

**THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL**  
**EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE**  
**13 March 2008**

Agenda Item	
Report No	

**Healthy Living Centres - Funding Update**  
**Report by Director of Education, Culture and Sport**

**SUMMARY**

This report seeks to update Members on the funding issues relating to Healthy Living Centres.

**1. Background**

- 1.1 The 17 January 2008 Committee considered a report which explained the steps being taken to try to secure funding for the Janny's Hoose and the Heathways Healthy Living Centres (HLC's).

**2. Update**

- 2.1 National Fund – The previous report intimated that an announcement was expected on the subject from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Health Secretary, Nicola Sturgeon. Ms Sturgeon has now written to the Chairs of Health Boards announcing a national fund of £2.5 million to provide one off, one year funding to provide time for HLCs to discuss longer term solutions with Health Boards and partners. The criteria for the fund, to be administered by Health Boards, are as follows;

- Scottish Government funding should not be used in place of funding that would otherwise be provided by local funding partners;
- In order to receive transition funding, HLCs must have a good prospect of achieving sustainability after continuation funding runs out, i.e by March 2009 at latest;
- The level of transition funding provided for a HLC will be sufficient to ensure that the HLC is not required to close, but will not exceed £100,000 and is intended to cover core running costs only;
- Funding should not be made available to HLCs that are able to continue without the additional funding;
- The HLC and partners (e.g. Health Board, Local Authority) must agree to the activities of the HLC;
- HLC activities must be aligned to meeting local needs and priorities as agreed with partners;
- Funding is provided as a one-off;
- Decisions on the provision of transition funding will be taken locally. The process will be led by the relevant NHS Board.

The service is engaging with NHS colleagues to ensure the 2 local HLCs can be considered as soon as possible. The fund allows for £100k maximum per HLC for core costs only. Janny's Hoose core costs are approximately £75k out of a total of £90k. Healthways annual core costs are £120k out of a total of £220k. Healthways has a final claim to the lottery in the process of consideration. It is hoped the result of this claim will cover the remainder of the core costs for the coming year.

- 2.2 Lottery Applications – A Big Lottery application was submitted immediately after the January Committee on behalf of the Janny's Hoose. This has passed through the first stage and a more detailed application has been requested, the final deadline for which is August 2008. An application on behalf of Healthways was submitted in February and an initial response is awaited.
- 2.3 Next Steps – It has been agreed with the Scottish Government that if partners have to provide funding in order to cover costs until the local discussion with Health Boards has reached a conclusion – to release the national one off funding, these costs can be reimbursed from the fund eventually allocated to the HLCs concerned.

### **3. Recommendation**

3.1 It is recommended that the Service –

- Continue to act on behalf of the Janny's House and Healthways in discussions with NHS Highland in order to ensure the speedy allocation of funds for the one year transitional fund.
- Pursue longer term funding discussions with NHS Highland colleagues.
- Continue with Big Lottery applications on behalf of both HLCs as part of this process.

**Signature:**

**Designation:** Director of Education, Culture and Sport

**Date:** 17 December 2007

**Author:** Ian Murray, Head of Community Learning & Leisure

**Background papers:**