recreational activities as well as training and employment. They plan to generate their own electricity using water from the surrounding reservoirs.

4. Complementing the Government's agenda

- 4.1 Given the areas in which CF and NOF were funding, much of what we achieved contributed to the overall social policy agenda. In some cases, NOF funding piloted work which has since been mainstreamed by Government (for instance childcare and Neighbourhood Nurseries), in others our funding has complemented national policy but the results are yet to be fully mainstreamed (for instance Healthy Living Centres). Some programmes clearly presented a one-off injection of funding which has achieved a step change in the way public services have been delivered. For instance, ICT investment in public libraries provided the capital funding to purchase computers and network them up and revenue support to train staff in how to use them. The maintenance and upkeep of this system has now, by and large, been taken up by local authorities. Similarly in the PE and Sports programme, Lottery funding is providing a one-off injection of money to develop and upgrade sports facilities for school and community use. Rather than replacing Government funding, this approach demonstrates how Lottery money can pilot a social policy approach which is later mainstreamed, or add value to existing expenditure and change the way public services are developed and delivered.
- 4.2 The Community Fund supported individual projects rather than large-scale funding programmes, but even here we can see how grants complemented Government policy and provided added value. The Community Fund's demand-led programmes directed large amounts of money to areas of critical concern to the Government. This funding has enabled voluntary and community organisations to do more work than Government funding allowed, including some areas of work which were recognised as important in Government strategies but where funding was insufficient. For example -
- £137m for work supporting homeless people to return to mainstream society since 1997.
 - £213m to projects helping carers since the launch of the National Carers Strategy in 1998 - the equivalent of an extra 20% per year on top of the Carers Grant allocations.
- 4.3 The Community Fund was also able to respond flexibly to developing agendas important to the Government and voluntary sector, supporting key work in a number of fields. For example, Community Fund grants have paid for –
- the development of national standards of accreditation for volunteers, a key step in achieving the Government's vision for volunteering.
 - the development of a standard model for allocating full project costs, a precondition of implementing the recommendations of the Compact Code of Good practice on Funding and Procurement.

- NCVO's quality standards task group, whose outputs are critical in gearing the sector to deliver public services consistently and effectively.

All of the projects funded by the CF were in the voluntary and community sector and, as part of the assessment process, consideration was given to the extent to which the project could or should be undertaken by a public sector organisation. This led to high levels of additionality.

5. Universality of funding

- 5.1 There are clear challenges associated with the concept of fair and equitable investment in the distribution of Lottery money. We believe, however, that the pattern of funding distribution by the Community Fund and the New Opportunities Fund to date does go a long way towards achieving this. This has been achieved through a variety of approaches in funding distribution, going beyond open access grant programmes and targeting where there is clear evidence of need.
- 5.2 The Community Fund has targeted funding in a number of ways, but predominantly using the index of multiple deprivation to target at a local authority level. Where other factors have been included, this has been based on clear and documented evidence of need, in the context of the Fund's published strategic priorities.
- 5.3 The New Opportunities Fund has taken a range of approaches across its programmes, dependent largely on the funding available and the intended outcomes of the programme. These have included, among other things, universal coverage based on populations (for example, ICT training for teachers and librarians); universal coverage weighted for deprivation or based on existing provision (for example, out of school childcare and out of school learning programmes); targeting based on existing provision, health needs, etc. (for example, health equipment programmes); targeting based on needs of specific communities (for example, palliative care provision for children and minority ethnic communities); and open programmes, giving priority to disadvantaged areas based on deprivation indicators (for example, healthy living centres).
- 5.4 The two organisations have also jointly developed the Fair Share Programme. This scheme aims to make Lottery funding more readily available to disadvantaged communities in 77 of the 100 most deprived local authority areas in UK. However, in addition to deprivation indices, these areas were also chosen on the basis of the amount of Lottery funding they had received to date; all areas chosen have received less than average Lottery funding from all the Lottery distributors taken together. Fair share is investing £180 million in the 77 areas. This has been done through tried and tested approaches, such as the Community Fund's medium and large grants programme, and new methods, such as the £50 million Fair Share Trust which is providing ten years of

guaranteed funding via the expendable annuity in some of the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

- 5.5 Both organisations focused funding on people in need and sought to target funding on disadvantaged communities. In 2002, CF adopted six priority groups- children and young people, older people and their carers, disabled people and their carers, refugees and asylum seekers, black and minority ethnic groups, people who live in areas of economic disadvantage - and most of their funding was distributed to these target groups. NOF, on the other hand, tended to focus funding on disadvantaged communities, ensuring that programmes sought to distribute money to areas most in need. Both organisations have allocated funding to England (77.5%), Northern Ireland (4.5%), Scotland (11.5%) and Wales (6.5%), based on a formula agreed with DCMS. In England, both CF and NOF have achieved a good regional spread in the distribution of funds.

