



**Scottish Government**  
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## **Scottish Government National Drugs Mission– Local Support Fund and Improvement Fund**

### **Criteria and Guidelines**

#### **Introduction**

The numbers of drug-related deaths in Scotland are too high. These deaths are tragic and avoidable and reducing them is a priority for all of us. The Scottish Government is now leading a national mission to improve lives, backed by significant additional resources. There remains a lot of hard work ahead, but with extra investment in essential services, the work we do will be more secure and signals a determination to make change and no longer to fail those who need and deserve our help.

These two funds are designed to provide additional resource to organisations that support people who use drugs, people in recovery and their families. The funds aim to facilitate rights-based, relational support for people so that they can easily access the right support at the right time.

Funding rounds will be conducted annually from 2021 to 2025 for the Improvement Fund and on a rolling basis for the Local Support Fund. Applications for up to 5 years funding will be welcomed in 2021. It may not always be possible to satisfy the demand for funding, and this may result in some awards being agreed for a shorter grant period.

#### **About the funds**

##### Local Support Fund

The Local Support Fund is focused on community-based organisations which deliver frontline services to support people who use drugs, people who are in recovery and their families. The Scottish Government is aware that organisations providing this vital support often exist on shoestring budgets and are stretched to their limits. In some cases, the pandemic may have pushed these budgets further. It is hoped that this extra funding can help to provide more security. This fund is intended to help these organisations to stabilise or increase capacity, extend services and provide further reach into the community.

##### Who can apply:

- The Local Support Fund is open to organisations with an annual income of up to £500,000.
- Applicants can be charities, social enterprises, community groups and other voluntary organisations that have independent governance and an asset lock.
- Applicants must be currently delivering frontline services in Scotland to support people who use drugs, people in recovery and their families.

#### What can be funded:

- Funding of up to £50,000 per year for five years can be used for existing or expanded service delivery, general running costs, staffing, equipment, etc. This means the total amount you can apply for over five years is £250,000. Please note that we expect to provide a range of grant sizes and that the amount requested should be proportionate to the turnover of your organisation and the scale of the work proposed. If you received funding via the Scottish Government's Grassroots or Improvement Fund streams earlier in 2021, you could apply to extend the funded project by a maximum of four years. If the work is different, such as a new project, you can apply for up to five years.
- If you received funding via the Local Support Fund Micro Grants, you will not be able to apply to the Local Support Fund or Improvement Fund in 2021/22. However, you will be able to apply to these funds in future years, as part of the aspiration for this funding programme is to support smaller organisations to grow.
- Funding via Grassroots/Local Support Fund (including Micro)/Improvement Funding cannot be used as 'match' funding for other Scottish Government funds.
- If you applied to the Grassroots/Improvement Fund earlier in 2021 and were unsuccessful, you are welcome to apply to the Local Support Fund or Improvement Fund. We would recommend you arrange to chat with one of the Corra Team before you start work on your application, so we work together to make sure your ideas are a good fit for the fund.
- Only one application per organisation will be considered unless each application is for work in a different Local Authority area.

#### How to apply:

- Applications should be made using our online application form <https://www.tfaforms.com/4921344>
- We would recommend you have a chat with one of the Corra team before you start work on your application. The team will be able to help guide you through the process and offer advice on whether your idea is a good fit for the fund.

### Improvement Fund

The Improvement fund will support drug service resources, with a particular focus on supporting organisations which deliver residential rehabilitation and associated services. This fund aims to support projects which provide fast and appropriate access to treatment and care, and which are based in collaborative approaches that support people by taking a rights based and whole family approach. £3million this funding is reserved for Residential Rehabilitation projects.

It is often hard for people to get the support they need to progress with treatment, so improving access and pathways to support services is also a key priority for this fund. The Improvement Fund will also fund projects that improve pathways, provide aftercare, training, and/or support for family members who often play a vital role in recovery.

