

Press Release



clydebank housing association

Issued:
20 November 2013

Funding for Fabulous Fitness Facility!

Plans to create and improve sports facilities at Centre81 in Whitecreek, West Dunbartonshire, have been given the green light thanks to Lottery funding.

Clydebank Housing Association has been awarded **£83,206** from the Big Lottery Fund's Community Spaces programme to turn a disused area of the building into a multi purpose gym and improve access to the outdoor sports pitches.

The Community Spaces programme allows local people to get together and shape their neighbourhood by making better use of outdoor and indoor spaces.

Centre81, owned and managed by Clydebank Housing Association, is a regeneration centre situated in the heart of Whitecreek, Clydebank. The project aims to improve the physical and mental health of residents through a range of innovative and exciting programmes added to which will now be a new indoor gym and new floodlighting on the adjacent sports pitches making them available for sporting activities all year round.

Sharon Keenan, Depute Director, Clydebank Housing Association said, *"We are absolutely delighted that The Big Lottery Fund has decided to fund our Gym81 project at Centre81 through its Community Spaces programme. This funding will enable the local community to take part in sports and fitness activities in a comfortable, secure and familiar space, without feeling the pressure of being in a formal environment."* Sharon continued, *"Thanks to everyone who returned our various surveys as these responses highlighted the desire and need for fitness activities whilst utilising the open spaces at Centre81. We are aiming to have the facilities up and running early in 2014."*

Big Lottery Fund Scotland Chair, Maureen McGinn, said, *"This is the latest in a number of fantastic projects to receive funding from our Community Spaces programme. Not only will this support help turn a disused area of Centre81 into a modern sports facility, but it will also encourage people to adopt a healthy and physically active lifestyle. Once built, these new facilities will revitalise the area of Whitecreek, and bring local people together around a community space which matters to them."*



Photocall: Please find enclosed with this e-mail, photographs of the centre. A photocall can be arranged on request with Clydebank Housing Association.

Contact Details:

Clydebank Housing Association - Sinéad Boyle, Communications Officer, Clydebank Housing Association Ltd. 77-83 Kilbowie Road, Clydebank G81 1BL. Tel No. 0141 941 1044. E-mail: sinead@clydebank-ha.org.uk.

Big Lottery Fund Scotland - Emma Whitfield, Communications Manager, Big Lottery Fund Scotland. Tel: 0141 242 1415 or 07880 737157. E-mail emma.whitfield@biglotteryfund.org.uk

Notes to Editor:

From Clydebank Housing Association - Centre81, 2-16 Braes Avenue, Whitecrock is owned and managed by Clydebank Housing Association. Throughout the week, the centre runs IT, confidence, pre-access and keep fit classes, activities for young and old and much more. The centre also has a café and a community garden with community chickens. Centre81 facilities are available for individuals and organisations to hire and discounted rates are available to local community groups. Call Ali at the Centre for further details on 0141 533 7070. Centre81, 2-16 Braes Avenue, Whitecrock G81 1DN.

From the Big Lottery Scotland – For full details of Big Lottery Fund Scotland programmes and grants awards go to www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/scotland

- The Big Lottery Fund (BIG), the largest distributor of National Lottery good cause funding, is responsible for giving out 40% of the money raised for good causes by the National Lottery.
- BIG is committed to bringing real improvements to communities and the lives of people most in need and has been rolling out grants to health, education, environment and charitable causes across the UK. **Since its inception in 2004 BIG has awarded close to £6bn.**
- The Fund was formally established by Parliament on 1 December 2006.
- Since the National Lottery began in 1994, 28p from every pound spent by the public has gone to good causes. As a result, **over £29 billion** has now been raised and more than **383,000** grants awarded across arts, sport, heritage, charities, health, education and the environment.
- The Scotland Committee has been making Big Lottery Fund decisions on Scottish projects since March 2007. As well as taking devolved decisions on Lottery spending, the Committee, led by Chair, Maureen McGinn, has and will continue to play a strategic role in the future direction of BIG in Scotland.

The Big Lottery Fund is investing in Scotland's communities through its Investing in Communities portfolio, as well as the small grants schemes Awards for All, Investing in Ideas, Communities and Families and 2014 Communities.