

Independent Living Fund Scotland

Annual Review 2015/16



About us

The Independent Living Fund Scotland is an Other Significant Public Body of the Scottish Government. Our role is to provide a high quality service to over 3,200 disabled people in Scotland and Northern Ireland, supporting them to achieve positive independent living outcomes, and to have greater choice and control over their lives.

ILF Scotland was established in July 2015, following the closure of the UK Independent Living Fund (ILF). Operating from our central office in Livingston, we employ up to 22 dedicated staff to deliver an excellent service for our recipients.

ILF Scotland operates as a discretionary fund that provides financial awards to disabled people in Scotland and Northern Ireland to enable them to live independent lives.



Supporting our recipients

A message from the Chair of the Board



I feel privileged and honoured to have become the first Chairperson of ILF Scotland. It is always exciting to be involved in any new organisation, but this is especially true of an organisation like ILF Scotland. As a disabled woman myself, with many years of campaigning for disability rights, I identify strongly with the ambitions of this organisation. Put simply, to support disabled people in Scotland to live independent lives.

I want to thank the Scottish Government for listening to the voices of disabled people. Following the closure of the UK ILF, there was no guarantee that the fund would be protected in Scotland or that a new Scottish organisation would be formed. The fact that ILF Scotland has been created is an indication that our Government is committed to supporting disabled people to live independently, and to protecting and promoting our human rights.

I also want to thank the Department of Health (Northern Ireland) as they also took the decision to go with ILF Scotland.

ILF Scotland began operations on 1st July 2015. In the period prior to this, disabled people who were in receipt of the fund had been through a period of uncertainty and anxiety, as they feared the consequences of life without ILF. This anxiety was heightened by austerity, welfare reform and local authority funding challenges.

"ILF Scotland has established itself as a robust, resilient, proactive and cost-effective public body, where for every pound distributed the organisation has spent 2.75 pence on administration in 2015/16."

The creation of ILF Scotland, and the smooth transition from UK ILF, alleviated some of this anxiety. I would like to thank those responsible for ensuring this was the case, as I do not underestimate the scale of the task. Thanks to the hard work of the ILF Scotland sponsor teams in the Scottish Government and Northern Ireland Government, members of the Project Board established to oversee the development work, Self Directed Support Scotland and finally the closedown team from the Independent Living Fund Nottingham, who handed over with the utmost professionalism. By the end of the year, over 33,000 payments had been made totalling £40.7 million, enabling disabled people in Scotland and Northern Ireland to continue to live the lives they choose. ILF Scotland has established itself as a robust, resilient, proactive and cost-effective public body, where, for every pound distributed, the organisation has spent 2.75 pence on administration in 2015/16, which compares favourably against ILF, who spent 3.53 pence for every pound distributed in 2014/15 (their last year of operational activity).



“Providing support to enable disabled people to overcome the challenges our society presents them with will not only benefit those disabled people, it will benefit everyone in Scotland and Northern Ireland.”

However, this is just the start for ILF Scotland. With the allocation of an additional £5 million per year, work has now started to look at a new ILF scheme for new applicants. Again, we don't underestimate the challenge that this presents. However, with the support of a working group, we are confident that we can also make this a success.

Providing support to enable disabled people to overcome the challenges our society presents them with will not only benefit those disabled people, it will benefit everyone in Scotland and Northern Ireland. I will end this statement as I began, I am very honoured to be part of ILF Scotland and of this next development in improving the citizenship opportunities for disabled people in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Susan Douglas-Scott
Chair of the Board

Introducing the people behind ILF Scotland

The ILF Scotland Directors

Susan Douglas-Scott, Chair of the Board and member of the Remuneration Committee

Susan Douglas-Scott is a disabled woman whose career has focused on disability issues. For the past five years Susan has followed a portfolio career as a freelance consultant in equalities, health, disability and social care. She is a non-executive director of NHS Education for Scotland, Vice Chair of the board of trustees of Leonard Cheshire Disability, a large UK disability NGO and a humanist celebrant. This follows on from an 18-year career in local authorities and non-governmental organisations in the field of disability and health.

Alan Dickson, Chair of the Audit Committee

Alan Dickson is a qualified accountant (Fellow Chartered and Certified Accountant) who has operated at a senior level within the public sector for most of his career. Alan was Head of Finance at the Student Loans Company for nine years and has worked in a variety of senior finance roles within local government. Alan is also the Chair of Good Morning Glasgow (a charity that delivers telephone befriending to older people) and was previously a Trustee of the Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice.

Fiona O'Donnell, Chair of the Remuneration Committee

As Director of Legal at the University of Dundee, Fiona O'Donnell has a stewardship role in the oversight and scrutiny of legal and compliance matters. She has responsibility to ensure probity and consistency of decision making in hearings and panels which can include complex disabilities issues. Fiona has been a registered mediator since 2004. She is currently working with the charity PAMIS to provide mediation and negotiation skills to carers of profoundly disabled children to assist their engagement with all professionals involved in the delivery of services for their sons or daughters.

