January 2008

Funding Alert 52

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If you wish further information on any of these grants schemes, how to apply or if you are going to apply, please contact Arlene Cullum, Corporate Funding Officer, Argyll & Bute Council on internal email or tel 07979 214501.

EUROPEAN

43. Highlands & Islands European Structural Funds 2007-2013
44. Lowlands and Uplands European Structural Funds 2007-2013
45. Northern Periphery Programme (INTERREG IV B)

For European Schemes or if you are at the early stages of developing a project and would like to know if European funding could form part of your financial package please contact Shona Strachan, European Unit, Argyll & Bute Council, shona.strachan@argyll-bute.gov.uk or 07768 142559.

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1. Dragon's Den for Social Economy Organisations in Argyll and Bute – 29th Jan, Dunoon

Communities Scotland are funding a Dragon's Den competition run by Argyll and Bute Social Economy Network (ABSEN). The prize winners in the Den will receive funding that will enable them to 'buy-in' specialist advice particular to their social enterprise such that it will increase the performance of their social enterprise. To enter you MUST be a member of ABSEN. There are two prizes in each category - £2,000 for first prize and £1,000 for second prize. The categories are:

- New and Emerging Social Enterprises – aimed at those embryonic social enterprises or those who have been in existence for less than one year - and they need advice.
- Review Time - for those Social Enterprise for whom business/activities has not progressed as anticipated and they now wish to review their activities/plan/structure – and need advice. This category is aimed at social enterprises who have been in existence for at least a year
- New Developments – aimed at those social enterprises who have been operating successfully but now wish to consider developing another part of their business and they need advice.

Info: Alison Rimell Tel: 01688 302990/302851 www.absen.org.uk

2. Homecoming Scotland – Themed Events Programme

The Themed Events Programme provides a one-off, special funding opportunity for event organisers to access awards of between £5,000 and £50,000 to create or enhance event activity in 2009 that reflects the themes and supports the objectives of Homecoming Scotland. The objective of the Themed Events Programme is to develop a strong portfolio of activity for 2009 that will:

- Deliver additional tourism visits and revenue for Scotland.
- Engage with and motivate the Scottish Diaspora
- Celebrate Scotland's outstanding contributions to the world
- Promote pride amongst Scots at home and abroad.

Themed Events Programme -The programme design will be driven by the central Homecoming theme, reflect our culture and heritage and be guided by the following 'pillars':

- Robert Burns, Scotland's National Poet
- Scottish Ancestry
- Whisky
- Golf
- Innovation & The Scottish Enlightenment

In addition to the Themed Events Programme, Homecoming Scotland 2009 will feature a number of Signature Events specifically commissioned for 2009, a rolling programme of year-round activity, a range of Partner Events and a dedicated UK and international marketing and communications programme. The deadline for applications is 26 February 2008.

www.homecomingscotland.com

3. Sustainable Communities

Forward Scotland is inviting nominations for the first ever Champions for Sustainable Communities Awards to be held in March 2008 in Edinburgh. These awards will recognise the outstanding achievements of individuals across society who are leading the way in community development and who have championed sustainable development within a community. Winners will receive a contribution towards an experience that will help them to further their work with sustainable communities, e.g. a learning exchange or training course. The award categories are: Community Group Champion, Public and Third Sector Champion, Business Champion, and International Champion. Anyone can make a nomination via the online form. Deadline 8 February 2008.

Website: http://www.forward-scotland.org.uk

4. Queen's Award for Innovation (Police)

Applications to the 2008 Queen's Award for Innovation in Police Training and Development are now invited. The Queen's Award for Innovation in Police Training and Development is a project-based competition designed to promote innovation and best practice in learning and development. For 2008, the topic is as follows: How can the link between learning and development (L&D) and improving operational performance be demonstrated - highlighting in particular return on investment (ROI) and benefits realisation? The competition is open to all serving police officers (including special constables), police staff and police authority members and staff in the UK and Commonwealth. Entrants are allowed about three months after the launch in which to work up their project proposals. Four prizes will be awarded. At least one of these will be awarded to an application received from outside the UK. The value of each award is £15,000. Applications must be submitted by 1 February 2008.
E-mail: queens.award2008@npia.pnn.police.uk **Website:** http://www.npia.police.uk

5. Launch of the Charity Challenge

The purpose of this Challenge is to showcase charities that have used innovative ways to encourage their benefactors to use the Everyclick.com website. Category winners will be determined by the charity that raises the most during the Challenge. Benefits of winning the competition are as follows:

- A free national poster campaign.
- Free advertising space on Everyclick.com
- An Everyclick.com customised home page and desktop brand awareness for every time supporters use Everyclick.

