



Connected Communities Edinburgh, 2024-27 Grants Programme

Refreshing the programme, simplifying the process, working together

Connected Communities Edinburgh

2024-27 Grants Programme



BRIEFING SESSION

Contents

This presentation will cover:

- Brief context
- Work done to date
- Funding Strands
- Eligibility criteria
- Timeline

Context

- The 2020-23 Third-Party Revenue Grants Programme was approved for a 7-month extension until March 31st 2024.
- The 2020-23 Programme saw 75 awards granted to organisations across Edinburgh.
- The aim of Connected Communities Edinburgh is to continue supporting the invaluable work local, community-based organisations do for the children, young people, families and communities of our city.

Context: Process

- Connected Communities Edinburgh will continue to be a **protected grant funding programme**. This means it will not be competitively tendered via a procurement process.
- There will be no gap in funding due to the extension period of the 2020-23 programme.

Context: Budget

- The budget for Connected Communities Edinburgh is **£3.5m per annum** with contribution from the NHS and Police Scotland.

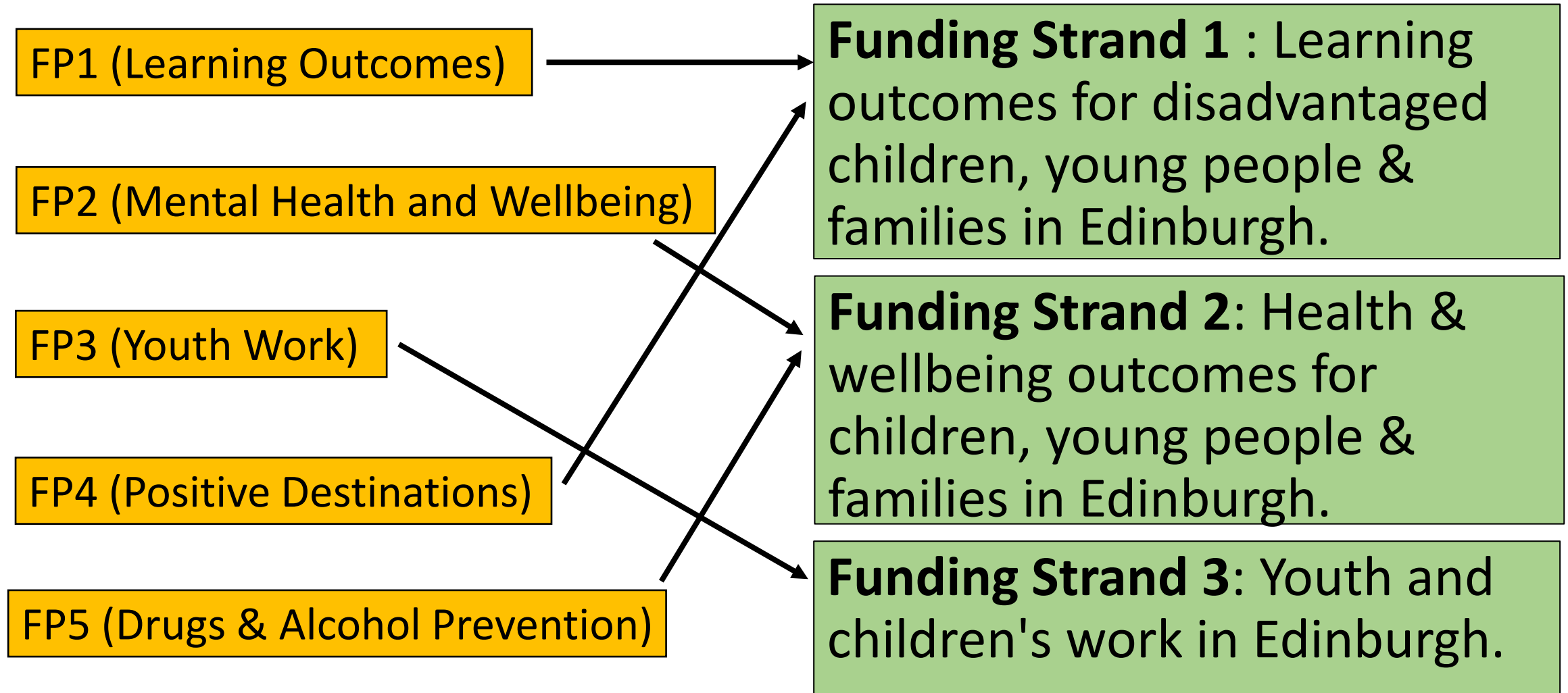
Work done to date

- CEC and LAYC entered into a **meaningful collaboration**, with support from EVOC.
- Learning lessons from the 2020-23 Grants Programme has formed the basis of discussions and decisions made:
 - Protected characteristics
 - Areas of deprivation across the city
 - Locally responsive, locally focused

Refined Process

- We have introduced streamlined, sharper priorities.
- The 2020-23 programme contained 5 funding priorities, each with specific outcomes expected.
- These previous 5 funding 'priorities' have been combined into 3 'funding strands'.

