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## Reducing Oral Health Inequalities

### Oral Health Community Challenge Fund

July 2019 – March 2022

**The Scottish Government has committed £2.5 million to reduce oral health inequalities in Scotland until March 2022.**

**Grants between £7,000 and £30,000 per annum for up to 2 years and 9 months are now available to small to medium-sized third sector organisations working in areas of multiple deprivation in Scotland.**

#### About the Community Challenge Fund

The aim of the Community Challenge Fund is to enable small to medium size third sector organisations within areas of multiple deprivation to undertake projects to reduce oral health inequalities and support better early years oral health, which in turn will support existing measures to reduce the number of young children having a general anaesthetic for tooth extraction.

#### Eligibility Criteria:

Applicants must contribute to one of the following fund outcomes:

1. Improve infant oral health
2. Reduce oral health inequalities amongst people most at risk
3. Increase opportunities for people to improve oral health and well-being

Applicants are expected to focus on initiatives which will:

- Deliver infant oral health projects that meet the needs of the disadvantaged community and promote wider family involvement.
- Bring the community in and deliver oral and wider health improvement messages in an accessible manner that is inclusive to all.
- Promote infant oral health and measures that can be taken by families to ensure that they have the necessary information to maintain good oral hygiene.

#### Who can apply?

This is an open and competitive fund for:

- Third sector organisations (voluntary organisations or community groups) whose Board of Trustees or Management Committee are predominately volunteers. Organisations do not need to be registered charities, although their constitution/set of rules should make clear that funds will only be spent on purposes established in the constitution, and not distributed amongst members;
- Public bodies and partnerships where the lead partner is a third sector organisation.

## How much can be applied for?

Grants will range between £7,000 to £30,000 per annum. In 2019/20, projects are eligible for 9 months of the annual limits. Applications for any combination of years will be considered.

## What costs can I apply for?

Organisations can apply for costs directly related to delivery of their project, for example equipment, venue hire, child care costs, essential staff costs, publicity materials, training, travel, contribution to overheads etc.

## What type of projects will the fund support?

The funding programme will support different types of interventions to tackle oral health inequalities and improvement in oral health and wellbeing, with a focus on pre nursery children, their families/ carers, expectant mothers and their wider community.

We expect the projects to introduce positive lifestyle choices which can affect oral health and wellbeing. Projects may link to a range of health initiatives such as local food cooperatives, cooking skills development, breast and infant feeding support or link with wider social factors such as welfare benefit support, physical activity and child obesity.

The fund will support new activities and expansion of existing activities.

## What is the funding period?

The funded activities should take place within the funding period 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2022.

## How to apply?

Application and Guidance notes, including full details of eligibility and how to apply for the grant, can be accessed from the Scottish Government website at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/oral-health-community-challenge-fund>

**The deadline for applications is midday on Thursday 21 March 2019.**

**For enquiries contact the Chief Dental Officer and Dentistry Division by email [ccfenquiries@gov.scot](mailto:ccfenquiries@gov.scot) or phone Elizabeth McLear on 0131 244 1817**

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