6. Responding to devolution

- 6.1 Both Funds developed their programmes to respond to local priorities identified by each of the devolved administrations. NOF delivered funding programmes in the devolved areas of health, education and the environment, working closely with Scottish Ministers and the Scottish Executive, the Welsh Assembly Government and the Northern Ireland Assembly / DCAL to ensure strategic fit and complementarity with the devolved administrations' strategies in these areas. NOF's grant programmes benefited from the expertise of country specific, specialist decision-making committees or strategic panels, chaired by the relevant country representative on the UK Board.
- 6.2 The Community Fund had long-standing Country Committees that agreed strategy and made decisions on grants. The Fund managed most of its grant programmes from its Country Offices. NOF progressively devolved functions to the countries in order to respond more effectively to local circumstances. The Big Lottery Fund has a devolved directorate structure and new programmes will be based on outcomes and priorities determined in each country.
- 6.3 In Scotland only, the New Opportunities Fund delivered Better Off, a £10 million community drug rehabilitation programme, providing supported access to opportunities such as training, employment and accommodation to people affected by substance misuse. The programme was developed and delivered in partnership with Scotland's Drugs Action Team network.
- 6.4 In Northern Ireland, NOF's Childcare programme has been developed and implemented to meet the needs of the childcare sector. The Building Quality Childcare programme was developed with Area Childcare Partnerships, and provided capital funding for locally identified modernisation, refurbishment and mobile services, which provide high quality early years and childcare facilities.

- 6.5 In Wales, the Activities for Young People's programme complemented the Assembly's Extending Entitlement initiative. It supported innovative approaches to working with disaffected young people, delivering through the newly created Young People's Partnerships.

7. Levered in funding

- 7.1 Both the Community Fund and the New Opportunities Fund have helped projects to lever in extra funding as a result of their grants, although it is important to point out that this was not a requirement of our funding. Between both organisations, nearly £4 billion of additional resources have been attracted to projects. This came from a variety of sources, including ESF, Peace Money (Northern Ireland), SRB, public and private investment. In addition, projects secured funding from other trusts and grant makers. Grants from CF (1995 to date) levered in £1,466,995,042, whilst grants from NOF (1998 to date) levered in £2,448,638,168. Levered in funding means that the overall value of the projects we have funded approaches £9 billion – a huge investment in communities across the UK.

8. Social impacts/Lessons learnt

- 8.1 Both the Community Fund and the New Opportunities Fund sought to analyse the impact of our programmes on the direct beneficiaries, the wider community, the local area and the sector. We commissioned research on our programmes and a table of key findings is attached at Annex A, with a fuller description of findings at Annex B. The analysis from this research has been used to inform policy developments both within the Fund and externally; in the case of the childcare programme, the evaluation findings were instrumental in influencing how the Government developed its own childcare provision. Evaluations uncover what works for whom, in what context and why. From the range of New Opportunities Fund health evaluations, we have learned about the complex interaction of players in any local health economy; how statutory, voluntary and private sector service provision overlaps; and how our most sustainable interventions are those where this interrelationship is best understood and its leverage maximised. Other impact evaluations tell us about how communities work together, how participation and access are increased and what are the challenges and barriers to people in getting involved (explored, for instance, through the NOPES evaluation and recent Demos research). It is often difficult to disentangle what impact can be specifically attributed to the Fund's intervention, especially where structures are complex and there are multiple funders, but a range of qualitative approaches helps to explore this. By using a control group methodology in the School Fruit evaluation, we were able to compare directly between two groups of children, one receiving fruit and the other not.

- 8.2 Sometimes the lessons that emerge from looking at the impact of our programmes are generic ones. Looking across a number of youth programmes, for instance, we can say that key lessons for future programme development are about establishing clear programme aims and purposes, shared understanding of target groups and why they are chosen and being explicit about assumptions at the outset. Exploring 'theories of change' - that is, unpacking the assumptions of key stakeholders about what they expect the programme to achieve - is a method we have applied across many evaluations to useful effect. Community Fund research on the use of outcomes has provided valuable guidance on how far to prescribe expected outcomes. We also value the lessons learned through evaluation which could not be anticipated at the outset, or indeed were unexpected benefits.
- 1.0 We build up knowledge and expertise as we develop our involvement in a particular area. The lessons from our youth programmes were drawn together recently in a seminar, with a resultant publication. Community Fund support to the voluntary and community sector over more than 10 years and research into different aspects of its funding programmes have provided a strong body of knowledge about the sector, the issues faced by different groups, and what role the Fund can play in enabling and capacity-building. Through such learning, we become better funders – more effective in how we distribute our funding to achieve social change and more efficient in the way we deal with the grantmaking process and make a serious contribution to wider learning beyond the organisation.

