



Stuart Irwin
Community Choices Development Officer

3 February 2021



Falkirk Council

What is Community Choices?

- A process of citizen and community participation where ordinary people are involved in local decision-making and how money is spent.
- **Community Choices** will let communities across the Falkirk Council area decide how money is spent in your neighbourhood.
- It's about capturing that local ambition and aspiration and encourage local communities to get involved.

Background



2017 ScotGov / COSLA agreement ... 1% of budget to Participatory Budgeting (PB)



Feb 2020 Falkirk Council agreed to commit £3M capital funding over 2yrs



A key element of Falkirk Council's 'Enabling Communities' approach.

Three Approaches

Small Grants

- Approximately £10k per Ward
- Proposals up to £1,500
- Collaborating with the Health and Social Care Partnership



Falkirk
Health and Social Care
Partnership

Place Based

- £3M over 2 years
- £1M in year one
- Anything over £5000
- 2 Options:
 - Community Delivery and Direct Funding
 - Directing Council delivery

Mainstreamed Co-design

Year 3 onwards...

Service Review and design opportunities that put people at the heart of deciding services that affect them.

Including public voting on plans and budgets

Fairer

Healthier

More
Connected

More
Inclusive



- Do you have an idea that will improve the quality of life in your community?
- Do you have a proposal that will make a positive and lasting difference to your area?
- The funds aim to support proposals that can make your area **Fairer, Healthier, more Connected and more Inclusive.**

Timeline

Launch – Monday, 8 February 2021

- Promoted within local communities
- Expressions of Interest to be received by **5 March 2021**



Advisory Panel considers each Expressions of Interest

- Panel ensures eligibility of each projects
- Advice and support offered to applicants



Full Detailed Applications submitted by 9 April

- Public vote opens **26 April**
- Continued marketing of voting opportunity (social media, etc.)



Public votes closes 14 May 2021

- Successful projects announced
- Alternative funding support offered to unsuccessful projects



Expressions of Interest



Idea



Who benefits



Est. cost



Who delivers

Advisory Panel

- 9 x community representatives (one per Ward)
- 4 x third sector (incl. equalities, disabilities ...)
- 4 x Council Officers including one Health and Social Care Partnership Officer

Recruitment:

- Application process
- Training and support available
- Promoted through colleagues and partners, including third sector.



Questions?

Email:

Community.choices@falkirk.gov.uk

Check out (from Monday!):

www.falkirk.gov.uk/communitychoices



Falkirk Council