Charities of all sizes are eligible to enter and will be placed into one of three categories dependent on the charities donor base. The categories are: Small; Medium; and Large. Charities must be registered in the UK with the Charity Commission. Charities should complete the online form to take part in the Challenge which will take place between 14January 2008 and 14 April 2008.
Website: http://charities.everyclick.com

6. Yapp Charitable Trust Grants (UK)

The Yapp Charitable Trust is an independent grant making trust that aims to make grants totalling £300,000 to about 100 small charities each year. Grants of up to £3,000 per year for up to three years are available to sustain the work of charities that work with elderly people; children and young people aged 5 –25; people with disabilities or mental health problems; people trying to overcome life-limiting problems of a social, rather than medical origin such as addiction, relationship difficulties, abuse, and a history of offending. Grants are also available to promote lifelong learning. The application deadline is the 31st January 2008.
http://www.yappcharitabletrust.org.uk/

7. Maintenance Plan Grants: Imminent Deadline

Grants are available for the preparation of maintenance plans for historic buildings that are considered to be of outstanding architectural or historic interest in Scotland, and where it is considered beneficial for a building to have its own maintenance plan. Maintenance is the routine work which is necessary to protect the fabric of a building. Modest spending on regular maintenance can reduce the need for costly repairs and is beneficial in conservation terms because less historic fabric is lost in regular, minimal and small-scale work than in disruptive and extensive repairs. Grants are awarded at rates of up to 75% of the cost of preparing a maintenance plan prepared by a suitably accredited professional adviser, up to a maximum of £6,000. Applicants must be organisations or individuals who have a legal responsibility for the repair of a historic building in Scotland. Applicants will normally need to own the building, or hold a full repairing lease, which has at least 21 years to run, and be able to demonstrate that the property is open to the public for at least 25 days per year.
The deadline for the first year of the scheme is 31 January 2008. After this time, the scheme will consider applications once a year in January, with applications being submitted by 30 November annually.

8. Wood Family Trust

The Wood Family Trust was established by Sir Ian Wood and family in 2007 to help develop and support individuals to become independent, healthy, contributing members of their communities. The Trust is a Scottish-based charity with a global outlook. The Trust intends to invest £50 million over the next 5-10 years. There are three clear areas of investment focus:

- Livelihood in Developing Countries (anticipated to be 75% of the investment per annum).
- 16-25 year olds in the UK - Volunteering Overseas (anticipated to be 12.5% of the investment per annum).
- Developing Young People in Scotland (anticipated to be 12.5% of the investment per annum).

Applications for the 16-25 year olds in the UK - Volunteering Overseas and the Developing Young People in Scotland investment programmes can be made at any time. Investment in the Livelihood in Developing Countries programme is on an invitation-to-bid basis.
Website: http://www.woodfamilytrust.org.uk

9. Equality and Human Rights Commission Launches New £10 Million Grant Programme

The Equality and Human Rights Commission has announced the launch of a new £10 million grants programme aimed at funding grass roots organisations across all areas of equality. The Commission's funding scheme has developed three areas for priority funding. Applicants from organisations working to promote good relations, highlight equality and human rights and case work will be encouraged. Examples include reducing the impact of hate crime, working with the media to promote greater awareness of equality or human rights issues and providing legal advice to victims of discrimination. Successful projects will be funded for 12 months and the maximum award available is £120,000 per application. The deadline for applications is 5pm on the 4th February 2008.
http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/newsandcomment/Pages/Commissionlaunches£10milliongrantsprogramme.aspx

10. Esmee Fairbairn Foundation Announces New Funding Priorities (UK)

Following a review of its grant making policies, the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation has announced new funding priorities. The Foundation which is one of the UK's largest grant making Trusts makes approximately £30 million of grants to registered charities and not – for profit organisations each year. The majority of funding is available through the main grants programme. This supports activities to enhance the UK's cultural life, education, the natural environment and enabling people who are disadvantaged to participate more fully in society. Grants are also awarded through specific funding strands. These are Biodiversity; Museum & Heritage Collections; and New approaches to learning.
http://www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk/

11. EAGA Partnership Charitable Trust Grant Programme (UK)

The EAGA Partnership Charitable Trust is a grant-giving trust that supports projects and research into the causes of fuel poverty and its impacts on health, in particular, the health of vulnerable consumers. There is no minimum or maximum grant level that organisations can apply for, however there is a strong preference for supporting large projects that can influence national policy. The Trustees meet three times a year to consider applications. The next application deadline is the 2nd May 2008.
http://www.eaga.com/charitable/charitable_trust.htm

12. Grants for Green Power Generation (UK)

The Government has announced that it has awarded grants totalling £25 million for micro wind turbines and solar panels. The grants have been awarded to homes, schools and businesses to install technologies such as solar panels, biomass boilers and ground-source heat pumps. There are still £11m in grants available under Phase 1 for householders who want to generate renewable energy at home. Schools, charitable bodies and other public sector organisations can apply for a share of the £44m that remains from the original £50m set aside for them under Phase 2. The grants are awarded on a first come first served basis and applications can be submitted at any time.
http://www.gnn.gov.uk/environment/fullDetail.asp?ReleaseID=341605&NewsAreaID=2&NavigatedFromDepartment=True