#### Who can apply:

- The Improvement fund is open to public sector organisations, charities, social enterprises, community groups and other voluntary organisations that have independent governance and an asset lock. We are particularly interested in projects which are collaborative and delivered in partnership. We are interested in projects which involve both statutory and third sector organisations working closely together to meet the needs of people who use drugs, people in recovery and their families.

- We would be very keen to see ADPs or other public sector organisations working collaboratively with third sector partners and people with lived/living experience to identify the needs and gaps in the area and co-producing the proposed work as part of an ongoing and committed partnership.
- Match funding is not a requirement for this fund. However, because we are keen to see collaborative work that recognises the importance of taking a multi-agency and strategic approach to supporting people, we will welcome applications for work which has secured some funding from public sector organisations, for example from local authorities or ADPs. This is particularly important for applications that are requesting the maximum grant award.
- Applicants must be currently delivering frontline services in Scotland to support people who use drugs, people in recovery and their families.
- Private sector organisations which are currently providing residential treatment services, and receive referrals from health and social care partnerships, can apply. However, any funding provided will require to be held in a separate bank account and used on a not-for-profit basis.
- All applications to the Improvement Fund will need to provide a letter of support from their local Alcohol and Drugs Partnership (ADP) Chair or Co-ordinator. We would encourage you to contact your ADP early and to take a collaborative approach to developing this application, as we will be looking at things like partnership working, sustainability and strategic alignment as part of the assessment process.

#### What can be funded:

Funding of up to £100,000 per year for five years can be used for service development and Improvements which may include additional staffing, new equipment, minor refurbishments, etc. The fund cannot support large capital projects. Please note that we expect to provide a range of grant sizes and that the amount requested should be proportionate to the turnover of your organisation and the scale of the work proposed.

- Collaborative working between organisations and services will be key in many cases. Partnership applications are encouraged, but one organisation must take the lead applicant role and the maximum grant per year will be £100,000.
- If you received funding via the Scottish Government's Grassroots or Improvement Fund streams earlier in 2021, you can apply to extend the life of the funded project by a maximum of four years. If the work is different, such as a new project, you can apply for up to five years.
- Only one application per organisation will be considered unless each application is for work in a different Local Authority area.

Please note that in exceptional circumstances, we may be able to consider an application for more than £100,000. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Grants above the £100,000 threshold will be exceptional, and this caveat is principally aimed at ensuring a more useful scale of funding for larger local authority areas. However, any requests above £100,000 must be discussed with Corra before the application is sent in. Please get in touch by emailing [wellbeingteam@corra.scot](mailto:wellbeingteam@corra.scot)

#### How to apply:

- Applications should be made using our online application form <https://www.tfaforms.com/4884596>

## Timescales

Applications to the Local Support Fund will be assessed on a rolling basis. We aim to notify applicants of the outcome of their application within two months.

The timeline for the Improvement Fund is outlined below.

Funds open	Closing date for applications	Funding decisions announced
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> July 2021	Noon Thursday 14th October 2021	January/February 2022

## Monitoring

You will be asked to report annually. If you receive funding with a grant period of more than one year, grant payments will be made annually and future payments will be dependent on satisfactory reporting each year and on the Scottish Government having funds available at that time. We will also share information (like progress reports) about your project with your local ADP.

## Good Practice

Corra and the Scottish Government are committed to principles of effective governance, transparency and good practice. We look for organisations to be able to show their commitment to:

- Listening to people with lived experience of the issues you work on and ensuring their views are at the heart of your approach.
- Understanding the difference that the work of your organisation makes to people's lives.
- Working with others, networking, sharing learning and avoiding duplication.
- Respecting the safety of vulnerable groups via effective safeguarding procedures.
- Being open to adapting delivery in the face of changing circumstances.
- Operating with openness and clear accountability.
- Complying with any relevant regulation or inspection.
- Implementing equal opportunities policies and valuing diversity, equity and inclusion, including in relation to recruitment.
- Being a responsible employer.