Helen Thorne
Big Lottery Fund
June 2005

ANNEX A

Key Findings

Partnership working: Partnerships are most effective when they are genuine collaborations, not forced by a requirement to show partnership working; although they require considerable effort and good management and governance, in the long term they strengthen local relationships and lead to better ways of working and more effective regeneration.

Sustainability: Projects tend to be more sustainable when they operate collaboratively, maximising their interaction and interdependence with existing structures; our programmes achieve greater sustainability when we have considered this at the outset, and when they are supported by robust partnerships.

Impact on the sector: Recognition of context and local factors are critical in the ultimate effectiveness of funded projects; where our programmes have failed to take wider contextual issues into account as well as organisational capacity to deliver, they have encountered problems. This applies to the statutory and voluntary sectors.

Capacity-building: Funding that enhances skills, builds community capacity and creates community assets is ultimately more effective than capital building, although capital building, where it creates a viable asset, can support the 'people side'.

Support to projects: Better outcomes can be achieved when applicants/recipients are helped to develop and deliver them, but there is a significant cost-benefit implication.

Timescales: Requiring relatively fast turnaround times from projects through the application process can lead to insufficient consultation and limited buy-in by local parties; pressure (often political) for speedy delivery may thus constrain the quality of the outcome.

Community participation: Where communities are genuinely and democratically involved in decision-making, there are long-lasting indirect benefits such as empowerment, involvement and self-esteem, which may not have been anticipated at the start of the programme; user involvement may be a key element in this.

Disadvantage: The balance between funding groups of hard-to-reach or disadvantaged individuals and geographical areas is critical; and in both cases there are capacity issues in terms of handling the funding.

Influencing policy: The Fund achieves greatest influence when its programmes chime with the broad thrust of Government priorities, when key players are involved in the programme's design and implementation and when our funding enables something innovative or far-reaching to happen; where this is the case, the Fund may have a key role in leading future policy development.

The investor approach: The Fund achieves more sustainable outcomes where it acts as an investor, encouraging partnerships and collaboration, complementing other programmes and funders, building capacity and supporting applicants and grant-recipients.

Scale of intervention: Our funding achieves most impact when it is large in scale, strategic, nationally distributed and targeted on need; it can also affect the lives of a limited number of individuals very significantly; where it is less effective is when it achieves something in between these, is not closely linked to a current political agenda and does not sufficiently take into account the needs of individuals.

Demand: Managing this effectively to ensure we minimise the proportion of disappointed applicants is important for how people perceive the Fund.

ANNEX B

BIG LOTTERY FUND EVALUATION AND RESEARCH PROJECTS

Programme evaluations (previously NOF)	Completion date	Findings/ emerging findings	Full report/ summary report reference
Education			
Out of school hours learning	Oct-04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great range of activities was delivered. • Teachers and non-teacher professionals responded to the needs of young people. • Positive effects on young people’s attitude to learning and some evidence of increased motivation and self-esteem. • Taking part in schemes led to improvements in homework completion and quality, and learning new skills. • Particularly successful in making it easier for children to go from primary to secondary school. • Provided a catalyst for greater partnership working between schools and organisations from the private, public and voluntary sectors. • Targeting was a challenge. 	<p>Two summaries and two full reports available on the Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk</p> <p>Final summary and legacy document now available.</p>
Out of school hours childcare	Oct-05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided a significant impetus to the expansion of the out of school hours childcare sector. 70% of clubs would not have started without support from the Fund. • Positive effects on the lives of parents - 55% able to concentrate more at work and 43% able to take up or increase work as a result of the new provision. • Labour market benefits more likely to be felt by groups who have traditionally found it hard to access good quality childcare. 68% of parents were lone parents. • Vast majority of schemes continue to operate after grant has finished. 	<p>Three full annual reports and three research summaries available on the Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk</p> <p>Fourth Annual report will be available on the website shortly.</p>