13. NESTA Future Lab (UK)

NESTA Futurelab is seeking ideas about new ways of learning with technology. NESTA provides support and grants to turn these ideas into prototypes. This year NESTA wants to support ideas that use technology to support children's learning in non-formal settings. The programme usually aims to fund around 10 projects a year with the average grant awarded being £10,000. For applicants to be successful, their bids must demonstrate the ways in which technology can help in the learning process and how to design technologies to support learning. The programme is open to absolutely anyone in the UK and the next call for ideas will be open from the 21st January to the 29th February 2008.
http://www.futurelab.org.uk/get_involved/submit_an_idea

14. £10m for Low Carbon Energy Technology Research (UK)

The Technology Strategy Board has announced a £10 million call for proposals to stimulate improvements in low carbon energy technologies. This call for proposals will part fund highly innovative industry-led collaborative research and development projects in areas such as intelligent grid integration and management, carbon abatement technologies, hydrogen & fuel cells, micro generation& photovoltaic's and bioenergy. The projects, which can last for 2 to 3 years, can range from small, highly focussed basic research projects, aimed at establishing technical feasibility, through to applied research and experimental development projects. Applicants must register their intention to apply for funding, and submit an outline of their proposal, by 22 February 2008 and the final closing date for applications is 27 March 2008.
http://www.berr.gov.uk/innovation/technologystrategyboard/page43358.html

15. MEDIA 2007 – Call for Proposals (UK)

The European Commission has announced a new call for proposals to support for the transnational distribution of European films and the networking of distributors. The Funding is being made available under the MEDIA 2007 programme which provides grants to support the European audiovisual industry through the training of professionals, developing production projects, distributing films and audiovisual programmes, promoting films and audiovisual programmes and supporting film festivals. Under this call for proposals is EUR 12,250,000 is available to support European companies specialising in the international distribution of European cinema films. The financial support from the Commission cannot exceed 50 % of the total eligible costs and the maximum duration of the projects is 16 months. There are two closing dates for application. The 1st April 2008 and the 1st July 2008.
http://http//EUR-LEX.EUROPA.EU/LEXURISERV/LEXURISERV.DO?URI=OJ:C:2007:311:0020:0020:EN:PDF

16. Pilkington Energy Efficiency Trust (UK)

Financial support for research and development projects which are designed to improve the knowledge or practice of energy efficiency in buildings is available through the Pilkington Energy Efficiency Trust. The Trust will consider funding, or co-funding, projects whose successful completion is likely to result in the more efficient use of energy in new or existing buildings. Such projects should therefore be aimed at producing results which are replicable, practicable and economic. Applications are considered from all sectors, including individuals, consultants, academic bodies, commercial organisations, NGO's and research institutions. The Trustees meet to consider applications in late October and April, so applications need to be in the secretary's hands by 30 September or 31 March respectively.
http://www.pilkington.com/europe/uk+and+ireland/english/building+products/for+trade+customers/peet.htm

17. BBC Children in Need (UK)

The next deadline for applications to the BBC Children in Need is the 30th March 2008. BBC Children in Need provides grants for up to three years to properly constituted not-for-profit organisations working with disadvantaged young people aged 18 or under . Funding is available to organisations, (including schools) that work with young people who are suffering from illness, distress, abuse or neglect, are disabled, have behavioural or psychological difficulties and / or are living in poverty or situations of deprivation. Last year the programme made grants of £33 million to over 1,500 organisations.
http://www.comicrelief.com/apply-for-a-grant/uk/

18. Audi Foundation Grants (UK)

The Audi Foundation has announced that the closing date for applications under its Design for Life Programme is the 31st March 2008. The Foundation's Designs for Life programme provides grants of between £10,000 and £30,000 in order to produce design solutions to enhance the world in which we live. The Foundation's aim is to support exceptional designers by funding the development of physical prototypes that address sustainable and inclusive design issues. The fund is open to UK based Individuals, Groups; HE & FE institutions; University departments; Undergraduates; Post-graduates; and Voluntary groups.
http://www.audifoundation.org/Content.asp?menuid=41&submenuid=62&pageid=62&menuname=Designs+for+Life&menu=sub

