



| **HUB**

Funders Forum

2nd December, 2024

Agenda

- Welcome and Introduction from Harry at Neighbourly Lab
- Introducing the panellists
- Funders presentations
- Panel discussion
- Q&A



**Centre For
Loneliness Studies**

**Sheffield
Hallam
University**
Knowledge Applied



Department
for Culture
Media & Sport

Introducing our panellists



Alex Beer

Nuffield Foundation



Mark Purvis

The National Lottery
Community Fund
(TNLCF)



Alex Hayes

New Philanthropy
Capital



Dr Maja Palmer

The National Institute
for Health and Care
Research (NIHR)



Chloe Montague

The National Institute
for Health and Care
Research (NIHR)

Nuffield Foundation



Introducing the Nuffield Foundation

How loneliness aligns with our research
interests

2 December 2024

About the Nuffield Foundation

- Independent charitable trust with purpose to **advance social well-being**
- We fund rigorous research with the capacity to make a difference to people's lives by **influencing policy and practice**
- We fund research on all four UK nations



Nuffield Foundation www.nuffieldfoundation.org



Our domains of research interest



Education




Welfare



Justice



Emerging themes for our new strategy

- Building a prosperous, fair, and secure society
 - Living well in an inclusive society, with changing demography and ways of life
 - Harnessing developments in science and technology for the benefit of all
 - Building sustainable communities and places in the face of climate and environmental crisis
 - Effective, accountable, and trustworthy institutions
- 

Revealing social capital

Using social media data to look at how social capital affects social mobility and other life outcomes.

Nature based integration

Explored the use of nature spaces to help social integration between different communities, including migrants.

The role of communities and connections in social welfare advice

Examined how access to social welfare legal advice interacts with community connectedness, (in)equality, and wellbeing.

Covid-19 Social Study

Explored the psychological and social experiences of adults in the UK during the Covid-19 pandemic, including loneliness.

Some of the projects we have funded



**Two application
rounds a year**
Grants up to £750k

April 2025

October 2025

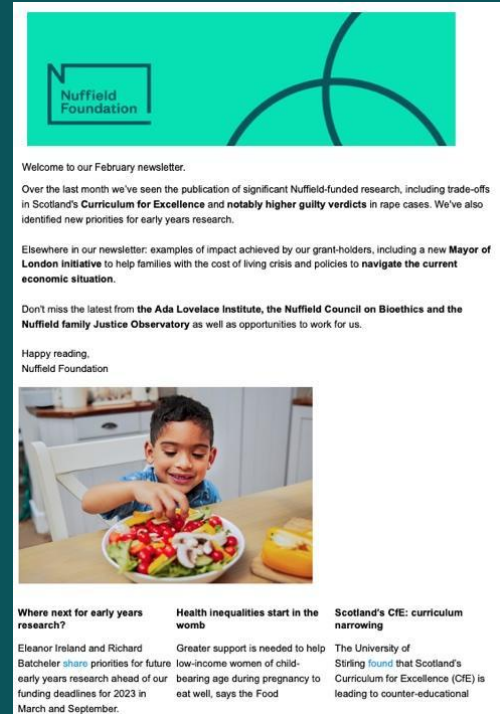
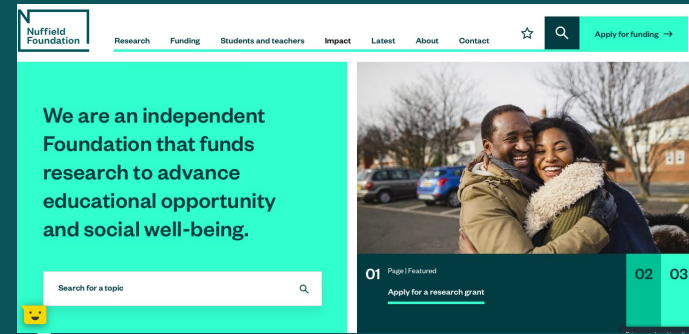
Funding opportunities

Two stage application process:

- **Outline applications** assessed in-house
- Most **full applications** peer reviewed
- Final decisions are made by Nuffield Foundation expert staff and Trustees
- **Most grants are below £300k**

Keep in touch

- Website: www.nuffieldfoundation.org
- Twitter and Bluesky: @NuffieldFound
- LinkedIn and YouTube
- Subscribe to our newsletter
- Webinar: How to get Nuffield Funding <https://www.youtube.com/user/Nuffieldcc>



The National Lottery Community Fund (TNLCF)



Tackling Loneliness Hub

2 December
2024



The National Lottery Community Fund

We fund projects and organisations that work to make positive changes in their community. By community we mean people living in the same area, or people with similar interests or life experiences.

Thanks to Lottery players, we distribute over £550 million per year to people and communities across the UK. Making us the biggest non departmental community funder in the UK.

Last year we launched our new It Starts with Community Strategy.

The National Lottery Community Fund

Our new Strategy we have developed 4 missions, where we believe our funding can have the biggest impact. In England we have set these out as:

- **tackling health inequalities**
- **environmental injustice and access to quality nature**
- **inclusive places and activities**, prioritising communities least able to help people come together
- **supporting babies, children, young people and their families to navigate key transitions in their lives**

New Philanthropy Capital

The National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR)

The National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR)

NIHR is funded by the Department of Health and Social Care to fund, enable, and deliver world leading health and social care research.

