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SECURE FUTURE FOR SCOTLAND'S LOTTERY SMALL GRANTS SCHEME



The future of the National Lottery small grants scheme, Awards for All in Scotland has been assured it was announced today.

Awards for All Scotland is currently operated as a joint scheme between four Lottery distributors: Scottish Arts Council, Big Lottery Fund, Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and **sportscotland**. The scheme makes awards of between £500 and £10,000 to grass-roots groups in the community and voluntary sector, health bodies, schools and statutory bodies.

From April 2009 the Big Lottery Fund and **sportscotland** will continue their support of Awards for All. HLF* will no longer play a role in Awards for All but instead will use its current grant schemes, namely Your Heritage and Young Roots programmes to ensure the continuation of small community grants within the heritage sector. The Scottish Arts Council is currently in the process of transition to a new organisation, Creative Scotland, and will confirm its position in the New Year.

An Awards for All spokesperson, said: "Awards for All has been one of the most successful lottery funded programmes since its launch in 1998. The Big Lottery Fund and **sportscotland** look forward to building on this success with a relaunched programme in April 2009.

"The Big Lottery Fund and **sportscotland** together have contributed around 90 percent of the funding for Awards for All over the past year, and so the overwhelming majority of applicants will be unaffected by this change. We are currently in discussions with the Scottish Arts Council on their continued involvement. This issue will be resolved through the establishment of Creative Scotland. The Heritage Lottery Fund will no longer be a part of Awards for All in Scotland from April 2009 but funding for small heritage grants in Scotland will continue through its dedicated Your Heritage and Young Roots grant programmes."

Further information on the new look Awards for All programme in Scotland will be available in the New Year.

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For further information contact Landa Rolland at Big Lottery Fund on 0141 242 1458

or

Ruth Anderson at sportscotland on 0131 472 3340

Michelle Jordan at Scottish Arts Council on 0131 240 2404

Alison Scott at Heritage Lottery Fund on 0207 591 6032

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Full details of the Awards for All grant awards are available at:

www.awardsforall.org.uk

Notes to Editors

- *Awards for All* is a joint awards programme set up to help small groups whose income is less than £20,000 per annum. It involves four Lottery distributors: the Big Lottery Fund, Heritage Lottery Fund, the Scottish Arts Council and Sportscotland.
- *Awards for All* makes grants to help people take part in arts, sport, heritage, social, environmental, health related, educational and other community activities.
- The following table breaks down the current Awards for All budget:

Distributor	Budget 2008/09
Big Lottery Fund	£10,000,000
Heritage Lottery Fund	£500,000
Scottish Arts Council	£750,000
Sportscotland	£1,000,000
Grand Total	£12,250,000

* Heritage Lottery Fund

Small Grants offered by HLF:

- HLF's Young Roots programme is a dedicated scheme for young people which has enabled over 21,000 young people across the UK to get involved with their local heritage. Providing small grants of between £3,000 and £25,000, the Programme aims to involve 13-25 year-olds in finding out about their heritage, developing skills, building confidence and promoting community involvement.

- HLF's Your Heritage provides grants of between £3,000 and £50,000 to support projects that relate to the UK's local, regional or national heritage. HLF welcomes applications that help people to learn about, look after and celebrate heritage in a fun and enjoyable way.

In April 2008, HLF introduced quicker and simpler application processes to ensure access to funding is easier for applicants. Both are rolling programmes with decisions given within 10 weeks of application.