19. Anglo – German Foundation Small Grants Programme (UK)

The Anglo – German Foundation which supports comparative research on economic, environmental and social issues, provides around £40,000 each year in small grants to meet the costs of research events such as conferences, seminars or workshops (or less commonly for small, self-contained research projects) addressing one or more of the core themes of the Foundation's 'Creating sustainable growth in Europe' research programme. 'Creating sustainable growth in Europe' is the Foundation's major research initiative which aims to tackle the emerging economic, social and political challenges confronting governments not only in Germany and the UK, but across Europe and the industrialised world. The ceiling for these small grants is £4,000, or €6,000. Applications should be submitted by established researchers or practititioners at a UK or German institution. Applications for small grants may be made at any time.
http://www.agf.org.uk/grants/grants.htm

20. Film Makers Invited to Apply to the Big Pitch (UK)

Teams of producers, writers and directors are being invited to apply to compete to win the UK's largest feature film pitching competition and film production prize in the UK. The competition which is known as the "Big Pitch" will provide six teams with an opportunity to participate on a four month training programme where they will work with industry professionals to develop and package their film project. At the end of this period only four out of the six teams will be invited to The Big Pitch event where they will sell their feature film ideas before a live audience at Northern Lights Film Festival as they compete for the production deal worth up to £250,000. The closing date for applications is 22nd February 2008.
http://www.moxiemakers.com/training/the_big_pitch_2008.html

21. Joint International Development Grants Programme 2008 (UK)

UK based constituted not-for-profit organisations that have strong working relationships with non-governmental and community based organisations in Sub-Saharan Africa have the opportunity to apply funding of up to £250,000 through the Joint International Development Grants Programme. The aim of the programme is to promote strategic, long-term capacity building to benefit people disadvantaged or marginalised by long-term migration and displacement. The type of activities that can be funded include; networking and partnership development; training programmes; research and dialogue with policy and decision makers about issues affecting NGOs and communities; workshops, meetings and exchange visits to develop or share skills and experiences; piloting new approaches; improving information resources and upgrading capacity in information and communications technologies; and improving financial and administrative systems. Part of the grant may be used to strengthen the applicant's own organisational effectiveness. There is a two stage application process and outline proposals need to be submitted by the 31st March 2008.

http://www.baringfoundation.org.uk/program.htm

22. Crisis–Changing Lives Programme (UK)

Crisis, the national Homeless Charity has announced that the Changing Lives Programme will be re-opening for applications from the 21st January until 7th March 2008. The Crisis Changing Lives programme provides financial awards of up to £2,000 to single people who are homeless or settling into a home and looking for support so that they may achieve their vocational goals. The Award will fund; accredited courses that are linked directly to an applicant's vocational/career goal; tools and equipment for courses that are linked directly to an applicant's vocational/career goal; tools and equipment to use for a job linked directly to an applicant's vocational/career goal; tools and equipment and practical costs to become self employed; and to attend a training course or help buy tools and equipment necessary for a course or even to set up a business. Applicants must be; single (not living in a partnership situation with another person); over 18; living in secure accommodation(not sleeping rough and not squatting); free from alcohol, drug or other substance misuse for at least 6 months prior to application; unemployed or underemployed (earning less than £18,000 in London and £15,000 outside); working with a Support Worker for at least 6 months prior to the application; and eligible to remain and work in the UK indefinitely.

http://www.crisis.org.uk/page.builder/appforms_rounddates.html

23. Funding to Develop and Expand Recycling Services to Businesses (UK)

Organisations that wish to create or expand recycling services that serve businesses, in particular small and medium sized enterprises are able to apply for funding through WRAP's Recycling Programme. WRAP, is a not for profit company that provides advice and support for waste minimisation and recycling. Under the Recycling Programme, grants of up to £67,000 are available to organisations in the public and voluntary sector to develop new or expand existing recycling services for businesses by for example expanding recycling service into new areas, customers or materials. New or expanded services could include a multi material collection services for a range of SMEs (services that collect a range of materials such as paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, glass, printer cartridges, etc.); cardboard and paper collection services for urban/city centre SMEs, primarily offices and retail premises that lack storage space; glass collection services for SMEs in the hospitality sector; collections of food waste from hospitality and retail businesses and smaller food processors; collections from industrial estates, business parks and multiple occupancy buildings; and recycling services for SMEs in the construction, demolition and refurbishment (of buildings) sector. WRAP will fund a maximum of 50% of the total project costs and will expect applicants to match this funding in cash and/ or in kind. A collection service or drop-off facility must be provided as part of the project. There is no closing date for applications in 2007 - 08, although funding is limited and available on a first come, first served basis.

http://www.wrap.org.uk/wrap_corporate/funding/funding_support.html

24. Funding Through Local YouthBanks (UK)

YouthBank is an innovative UK-wide grant making initiative run by young people for young people. Local Youth Banks provide small grants to young people for activities of benefit to the community and that also benefit the young people taking part. YouthBank is unique in that it is young people themselves who make decisions about how local YouthBanks are managed and run and, through a Board of young people, also direct the UK-wide programme. Grant making criteria and processes are decided by each individual YouthBank. Local areas can also receive funding, advice and support from YouthBank UK, the national umbrella body, to set up local Youth Banks. For example a grant of £75,000 was recently awarded to set up a Youth Bank in Cambridge. Applications can be made at any time.