Integrated children's centres (Wales)	TBC*	N/a	N/a
New opportunities for quality childcare (Scotland)	Feb-08	N/a	Interviews have just taken place to appoint evaluators.
CALL + (Work in libraries: ICTL/ Peoples' Network)	Nov-04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scale of roll-out, achieved within timescale and budget, was remarkable: over 30,000 computer terminals in over 4,000 libraries. • Huge demand in use: recent survey found that 16% of the public aged 16 and over have used the internet at a public library. • Libraries are creating value-added services through the people's network such as interactive reader development initiatives. • Successful in broadening the library's user base: young people and teenagers are the predominant user group. • Credibility of the library service has been enhanced. 	Interim report, final report and final summary report available on the Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk
ALL + (Access: ICT Learning Centres)	Jul-05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The centres are reaching a broad range of users of different ages and economic status, and are especially effective at reaching people returning to learning (43% had not done a course in last five years). • Respondents indicated that centres were effective because they offered them: a useful mix of internet access and learning opportunities; flexibility around learning approaches; friendly and helpful staff who encouraged and supported them (98% of users agreed); the opportunity for users to learn new skills they wouldn't have gained anywhere else; help with increasing their confidence, especially for regular users; the ability to do a course and to progress to more advanced ICT courses; a distinct service that was preferred to other, more mainstream options; the means to help improve literacy and numeracy skills, especially for those with a lot of difficulty; a means of helping them get more involved in their communities to 	Interim report and summary available on the Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk

		some extent	
CALL + (Content: Community Grids for Learning (CGfL) and Digitisation)	Jan-06	<p>Some of the emerging findings for digitisation include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects experienced positive shifts in attitudes towards the use of ICT and web services; a legacy of staff skills and technical development; higher profiles for the project organisations; and significant challenges in sustaining developments and living up to new expectations of users. • Many projects in consortia experienced delays in implementation; increased bureaucracy, staff time and administrative pressures; and compromise decisions leading to unsatisfactory results; however, enthusiasm for working in partnership remains strong. • The targeting of users was very broad and often was simply “adults;” targeting was often content-driven as opposed to user-driven. • There were relatively low levels of structured learning content created, rather than broad-based factual and contextual text. <p>Preliminary findings for Community grids for learning include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects were user-focused in their development and often demonstrated effective engagement with their communities. • A broad range of learning outcomes were identified and there was considerable confidence and expertise in learning development among project teams. • The hands-on involvement of Becta as technical and learning adviser was effective and valuable. The majority of projects have had project managers with good learning technology skills and experience. • CGfL partnerships were voluntarily pursued, planned, changed and sustained, and, despite some issues with partner change, the partnership process seems to have been a positive experience for most projects. 	<p>First interim report available on Intranet and hard copies from Chris Banks.</p> <p>Year 1 report and summary to be published Mar 05</p>

Veterans	TBC*	n/a	
Active Education			
Splash Extra	Dec-02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 296 schemes were delivered in summer of 2002. • 91,000 young people, almost double the target number, were engaged. • Successful in targeting high crime areas and thus reaching young people at risk of offending. • Young people enjoyed taking part. • Many of the activities delivered addressed risk factors associated with youth crime. 	A final full report and summary is available on the Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk
Activities for young people (AYP)	Dec-05	<p>Providing guidance and support to young people who are undecided about their futures can make a positive difference, but levels of success will depend on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clarifying programme and project aims, • identifying the types of young people who have this type of need; and • accepting that drop-out by participants is inevitable, and adopting strategies to deal with this, most importantly tracking systems and follow-up. 	<p>The following reports are available on the Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two full annual reports on England. • One full annual report for each of Wales and N Ireland. • Two annual research summaries.
Positive activities for young people (PAYP)	Jul-06	<p>The latest interim report found:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compared to the first year of delivery, local programmes were shifting towards more structured and explicit targeting, referral and recruitment processes, due in part to increased awareness of PAYP among partners and referring agencies. Recruitment processes appear to be more cohesive, although few explicit 'at risk' measures are used when referring young people. • Key workers are now in place across the country; they 	A briefing paper will soon be available on the Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk

		<p>usually have caseloads of up to 25 young people. The role of key workers is increasingly standardised across the country. Some areas are experiencing turnover and problems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities are increasingly developmental rather than merely diversionary, although sports activities remain the most popular. • There have been improvements in both the quality and quantity of information that is entered onto the MI system compared to last year, although a number of operational problems remain. • There is some anecdotal evidence of increased community cohesion and reduction of anti-social behaviour and crime as well as many other programme aims. 	
<p>Get REAL</p>	<p>Dec-06</p>	<p>Emerging findings from the 2004 extended pilot include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The vast majority of young people surveyed described their experience as fun and memorable. • Almost all respondents said they had had to mix with a significant number of new people, which indicates that a degree of social mixing occurred. • A large proportion of participants said that their experience in the programme led to increases in confidence, being able to learn new skills, having a better understanding of other young people, being more able to work as part of a group, and being more willing to take the lead. These benefits were even more likely to be reported in the follow-up survey in the autumn. Seventy-five per cent of parents said their child had gained a lot from their time away. • The majority of young people said meeting new people, input from instructors, the type of activity provided and being away from home were influential on their positive 	<p>A short report on the 2003 pilot is available on the Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk</p>

		<p>development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five of the six providers met or almost met their recruitment targets despite very short timelines. Providers were successful recruiting young people from low-income backgrounds, but very few young people from black and minority ethnic backgrounds, with a disability or at risk of offending took part in the programme. 	
Young people's fund	TBC*	n/a	
New opportunities for PE & sport in schools (NOPES)	Jan-09	<p>To date the evaluators have concluded:</p> <p>“NOPES has the potential to trigger benefits across a number of programmes and the potential to achieve its own programme aims not just by providing strong policy guidance through clear key outcomes, but also by providing the facility ‘jigsaw piece’ which enables schools to implement other national programmes and maximise their potential. There has been a dramatic impact on both the quality and quantity of PE offered, as well as an increase in the provision of extra-curricular activities. However, many projects have found monitoring and evaluation to be a challenge.”</p> <p>Lessons emerging from the fast track projects show a dramatic increase in the provision of PE within schools once the NOPES facilities are built and open, but community use is proving harder to establish.</p>	<p>End of year one report available on the Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk</p> <p>Summary of first 18 months' evaluation to be published in Feb 05.</p> <p>Further information about the evaluation, tools developed and quarterly newsletters available from: www.nopesevaluation.org.uk</p>
Community sport	TBC*	n/a	<p>The specification for Community Sport programmes in Scotland, N Ireland and Wales is being developed. The Active England evaluation is already underway.</p>

Health			
Healthy living centres	Dec-06	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early indications are that around two thirds of regular users consider that the HLC has made a positive difference to various aspects of their health and well being. This is in contrast to non-regular users, of whom only a third say that their health and well being have improved. • HLCs appear to be successfully targeting the most disadvantaged sections of their community. For example 80% of HLC users live in areas of high poverty and deprivation. • Case study HLCs are effectively engaging with their community and addressing its needs. Local people – including hard-to-reach groups – are often involved at all levels of management and planning. • Users of case study HLCs say that they have more awareness of health issues, improved health, more social contacts, new friends and greater confidence. • Most case study HLCs feel positive about their partnerships and the benefits that partnership involvement has brought to the all. • 92% of users of HLCs would recommend the HLC to family and friends. 	<p>Following available on the Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 1 Annual Report • Year 1 Evaluation Summary • Year 2 Annual Report • Year 2 Evaluation Summary • Year 2 Evaluation Summary (Welsh) <p>Findings Update: * Year 3 Annual Report due to be delivered 11th February 2005 – this will update further on the findings listed here.</p>
Living with cancer	Aug-05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schemes are making a difference to cancer care, particularly when they are a recognised part of local services and receive referrals; they are broadly located in areas of disadvantage. • NHS reorganisation has caused disruption to partnerships and statutory/voluntary relationships. 	<p>First interim report (Jul-03) and second interim report (Jul-04) available from Stacy Sharman.</p> <p>Available on the Evaluation/Research</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New ways of working are being developed by projects to get cancer prevention messages across to new client groups (e.g. BME groups). • Projects that develop from existing services have been faster to show effective outcomes than ones which are more radically different, and may achieve greater sustainability. • Dynamic individuals leading schemes, strong governance and management seem to be characteristics shared by successful schemes 	<p>section of www.nof.org.uk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 1 summary • Year 2 summary
Palliative care	Mar-07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the first year, the evaluators focussed on the differences between children's and adults' palliative care, recognising the very different approaches taken. • The evaluation excludes equipment and buildings, and therefore covers only England, Scotland and N Ireland. • Case studies are just starting; the year 1 report focuses on a literature review, interviews with national stakeholders, and some mapping of project location on to indicators of disadvantage and morbidity. • Projects have had recruitment difficulties, which have delayed start-up in some cases. 	<p>First interim report (Jul-04) available from Stacy Sharman.</p> <p>Year 1 summary to be published Mar 05.</p>
Heart failure	Feb-07	n/a	Summary of first year expected Apr 05.
Cardiac rehabilitation	TBC*	n/a	Contractor appointed Jan 05
CHD/stroke/cancer (Scotland, Wales, N Ireland)	TBC*	n/a	Contractor appointed Dec 04
5-a-day	Feb-06	<p>Baseline data shows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An average of 3.5 portions of fruit and vegetables were consumed. • 65% of respondents were correctly able to identify that health experts recommend 5 a day. • Quality of the produce was the most important factor in 	<p>Two full reports available on Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk – one on the baseline data and the other a review of activities/services.</p> <p>Report on case study work</p>