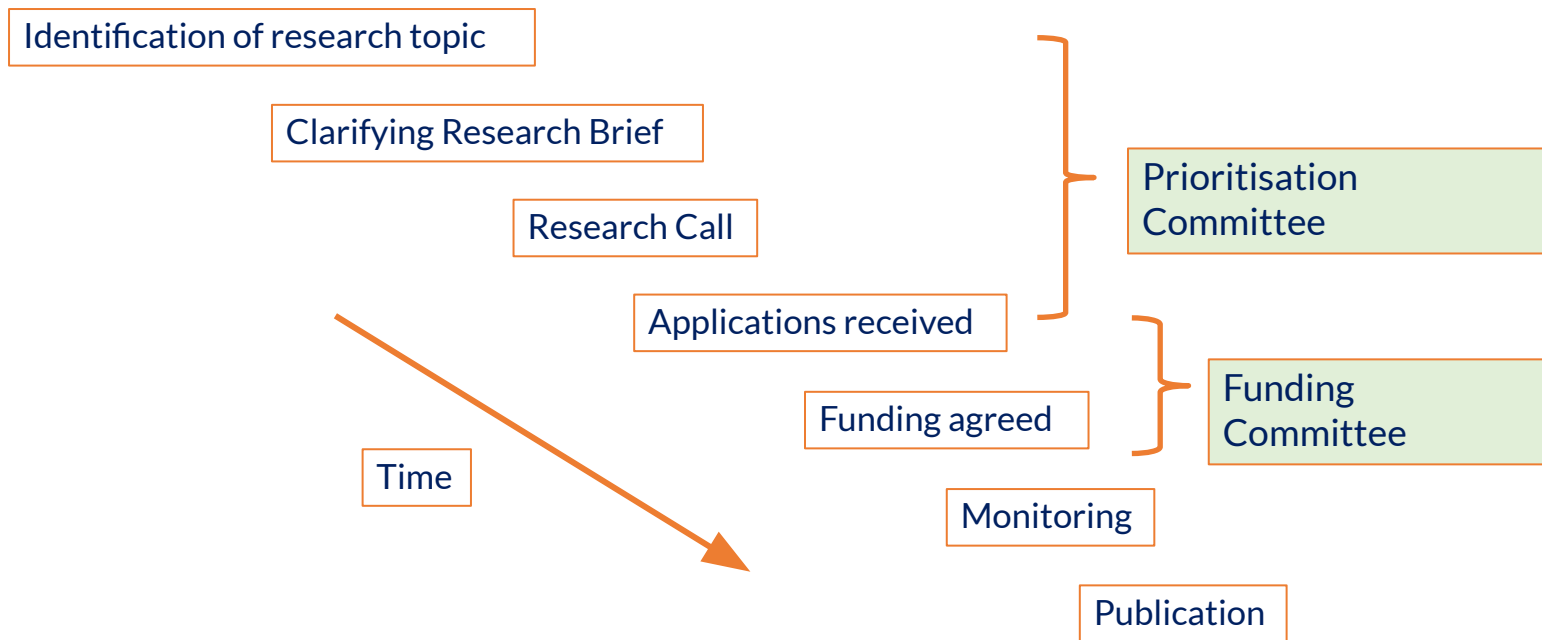
The [Public Health Research Programme \(PHR\) | NIHR](#) remit is:

- Evaluative research of non-NHS interventions, with a health outcome as the primary outcome

If you are new to the NIHR or PHR Programme, discuss your application with the [Research Support Service Specialist Centre for Public Health | NIHR](#), part of the [Research Support Service | NIHR](#).

Note: we also have a [fast-track scheme](#) if your research needs to start within a limited timeframe.

How we assess research applications



Contact the programme: phr@nihr.ac.uk

Funding opportunities for research on loneliness

- The PHR programme advertised a commissioned funding call titled '*Interventions that impact Loneliness*', which closed in August 2023
 - No projects were funded from this call.
- Re-advertisement of [the call](#), now titled '*Loneliness in the Community*' – to be advertised in Spring/Summer 2025, pending approval
 - Focus shifted to community-centred interventions and stronger emphasis on prevention
- We also have a researcher-led funding stream open three times a year (current call: [PHR Programme researcher-led | NIHR](#))

NIHR PHR Portfolio: Examples of projects related to loneliness

- The Looking Forward Project: A pragmatic adaptive trial of hope-focused mentoring to improve mental health and social outcomes for young women who are not in education, employment or training in deprived coastal areas, ACTIVE expected end Dec 2028
- A feasibility study of the clinical and cost-effectiveness of the MATILDA intervention to support older adults with learning disability to improve their health, wellbeing and social networks compared to usual care, ACTIVE expected end date July 2025
- Common Health Assets: a mixed methods realist evaluation and economic appraisal of how community led organisations impact on the health and wellbeing of people living in deprived areas, ACTIVE expected end date Feb 2025
- The Social Navigator Project, South Tyneside (PHIRST Fusion), ended May 2024
- Lambeth Prevention and Promotion for Better Mental Health and Wellbeing (PHIRST Connect), ended July 2023
- Great Mental Health in Haringey Community Protect (PHIRST Insight), ended March 2023
- Proposal for evaluating the LeicesterSHIRE Community Kitchen scheme (PHIRST Insight), ended Feb 2023
- The Project About Loneliness and Social networks (PALS) study, ended July 2022
- Investigating SOcial Competence and Isolation in children with Autism taking part in LEGO-based therapy clubs In School Environments (I-SOCIALISE), ended Dec 2020
- A pilot randomised controlled trial of one to one befriending by volunteers, compared to Usual Care, in reducing symptoms of depression in people with intellectual disability, ended June 2020
- How can loneliness and social isolation be reduced among migrant and minority ethnic people? Systematic, participatory review of programme theories, system processes and outcomes, ended August 2019



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Thank you!