http://www.youthbank.org.uk/

25. Launch of New £130 Million Grassroots Grant Scheme

The Government has announced the launch of a new £130 Million grant scheme to support the work of small local voluntary organisations that are working towards improving their local communities. The new "Grassroots" grant scheme which will open for application in April 2008 and will be open until 2011 will, at the national level, be managed by the Community Development Foundation. The Fund will be divided into two parts. A total of £80 million will be available as a "Grassroots" small grants fund for community organisations; and a further £50 million will be provided as an endowments programme to enable local foundations to generate additional donations from the private sector in order to provide long-term funding for frontline community organisations. The Community Development Foundation will open an application process in January 2008 to identify and appoint local funders who will deliver the Grassroots Grants locally. This will be open to all existing local grant givers who meet the funds criteria.

http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/news/news_releases/071212_community.aspx

26. Grants for International Youth Activities (UK)

The European Youth Foundation (EYF) has announced that the next deadline for applications to its Grants for international youth activities is the 1st February 2008. The European Youth Foundation (EYF) is a fund established by the Council of Europe to provide financial support for European youth activities. It aims to encourage co-operation amongst young people in Europe by providing financial support to youth activities. It concerns activities, which serve the promotion of peace, understanding and co-operation in a spirit of respect for human rights, democracy, tolerance and solidarity. Funding is available to support international youth meetings for youth leaders , studies, research projects and the production of information and documentation on youth issues as well as Human Rights Education. This call for proposals specifically aims to provide financial support to international non-governmental youth organisations or networks to cover part of their general administrative e costs involved in running their activities at European level. The Foundation may also contribute to the administrative costs of international non-governmental youth organisations and networks, in order to help them to establish a European structure. Previous projects supported by the Foundation include the National Union of Students in Europe who received a grant of Euro15,000 to fight discrimination in Higher Education.

http://www.eyf.coe.int/fej/

27. The James Tudor Foundation (UK)

The James Tudor Foundation which was established in 2004 makes grants of approximately £1 million per year to registered charities within the UK. The areas which the Foundation wants to support are Palliative care; Medical research; Health education, awards and scholarships; the direct relief of sickness; and the UK independent healthcare sector. The grants are usually available to cover project costs (although core costs will be considered) and are usually available for one to three years. Applications can be made at any time and decision for grant applications of below £5,000 are made within one month whist decisions on applications of above £20,000 will be made within four months.

http://www.jamestudor.org.uk/

28. £97million Boost for UK Fishing and Seafood Industries (UK)

Fishing and seafood industries will be able to bid for a share of almost £100million worth of grants from next year under the new European Fisheries Fund. This amount will be boosted by additional funding from the government. The UK has been allocated approximately £97million, more than £30million of which has been earmarked to boost local economies such as Cornwall and West Wales, to finance projects under the European Fisheries Fund. UK Fisheries Ministers have agreed to divide the money as follows;

- England £26.42m;
- Scotland £26.42m;
- Northern Ireland £12.76m;
- Wales £1.07m.

In addition, separate funds will be available for Cornwall (£7.3m), West Wales (£10.68m), and the Scottish Highlands and Islands (£12.41m). All figures are approximate. The grant scheme is designed to help modernise and improve the sustainability and competitiveness of the fishing industry. Details of the timetable and how to apply for grants will be announced by the Fisheries administrations, following a consultation on priorities for the funds early this year.

http://www.gnn.gov.uk/Content/Detail.asp?ReleaseID=333774&NewsAreaID=2

29. GreenPrints (UK)

A partnership of five of the country's leading not-for-profit organisations have come together to provide support and funding to help young people improve green spaces in our communities. SITA Trust, v the youth volunteering charity, BTCV, The Wildlife Trusts and the BBC's Breathing Places campaign, have joined forces to develop a two-year programme called GreenPrints which will offer funding of up to £10,000, as well as support and practical expertise from the partners, to enable 16–25 year olds to make a real difference to the communities in which they

live. The funding is open to not for profit organisations for projects designed and delivered by groups of volunteers aged 16 to 25. SITA Trust and v have each pledged £1 million to fund the programme, making it one of the largest single investments made by either organisation to any funding programme. The overall programme will be managed using the expertise and experience of SITA Trust and BTCV. One of the most unusual elements of this programme is the individual, dedicated mentor-support that will be provided by the BTCV and The Wildlife Trusts to assist with the practical delivery of every single project that is supported. If you are aged between 16 and 25 and want to put something back into your community visit the GreenPrints pages at www.sitatrust.org.uk to find out more. The next application closing date is the 25th January 2008.
http://www.sitatrust.org.uk/greenprints/apply/flagships