		determining the amounts eaten.	will be available May-05
Fruit in schools	Aug-05	Data from two visits to schools (baseline, plus a visit 3 months later) shows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 31% of pupils reported to eat at least 5 portions of fruit and vegetables over the 24-hour period. • Girls were significantly more likely to have eaten 5 a day. • Schools with a higher number of pupils on free school meals were less likely to eat 5 a day. • Schools with a higher number of pupils with English as an additional language were more likely to eat 5 a day. • Children in the intervention group ate considerably more fruit than those in the comparison group. 	A report detailing the findings from the phase one data collection, and all the supporting tools and documentation produced is available on the Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk A second interim report will shortly be available on our website detailing the findings from phase two data collection and from case study work.
Better off	Jul-08	First report due in spring 2005	
Environment			
Green spaces and sustainable communities	Jun-06	Interim findings include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huge variety of projects funded. • Many projects addressing social and environmental axis of sustainable development but few economic. • Majority of projects attempt to address disadvantage. • Use of award partners has brought many benefits to the programme and evaluation identifies a number of ways the approach could be strengthened. 	Year 1 summary available on the Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk
Scottish land fund	Mar-06	Emerging issues include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very wide range of projects, contexts and purposes. • High additionality in all cases. • Risk of some projects losing momentum. 	No reports available
Fair share (joint evaluation with CF)	Jul-08	First report is due April 05, but initial indications suggest that factors that have influenced success in Community Fund areas	

		<p>include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The relationships and organisation of key players; • The preparedness to change and to respond to new initiatives; • The culture and style of the Community Fund office and of the outreach worker(s); and • The type of strategic and specific approaches adopted. 	
Transforming waste	Oct-06	<p>Very early findings show that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 134 projects funded so far operate in local authority areas (LAs) with widely differing recycling and composting performance, from Liverpool at 1.38% (the lowest performance in the UK) to the Shetland Islands at 33.5% (the fifth highest performing). • Projects are found in some of the most deprived LAs as well as some of the most affluent. However more projects are located in the 20% most deprived LAs. Kerbside collection schemes are predominately found in the more deprived communities. 	Year 1 report available end of February 2005.
Transforming your space	Aug-07	<p>First report is due in spring 2005, but early feedback suggests that projects are generally progressing well. The evaluators have already emphasised how impressed they are by the imagination and enthusiasm of beneficiaries and participants in projects. Early challenges include the time associated with getting planning permission, engaging and retaining the interest of local communities, and setting up and publicising small grants schemes.</p>	

Research projects (previously NOF)	Completion date	Findings/ emerging findings	Full report/ summary report reference
<p>Targeting social exclusion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To review current thinking about the concepts of “social exclusion” and “deprivation” in order to create shared definitions and to target our funding more effectively. 	<p>May-02</p>	<p>Key results include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social exclusion is related to deprivation and poverty, but can be distinguished from them. Isolation from wider society is a key to exclusion. Individuals, groups and areas can be excluded. Targeting is an effective means of reaching those suffering deprivation, but need to be aware of its limits and think of ways of dealing with these. Strong arguments for a flexible approach to targeting. 	<p>Research summary 'Targeting Social Exclusion' available on the Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk</p>
<p>Partnership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support organisations' efforts to work in partnership by setting out issues and best practice. 	<p>Jun-02</p>	<p>Drawing on case studies of current partnerships the sourcebook looks at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The realities of partnership working. The opportunities that arise through partnerships. The things that can go wrong. What works in practice. 	<p>Available on the Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk</p>
<p>Engaging young people in evaluation and consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support project planning and evaluation by reviewing and identifying good and innovative practice in engaging young people. 	<p>Dec-02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation and self-evaluation should be part of the same process. They should be integral to developing and running programmes and projects. The way that consultation is approached can be more important than methods used. Feedback and dialogue are important throughout the project's life-cycle. 	<p>Full report and summary publication on the Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk</p>
<p>Desk research on round 4 themes</p>	<p>Jul-03</p>	<p>The report summarises MORI's survey data on public attitudes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving local environments, Youth inclusion, Health inequalities, and Community learning. 	<p>Full report <i>for internal use only</i></p>