## Frequently asked questions

FAQs can be accessed here <https://www.corra.scot/grants/drugs-services-funds>

## Further information

The team is always happy to talk, whether it's about an application, or a grant you already hold. Please get in touch by emailing [wellbeingteam@corra.scot](mailto:wellbeingteam@corra.scot) or calling us on 0131 444 4020.

If you have any questions which are not covered in the FAQs please contact us by phone or email. If you'd like more detailed information or support with your application, you can book a one-to-one funding advice session by phone or video chat.

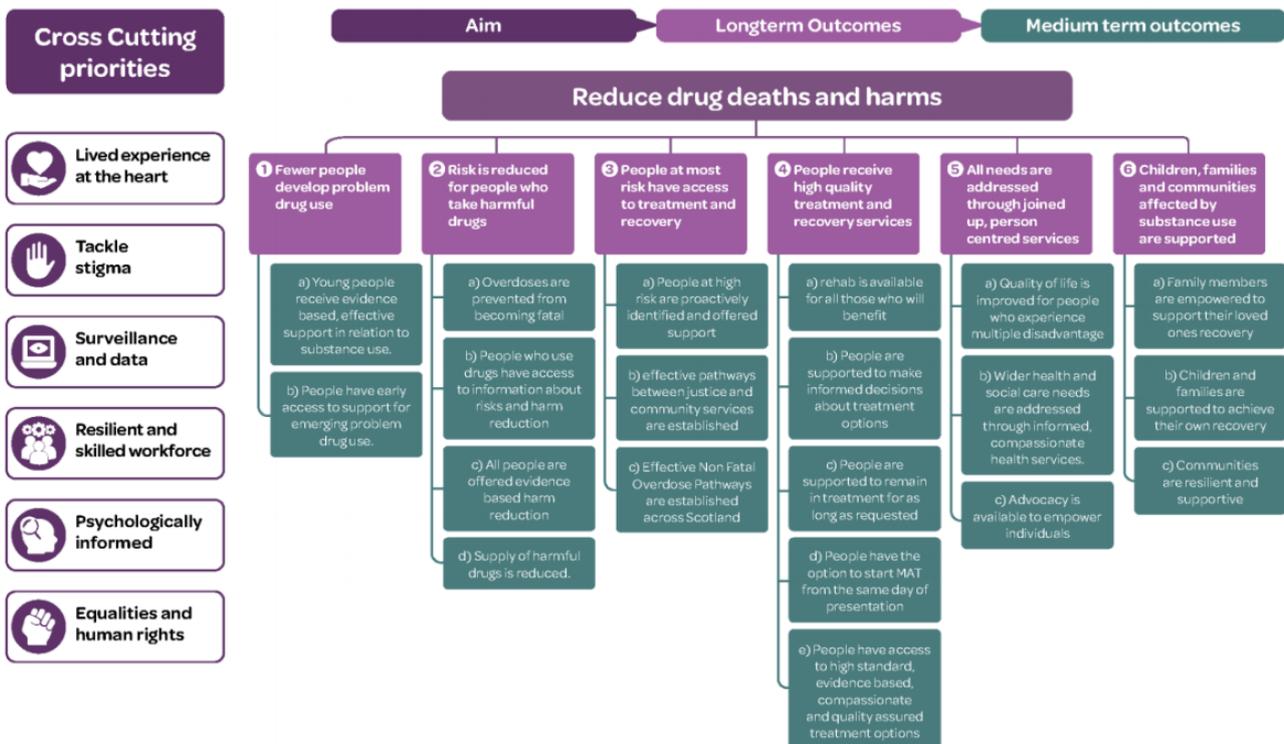
We are not able to look at draft applications, so it is best to chat to us before you complete the form.

## Appendix

The Scottish Government has outlined key cross cutting priorities that will make most impact on drug related deaths and harm. In your application, you should make sure to outline how your project will contribute to these priorities.

## Scottish Government Logic Model and Cross Cutting Themes

Applicants should consider the logic model and cross cutting themes when completing their application form. These high-level outcomes and themes will be used to assess the applications.



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