30. Scottish School Awards 2008 (Scotland)

The Scottish Executive has announced the launch of the Scottish School Awards 2008. There are eight separate award categories ranging from recognising individual staff, the positive contribution of pupils, to whole school awards for work in areas like enterprise and healthy living. The aim of the Education Awards is to celebrate the hard work and success which has taken place in Scottish education and recognise the achievements of those who dedicate their lives to ensuring young Scots have the best possible start in life. The winners of the school categories will receive a trophy, a certificate and a £1,000 cheque. The winners of the Head Teacher, Teacher, Probationary Teacher, Education Supporter and Lifetime Achievement Awards will receive a trophy, a certificate, a £1,000 cheque for their school, and a £500 personal cheque. All runners up will receive a certificate and a £500 cheque for their school. Nominations will close at 5 pm on Friday the 22nd February and the winners will be announced at the awards ceremony on 13 June at the City Halls in Glasgow.
http://www.scottisheducationawards.org.uk/

31. £4.2 Million Awarded to Support Business Innovation (Scotland)

Innovative business projects have accepted offers worth more than £4.2 million from the Scottish Government in the first six months of the new SMART: SCOTLAND research and development grant scheme. SMART: SCOTLAND helps small and medium-sized businesses improve their competitiveness by developing new, highly innovative and commercially viable products or processes to the benefit of the national economy. As part of the Scottish Government's strategy to declutter the public sector delivery landscape, the SMART: SCOTLAND programme was developed to consolidate the support given under the previous SMART, SPUR and SPUR PLUS schemes into one easily accessible grant. Maximum grant levels were increased by 40 per cent for technical feasibility studies to £70,000 and by 20 per cent to £600,000 for prototype development projects. The application process is open to small and medium sized firms across Scotland. Medium-sized firms were previously excluded from feasibility study support. All applications are treated on a non-competitive basis, with applicants now able to apply at any time.
http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2007/12/03094843

32. Funding for Individual and Small Groups to Improve their Local Communities (UK)

Groups of individuals as well as small community and voluntary groups within the UK that want to improve their communities can apply for funding through the Wakeham Trust. The Trust are particularly interested in supporting neighbourhood projects, community arts projects, projects involving community service by young people, or projects set up by those who are socially excluded. The Trust also support innovative projects to promote excellence in teaching (at any level, from primary schools to universities), though we never support individuals. The Trust normally give grants to projects where an initial £75 to £750 can make a real difference to getting the project up and running. To be eligible, applicants need to be registered charities or have access to a registered charity that will be willing to accept funds on their behalf. The type of activities supported in the past include; a grant of £250 to three young people in Leamington Spa who were trying to set up a youth club. The Trust gave them £250 to help set up the club in an old Scout hut; and a grant of £50 to an unemployed ex-professional footballer in Yorkshire to buy footballs and equipment for a group of 100 or so tough kids to play football. Applications can be made at any time.
http://www.wakehamtrust.org/

33. New Funding Scheme to Support Culture and Sport Amongst Young People (UK)

The Big Lottery Fund, the Arts Council and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport and Legacy Trust UK have come together to launch a new £40m funding scheme to use the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games to promote culture and sport among young people and communities. Under this scheme funding will be available on a national and regional basis under three broad themes:

- Sport and Wellbeing;
- Knowledge and Learning;
- Arts & Culture.

It is expected that Legacy Trust UK, which administers the scheme will start to invite applications for funding in early 2008. Successful applicants are expected to show that they have:

- A track record of delivering projects on a UK-wide, national or regional scale;
- Geographical and community reach;
- Credibility in their sector as a leader of good practice.

The types of projects supported are likely to encompass, community sport, healthy living, wellbeing, education, learning and personal development, heritage, the performing arts, creativity, community events and festivals. Projects which encourage a joined-up approach across sport, education and culture will be especially welcomed.
http://www.legacytrustuk.org/

34. UK Film Council Launches New Film Festival Fund (UK)

One of the new funding priorities identified by the UK Film Council is a UK-wide Film Festival Fund totalling £1.5 million a year for the next three years. The Film Festival Fund aims to ensure that, by 2012, audiences across the UK have access to a wide variety of film festivals which maximise audience choice and provide opportunities for learning, and that collectively these festivals contribute to the development of a more competitive UK film industry at home and overseas. The fund will be allocated as follows;

- £250,000 a year for up to three years, to no more than eight festivals that are, or in the opinion of the UK Film Council have the potential to be, of national significance;
- and £1.25 million a year for up to three years, to no more than two festivals that are, or in the opinion of the UK Film Council have the potential to be, of major international and national significance.