<p>Self-evaluation: a handy guide to sources</p>	<p>May-03</p>	<p>This guide brings together free and easily accessible guides from the internet on self-evaluation. The guide is aimed at all our grant holders.</p>	<p>Available on Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk</p>
<p>Social enterprises in childcare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To present and discuss considerations and best practice for those interested in providing childcare through social enterprises. 	<p>Sep-04</p>	<p>Examines the role social enterprises can play in bridging the gap between provision and demand for childcare services. It sets out some of the organisational models that have provided childcare and outlines a number of areas that should be considered when starting or managing a childcare social enterprise (e.g. finding a market, income, marketing, fees and pricing, and staff development).</p>	<p>Report available on the Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk</p>
<p>Special needs / special educational needs childcare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By reviewing projects involved (and not involved) in the Fund's out of school hours childcare initiative, to focus on SN/SEN provision and the factors that influence success. 	<p>Jul-04</p>	<p>Findings include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated childcare does not seem to be universal. Most SN/SEN children rely on specialist childcare providers. • Specialist providers are more likely to cater for certain conditions than non-specialist providers. • Two-thirds of clubs said that they needed extra staff to be able to care effectively for children with SN/SEN. • The high cost of provision threatens the future viability of specialist providers. 	<p>Report and research summary available on the Evaluation/Research section of www.nof.org.uk</p>
<p>Community participation in service delivery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To identify and explore factors that influence the success of organisations in developing social capital and helping the state to deliver more responsive services. 	<p>Sep-04</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final report will be available in March 2005. It will attempt to identify factors that will help ensure successful engagement and participation. It will also make recommendations about how the Fund and others might work to achieve this. 	<p>Literature review is at: http://www.nof.org.uk/documents/live/3678p_demoelit_rev.pdf</p>
<p>Scotland rural research</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To identify factors that affect the abilities of rural communities to make best use of our support • To consider how our delivery mechanisms can best support this • To identify how we can best meet the needs of rural communities. 	<p>Mar-05</p>	<p>First report is due in Mar-05.</p>	

* Indicates work that has yet to be commissioned.

Evaluations (previously CF)	Completion date	Findings/ emerging findings	Full report/ summary report reference
Countryside communities	Nov-04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholders welcomed the initiative's recognition of concerns about differential funding between urban and rural areas, and particularly the need to support more development of the voluntary sector. • There was however a clear need to ensure longer lead-in times for initiatives such as this. There was a need for greater consultation, clearer messages, and better organisation of capacity-building work. 	Full report will be published on the website
Grants for large and medium sized projects (beneficiary outcomes): phase one	Nov-04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The outcomes framework is meaningful to grant-holders, but linking CF's list to actual direct and indirect effects, as well as positive unforeseen effects, could be a challenge. • Outcome measurement should be supported by capacity-building, but (self-)evaluation of this sort should be a condition of funding. • Organisational clients have different patterns of outcomes to individual clients. 	Full report will be published on website.
Evaluation of preferred outcomes and key approaches in Strategic Grants programme	Sep-04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The terminology associated with the approach could be confusing and hard to understand, especially for smaller groups. • Many would prefer to express outcomes in their own 	Full report will be published on the website.

		<p>words.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was widespread feeling that the Strategic Grants form and guidance should be simplified. 	
Evaluation of International Grants Programme (IGP)	Mar-07*	<p>The four IGP funding criteria are the most appropriate priorities in targeting poverty globally and fit directly into the UN Millennium Development Goals.</p> <p>The 4 priorities need to be supported by 5 cross cutting outcomes to ensure not only development focus but also a long-term impact.</p> <p>The Fund should consider introducing cross-cutting themes in its UK programmes.</p> <p>HIV/AIDS should be considered as the sixth cross-cutting outcome as it is a major factor that can undermine development goals.</p> <p>A pilot programme of small grants to support needs analysis should be considered.</p>	<p>2003-2004 report will be put on website. A copy may be obtained from: mike.day@biglotteryfund.org.uk</p>
Partnership Initiative Budget, Wales	Sep-04	<p>More innovative projects funded.</p> <p>Quality of legal advice in various parts of Wales improved.</p> <p>Tight timetable for applications may have reduced number of organisations able to apply.</p> <p>Partnership working between Legal Services Commission, Welsh Assembly and Community Fund was successful.</p>	<p>Full and summary report will be put on website.</p>
Large grants for small groups	May-00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many groups were not aware of the challenges and time involved in setting up projects and would appreciate more practical advice and support. • Many grantholders expected CF to do more about this and to maintain contact, although others came to 	<p>http://www.community-fund.org.uk/about-us/our-publications/national/cf-research/index.html</p>

