

# News Release

December 30, 2008

## CASH BOOST FOR SCOTLAND'S VOLUNTARY GROUPS

Over 120 voluntary support groups across Scotland are to benefit from a £1.2 million cash injection, Minister for Children and Early Years Adam Ingram announced today.

The Scottish Government's Voluntary Sector Development Fund grants will help the organisations increase staff skills and professionalism through training - helping them to improve the service they offer to clients

Mr Ingram said:

"We believe that the key to Scotland's success lies with investment in our biggest asset – our people.

"The Scottish Government is committed to helping people develop their skills and knowledge – especially during these tough economic times - and we know the huge impact that workers in the voluntary sector have on people and communities across Scotland.

"We have a duty to ensure help is in place for the most vulnerable people in our society and voluntary care groups play a central role.

"That's why investment in their training is so important and, to strengthen that support, we are making almost £1.2 million available to Scottish voluntary organisations this year."

The fund targets support at small and medium sized voluntary organisations which will help their staff meet standards for registration with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC).

## NOTES FOR NEWS EDITORS

1. The Voluntary Sector Development Fund has made over £7m available to voluntary care organisations since 2001. This year £1,187,060 will be made available to 122 organisations.

2. All care workers, including those in the voluntary sector, are expected to meet the standards for SSSC registration. Further details of the registration criteria are available on the SSSC website – [www.sssc.uk.com](http://www.sssc.uk.com).

3. Voluntary organisations within the following council areas will receive:

Aberdeen City	£105,000
Aberdeenshire	£4,000
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Argyll & Bute	£20,500
Clackmannanshire	£15,000
Dumfries and Galloway	£12,118
Dundee City	£23,612
East Dunbartonshire	£3,000
East Lothian	£10,106
East Renfrewshire	£4,800
City of Edinburgh	£288,759
Eilean Siar	£3,000
Fife	£19,550
Glasgow City	£396,000
Highland	£23,950
Inverclyde	£4,000
Moray	£7,000
North Ayrshire	£21,900
North Lanarkshire	£19,000
Perth & Kinross	£10,775
Renfrewshire	£56,040
Scottish Borders	£6,000
Shetland Islands	£1,000
South Ayrshire	£45,000
South Lanarkshire	£6,000
Stirling	£48,450
West Dunbartonshire	£3,000
West Lothian	£12,500

4. For a full list of all grant recipients please call Brendan Rooney on 0131 244 4001.