The Fund is open to applications by registered charities or registered companies, or by consortia made up of festival organisers, screen agencies, local authorities, etc. The closing date for applications is the 31st January 2008.
http://www.ukfilmcouncil.org.uk/cinemagoing/distributionandexhibition/festivalsfund/

35. Making a Mint Competition (UK)

Plant Science, together with NESTA have announced that they are once again running the "Making a Mint" competition. Making a Mint is a business competition open to 7-14 year olds and aims to develop entrepreneurial skills. The objective of the competition is for teams of young people to grow mint, then add as much value to it as possible, sell it and record the process. Participants will have the chance to win £1000 for their school in either Amazon or Garden Vouchers. The judges will be looking for a winning combination of growing success, good ideas and money making know-how, it might not be the team who make the most money who wins. Mint packs will be mailed out from the beginning of January 2008 and all results must be entered by 9pm on Sunday 6th July 2008.
http://www.planet-science.com/outthere/index.html?page=/outthere/mint/

36. Funding to Support Work with Disaffected Young People (UK)

Registered charities working with young people aged 11 to 25 are able to apply for funding for community projects through the Joanis Trust. The Trust is looking to help fund projects that offer intensive support to young people as well as those that promote preventative work and diversionary activities, including the use of art forms for their therapeutic value, and especially those that are designed to lead to individual development through integration, work opportunities or accreditation. The average size of a grant awarded by the Trust is £1,000, which can be used for project, core costs, and capital costs. Previous projects supported include a scheme which distributes tickets to young members of the community who may never have a chance to see a live performance due to financial circumstances or to social exclusion; and the use of offshore sail training on traditional vessels as a way of changing attitudes and engaging disadvantaged and disaffected young people.
http://www.joaniestrust.org.uk/index.htm

37. Architectural Heritage Fund (UK)

The Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF), which is a registered charity that promotes the conservation and regeneration of historic buildings in the UK has announced that the next application deadline for its loans and grants programme is the 31st January 2008. Funding is available to voluntary organisations building preservation trusts to regenerate historic buildings to create community and education facilities, workspace and homes. To be eligible to apply for funding through the AHF, organisations need to be a registered charity and the building(s) must be listed, scheduled as an ancient monument or in a Conservation Area (if in a Conservation Area, it must be of acknowledged historic or architectural importance). The project must also involve a change of ownership and/or a change of use. Previously funded projects include turning a run down historic buildings into community theatres, resource centres, community learning centres, workspaces, places to live and community meeting places, etc.
http://www.ahfund.org.uk/index.html

38. Unclaimed Assets to be Reinvested in the Community (UK)

The Government has published the Dormant Bank and Building Society Accounts Bill. Once passed into law, this will allow money lying dormant in banks and building societies to be reinvested in the community. A dormant bank account has been defined as one where there has been no customer-initiated activity for 15 years. In England the

focus for the reinvested money will be on funding youth services, particularly places for young people to go, as well as financial capability, financial inclusion and, resources permitting, social investment. The Bill also enables ministers in the devolved administrations of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to determine the distribution priorities in their own areas. The resources will be distributed on a by the BIG Lottery Fund.
http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/news/news_stories/071114_assets.aspx

39. Community Food and Health Small Grants Scheme (Scotland)

Community based groups and agencies working towards improving the diets of people within low-income communities have the opportunity of applying for funding of between £500 and £3,000 through the Community Food and Health (Scotland) Small Grants Scheme. All applications must tackle one or more of the barriers to healthy eating that were first outlined in the Scottish Diet Action Plan (1996). These are; lack of access to fruit and vegetables of an acceptable quality and cost; the cost of shopping; the lack of confidence and skills for cooking or shopping; challenging long established dietary habits and reluctance to experiment with new foods. All applications must be for the costs of a new food activity or for developing the range, scale or sustainability of current food activity. Applications are also accepted for pilot projects or feasibility studies. The small grant scheme opens in the spring and closes in the early summer. Previous projects supported include Burnfoot Community School which received a grant of £840 for three healthy eating projects for young children and their parents; and the Homeless Implementation Group which received a grant of £2,001 to provide monthly cooking skills sessions within homeless hostels.
http://www.communityfoodandhealth.org.uk/funding/smallgrants.php

40. Kai Davidson Fund

SCOTS musicians will be given the chance to make it big with the help of a charitable fund set up in memory of the former manager of the Proclaimers. The Kai Davidson Fund will provide encouragement and support to bands and singers who lack the finances to back up their talents. Bursaries will be offered to aspiring musicians, with application details available on a website to be launched.