		<p>appreciate this “non-interference”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process had led to a cultural change to a more “bureaucratic” or “business-like” approach. • Future funding was a key concern. Many groups assumed that they had a “moral right” to future funding. 	
Grant making for black and ethnic minority communities	Jul-03	<p>Projects increased organisational capacity and raised profiles of grant holding organisations. Success factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User involvement. • Culturally sensitive services. • Word of mouth recruitment. • Provision which enabled people to become more self-reliant and independent rather than the organisation ‘solving’ their problems. 	As above.
Village halls and community buildings	Jan-03	<p>Grants contributed to longer term sustainability owing to an increase in usage by local groups and private hire.</p> <p>Most halls sustained and developed existing activities and were able to develop new groups.</p> <p>There were concerns about the skills and abilities of voluntary management committees to cope with the implications of the hall’s development.</p> <p>Halls provided a focal point for the area and had played a crucial role in enhancing community spirit.</p> <p>Some halls were not able to reach out to people on low incomes, those who were less well educated or those who were isolated because of lack of transport.</p>	As above.
Exit strategies – factors for success	May-02	<p>Key success factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good business planning. • A champion. • Continuity of staff and volunteers. 	As above.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several sources of funding. • Early involvement of potential continuation funders. 	
Voluntary sector infrastructure organisations (VSIOs): impact of Community Fund grants	Jan-03	<p>Funding VSIOs to support infrastructure development achieved more than would have been possible if funding for skill development had been given direct to beneficiary organisations.</p> <p>The majority of first tier organisations using the services of VSIOs felt that they had improved their skills and confidence, that their organisations had improved their effectiveness, and that they had gained access to new networks and resources.</p> <p>Key success factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importance of key individuals as 'champions' for projects, especially at trustee level. • A commitment to working with marginalised groups. • An awareness of and ability to capitalise on wider developments or trends within the sector. 	As above.
Drug misuse and homelessness in Scotland	Nov-02	<p>CF funding is especially effective in supporting feasibility studies, education projects and helping groups develop.</p> <p>We should support projects that complement statutory provision but do not fit directly into statutory strategies.</p> <p>We should support projects to prevent drug misuse and support marginalised groups; and projects providing advocacy and empowerment for homeless people, particularly those with multiple disadvantages.</p>	As above.
Long term impact of Brass for Barnsley (BfB)	Oct-03	<p>BfB contributed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A greater degree of partnership working between voluntary sector infrastructure organisations (VSIOs). • Improved relationships between the VCS and Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council. • Improved relationships between VSIOs and voluntary and community groups. 	Full and summary documents will be put on website.

Research projects (previously CF)	Completion date	Findings/ emerging findings	Full report/ summary report reference
Literature review of the Community Fund's priority beneficiary groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify and summarise key research findings that provide evidence for the nature of disadvantage facing each of the six priority beneficiary groups in the UK. 	Dec-03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of the Rotherham Funding Group. N/a	http://www.community-fund.org.uk/about-us/our-publications/national/cf-research/index.html
What voluntary and community groups think of their impact on the environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To find out whether considering a project's impact on natural resources and the environment would put barriers in the way of groups helping the most disadvantaged. 	Sep-03	Most groups think that minimising environmental impacts is important and CF should encourage grant recipients to minimise their impacts. Many groups don't do more because they assume it would cost too much in time and money. CF should provide advice for grant holders on how to reduce harmful effects on environment rather than changing application procedures.	As above.
Mapping grants to deprived areas (England) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To learn how effective CF and other funders were in targeting funding at areas of greatest need. 	Mar-03	75% CF funding in 2000 was for activities related to deprivation. At a local level, CF grants especially help rural areas. London was well funded from all sources but funding by trusts is now less biased towards London. SW, SE, W Midlands, Eastern and NW rely most heavily on CF grants. If Local Authority funding were also included, CF would be contributing over 30% of all funding to the voluntary and community sector for work in deprived areas.	As above.

* Indicates work for 2004-2005 onwards that has yet to be commissioned