

Minister for Mental Wellbeing and Social Care
Kevin Stewart MSP



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Gillian Martin MSP,
Convener
Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

By email:
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Dear Convener,

In October last year I announced a £15 million Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund for adults to support grass roots community groups in tackling the social isolation, loneliness and mental health inequalities made worse by the pandemic. I am writing to inform you that, in the light of the overwhelming response to the Fund, I will be providing an additional £6 million funding for this in this Financial Year. This will be announced via a Scottish Government Press Release later today.

Projects supporting sport, outdoor and nature initiatives, as well as arts and crafts, have been successful in receiving the initial funding. The additional funding will undoubtedly make a real difference to local communities, providing them with more opportunity to re-connect, revitalise and build on the examples of good practice which have emerged throughout the pandemic.

This Fund reflects the importance that the Scottish Government places on promoting good mental health and early intervention for those in distress, ensuring that individuals can access a range of different types of support to match their needs.

I would be grateful if you could bring this additional funding to the attention of the Health, Social Care and Sport Committee.

Yours Sincerely,

Kevin Stewart
Minister for Mental Wellbeing & Social Care