41. Congratulations to Heritage Lottery Fund Winners

Welcome to James Lafferty who is the new Project Officer for Argyll and Bute Council's Campbeltown CARS and is now based in Campbeltown. Also, thanks to the enthusiasm of everyone working to improve and enhance the heritage of Campbeltown, the town has won a Stage 1 pass worth £700,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund towards a Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI). This will run side-by-side with the CARS. Development funding of £25,000 will be available over the next 12 months to help build up local construction skills, celebrate Campbeltown's retail sector and review the conservation area. Five historic buildings, two of which are on the buildings at risk register, have been selected for particular attention as part of the THI scheme: the Old School, Big Kiln Street, the Old Courthouse, Bolgam Street; 13-15 Kirk Street; 50-52 Main Street and the Town Hall. Grants are also available for building repairs in the town centre (particularly high-level works) and for shop front reinstatement and repair. The first meeting of a local steering group will be held some time in early February. Any group interested in being involved that has not already expressed an interest please contact James on 07900 888784 or james.lafferty@argyll-bute.gov.uk

And congrats to the Walking Theatre Company who were awarded £20,000 from Heritage Lottery Fund for their five themed heritage walking plays. Five separate plays will be delivered over a two year period, focusing on the following topics: the Campbells of Argyll, the Whisky Way, the Millhouses of Neilston, a Celtic Tree Walk and the Clearances on Lismore. The plays will take place within a variety of historic landscapes such as ancient woodlands, church grounds and derelict settlements. The project will involve research work with local volunteers to collect stories. Oral and written tales will be recorded and developed into new plays which will be performed at community events.

42. BIG People's Millions

Winners and other funding info at http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/scotland/about-sco/region-update-sco.htm#story02

EUROPEAN

43. Highlands and Islands Scotland European Structural Funds Programmes 2007-2013

The new European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) programme for 2007-2013 has now been approved, and although the European Social Fund (ESF) programme is still in draft format, it has been opened up to applications. The next call for applications is expected early this year.

- Business competitiveness, commercialization and innovation
- key drivers of sustainable growth
- peripheral and fragile communities
- ESF Priorities
- Increasing the workforce
- Investing in the workforce
- Improving access to lifelong learning

The new application process will involve 2 stages. The first stage will establish project eligibility and projects which get through this stage will be invited to complete the fuller stage 2 application form. All applicants have to register with the secretariat prior to submitting an application and potential applicants are requested to submit their first stage application form as soon as possible to allow early liaison with the Intermediate Administrative Body – HIPP.

Documentation including the draft final operational programme, the first stage application form and guidance are available from the Highlands and Islands Partnership Programme website: http://www.hipp.org.uk/new/ Potential Argyll and Bute council applicants should contact the European Unit for further advice prior to submitting their application. Please contact Shona Strachan (shona.strachan@argyll-bute.gov.uk or 07768 142559).

Eligible applicants must be from within the Highlands and Islands which excludes Helensburgh and Lomond (for details of ERDF and ESF programmes in the Helensburgh and Lomond area please see details under the LUPS programme below).

44. Lowlands and Uplands Scotland European Structural Funds Programmes 2007-2013

The call for the next round of applications for the Lowland and Upland Programme for Scotland (LUPS) is expected early this year. Potential applicants in the Helensburgh and Lomond area are advised to note that there is restricted eligibility to funding under this programme. The following priorities are contained within the LUPS programmes:

ERDF

- Research and Innovation
- Enterprise Growth
- Urban regeneration (restricted access means that this priority currently excludes applications from Helensburgh and Lomond).
- Rural development (this is a restricted access priority which currently includes Helensburgh and Lomond).

ESF

- Progressing into Employment (restricted access means that this priority currently excludes applications from Helensburgh and Lomond).
- Progressing through Employment
- Improving Access to Lifelong Learning

Info: www.esep.co.uk. As with the Highlands and Islands programme, potential Argyll and Bute council applicants should contact the European Unit for further advice prior to submitting their application. Please contact Shona Strachan (Shona.strachan@argyll-bute.gov.uk or 07768 142559).

45. Northern Periphery Programme (INTERREG IV B)

The second call for applications to the Northern Periphery Programme will be open from 11 January 2008 to 7 March 2008. The vision of the Northern Periphery Programme is that of:

Regions working innovatively to help communities to develop the potential of Europe's Northern Periphery, and to achieve a sustainable and high quality future, and so make a distinctive contribution to a more dynamic EU.

The following two priorities are contained within the Northern Periphery Programme:

Promoting innovation and competitiveness in remote and peripheral areas

Sustainable development of natural and community resources

All Interreg projects must involve partners from at least 3 member states and all Interreg projects must adhere to the principles of transnationality ie it must involve at least 2 of the following:

- joint development
- joint implementation
- joint staffing
- joint financing

Eligible applicants must be from within the Highlands and Islands which excludes Helensburgh and Lomond

Info and application guidance and forms: www.northernperiphery.net As with other European Programmes, potential Argyll and Bute Council applicants should contact the European Unit for further advice prior to submitting their application. Please contact Shona Strachan (Shona.strachan@argyll-bute.gov.uk or 07768 142559).