Funding Strands



NOTE: Organisations can apply through one Funding Strand

Funding Strand 1: Learning outcomes for disadvantaged children, young people, and families in Edinburgh

- Funding Strand 1 focuses on delivering learning opportunities and outcomes for disadvantaged children and families in Edinburgh. Consider **what the learning outcomes of your proposal/project are** and **which disadvantage(s) your proposal addresses**. The guidelines for Funding Strand 1 encourage a wide variety of proposals addressing local need.
- **'Learning Outcomes'**: this strand focuses on SQA/accredited forms of learning outcomes and learning outcomes in a wider sense (outdoor learning, creative learning, personal and social development outcomes etc.).
- **'Disadvantaged'**: an increasing numbers of children and families are facing poverty. Poverty affects every area of the city, with high concentrations of poverty found in all 4 localities. If addressing poverty, consider what your proposal/project does to alleviate the impacts of poverty on learning in the widest sense.
- As well as poverty, examples of disadvantages children, young people and families face are race, gender, sexuality, disability, intersectionality between various protected characteristics, being care experienced and those who are young carers.

Funding Strand 2 : Health and wellbeing outcomes for children, young people, and families in Edinburgh

- It is paramount that children, young people, and families in Edinburgh can access support when struggling with their mental health or improving/developing their wellbeing. Funding Strand 2 broadly focuses on **what your project/proposal does to support children, young people and/or families in Edinburgh with their mental health and wellbeing** and **how your proposal/project will aid participants in reaching their full potential, with focus on early intervention and prevention approaches.**
- **‘Mental health’**: children and young people in Edinburgh, and across Scotland, are facing a growing mental health crisis, exacerbated by the current landscape of lasting and devastating impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, climate change and the cost-of-living crisis. Since the pandemic, 39% of 11–24-year-olds in Scotland have reported concerns about their mental wellbeing.
- **‘Wellbeing’**: wellbeing can include a myriad of factors, for example: physical wellbeing, substance misuse, sexual health and wellbeing, lack of access to opportunities, social isolation, and many more.

Funding Strand 3 : Youth and children's work (5-25) in Edinburgh

- Funding Strand 3 focuses on the provision of youth and children's work in Edinburgh. Edinburgh's children and young people benefit from a rich landscape of services across the city. Universal and targeted youth work has been evidenced to produce benefits and positive outcomes in health and wellbeing, educational outcomes, employability, personal and social development, and intercultural learning. The positive changes youth work spaces bring to people and communities are innumerable and can last a lifetime. **Detail what youth work and or children's work services your project/proposal offers and what positive outcomes delivery will produce for children, young people, and families in Edinburgh.**

Application

- The refreshed programme will have a sharper focus, with clearer aims.
- Connected Communities Edinburgh will focus support to **local, community-based organisations**.
- Organisations will be required to complete an **eligibility checklist** prior to application.
- Eligible organisations must deliver **direct work in Edinburgh**, hold a **charitable status**, and have an **annual income of less than £2 million**.

Links with the City Priorities

After choosing which Funding Strand to apply through, you will then be asked to rank and explain how your project/proposal addresses the City Priorities:

- 1. Ending poverty and preventing adverse outcomes such as homelessness and unemployment**
- 2. Becoming a net zero city**
- 3. Ensuring wellbeing and equalities are enhanced for all**

Robust and Impartial Application Assessment

- Minimum and maximum budget for each funding strand: £10,000-£100,000 per year.
- Organisations should plan their budget to include a yearly uplift of 2.5%.
- There will be a **marking matrix** to ensure grants are awarded by the most fair, transparent and equitable means possible.
- The above will provide flexibility for partial awards.
- Poverty and inequality runs through all 3 funding strands.

Application process



Complete 'Pre-Application Eligibility Checklist'



Choose which Funding Strand to apply under (1,2, OR 3)



Complete Application Form



Submit Application Form

- Application open:
week beginning 11th September 2023
- Application closed:
13th October 2023
- Grants Approval:
ECF Committee
- Grants Award :
1st April 2024

Key dates