



Scotland's  
Mental Health  
and Wellbeing



Scottish Government  
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# Midlothian Meet the Funders Event

**Communities Team  
Wellbeing & Prevention Unit  
Mental Health Directorate**



# Who are we?

## Wellbeing & Prevention Unit, Mental Health Directorate

- Our focus is primarily on early intervention, prevention and wellbeing.
- Our aim is to support people to positively engage with their mental health at an early stage, promoting and supporting the conditions for good mental health and wellbeing at a population level.



# Context

- The Fund is key to the delivery of the Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy, and contributes directly to outcome 4:  
*“better equipped communities to support people’s mental health and wellbeing and provide opportunities to connect with others”*
- It is a commitment in the Best Start, Bright Futures; Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan
- It contributes to National Performance Framework outcomes.



# Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund for Adults



- We have provided £66 million since 2021 with around 4700 grants made to local organisations across Scotland in the first three years.
- The Fund is distributed by 32 TSIs across Scotland based on local need and priorities

## Aims of the Fund

- Supports small '**grass roots**' community groups that promote and develop good mental health and wellbeing within the adult population, with a particular focus on prevention and early intervention.
- Tackling priority issues of **suicide prevention, social isolation and loneliness, poverty and responding to the cost crisis**
- Reduce the need for clinical interventions.
- Addressing **mental health inequalities** and the needs of a range of '**at risk**' groups

# Fairer Funding Pilot

- The Communities Fund will be part of a Fairer Funding Pilot over the next two years, 2025-27, with £30 million being invested by Scottish Government over this period.
- This is the first time funding is being awarded on a multi-year basis.
- TSIs will have flexibility to award one and two year grants.



# What's next?

- Local guidance will be developed for Years 5 and 6
- The Fund will be open for applications no later than mid-September – keep an eye on Midlothian website for Fund opening dates
- A new participants' survey will run for the first time in Year 5
- National level reporting - we'll shortly publish a year 2 impact report and Year 4 monitoring report





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**Thank you**  
**Any questions/reflections?**

