

Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Communities and Pensioners' Rights
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Mr Kevin Stewart
Convener
Local Government and Regeneration Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
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In 2014 Scotland Welcomes the World



2 February 2015

Dear Kevin,

I am writing to inform you of my visit tomorrow to the Broomhouse Health Strategy Group in Edinburgh. This is a community-led project that develops the skills of local people to develop their confidence and self-esteem to help bring a positive change in their lives.

During my visit I will announce an extra £5.6m for the People and Communities Fund (PCF). This is an increase from the existing budget of £9.4m to £15m that will be used to support community-led regeneration initiatives tackling poverty and inequalities throughout Scotland.

This Government remains committed to strengthening our communities by empowering people to make decisions that affect their lives. The First Minister reinforced this message when she announced the £10m Empowering Communities Fund in her Programme for Government. The additional money for PCF is from this fund. We will be making further announcements on the remaining £4.4m in due course.

Since PCF launched in 2012, 156 projects have received funding worth £18.3m. The additional funding builds on this success.

ALEX NEIL