Bridget Sly, member of the Audit Committee

Bridget Sly has over 20 years' experience of working in the higher education, public and voluntary sectors in New Zealand and the UK as a practitioner, researcher, and policy-maker. Bridget is currently employed as Volunteer and Citizenship Manager with Glasgow Life, where she leads the award-winning Host City Volunteers project as part of the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games. She was previously a non-executive Director of the Glasgay festival and was a lay advisor to the Metropolitan Police Service.

The Senior Management Team (SMT)

The SMT is responsible for the strategic management of ILF Scotland.



Peter Scott, Chief Executive

Peter has over 20 years' experience working in the voluntary and third sector, specifically in the area of disability. He began his career as a Support Worker in 1993 with a charity called Fair Deal. For the next 17 years, Peter undertook a number of managerial roles with various charities before becoming the Executive Director for Enable in 2008. In 2010, Peter then became Enable's sixth CEO before moving to ILF Scotland in 2015.



Harvey Tilley, Chief Operating Officer

Although Harvey began his career in the British Army, he has spent the best part of the last 15 years working in the voluntary sector. Specifically, this has been in the areas of homelessness, disability, care, grant giving and employability. Prior to taking up post as ILF Scotland's Chief Operating Officer, the majority of roles he has held during this time have been leading large-scale operations across the UK.

As Chief Operating Officer for ILF Scotland, Harvey not only deputises for the CEO, but is responsible for service delivery, IT, health and safety, information governance, facilities, human resources and organisational development.



Nadeem Hanif, Head of Finance

Nadeem has over 12 years' experience in the financial and accountancy sector. After graduating in 2003, he began his career with HMRC, spending the next nine years working in various finance and tax directorates.

In 2012, he left HMRC to work for the Scottish Government as a Finance Manager before becoming ILF Scotland's Head of Finance.

As Head of Finance, Nadeem is responsible for all aspects of financial management, control and risk within ILF Scotland, including close liaison with both internal and external audit.



Margaret Wheatley, Head of Policy

Margaret worked in Social Work Services for over 25 years, mainly in the field of disability, although in later years she specialised in the area of learning disability. Margaret became the Head of Learning Disability in East Glasgow Community Health and Care Partnership (CHCP) before moving on to lead the initial development of Self Directed Support in Glasgow.

Prior to coming to ILF Scotland, Margaret worked for three years at Enable Scotland, in both their Service Delivery team and their Campaign team.

As ILF Scotland's Head of Policy, Margaret is responsible for ensuring all policies and procedures deliver the organisation's aims and that an excellent service is provided to recipients at all times.



Robert White, Head of Social Work

Robert has over 25 years of experience working in central and local government and has a keen interest in the interaction between social welfare and social work.

Robert began his career in the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), undertaking various roles, from Benefits Officer to Social Fund Officer, before becoming a Social Worker, Mental Health Officer and Chair of a Practitioner forum in Ayrshire. Prior to starting with ILF Scotland in 2015, he managed a team of Social Workers in South Lanarkshire Council.

As Head of Social Work for ILF Scotland, Robert is responsible for managing and co-ordinating the organisation's 17 Assessors who work across Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Key achievements in 2015/16



ILF Scotland supported **3,277** recipients in 2015/16 (specifically 2,712 in Scotland and 564 in Northern Ireland).

99%

of recipients said that funding from ILF Scotland **improved their quality of life.**



ILF Scotland Assessors completed **544** visits in Scotland and **123** in Northern Ireland.

Overall satisfaction rating amongst ILF recipients of

97%.



99%

of recipients said that funding from ILF Scotland enabled them to **live more independently.**

Supporting disabled people to make independent living a reality



Francesca's story

Francesca is 55 and has been a recipient of ILF for 10 years. In addition to funding she receives from the local authority, Francesca uses her ILF award to attend local evening classes, with support from two agency workers. This has enabled her to actively interact with those in her community, helping her to overcome social isolation and make many new friends. Francesca has also improved her mobility and co-ordination, guaranteeing positive overall physical and mental health, through attending an exercise class.

You can read more about Francesca's story here: <http://ilf.scot/about-us/my-story/>

Our recipients

At ILF Scotland, the needs of our recipients are at the heart of the organisation's decision-making processes. We are committed to listening to the voices of ILF recipients so that we deliver our services in such a way to ensure they have choice and control over how they want to lead their lives independently.

In 2015/16, the organisation received only six complaints, with an overall satisfaction rating of 97% amongst recipients. Ninety-nine per cent of them specifically stated that funding from ILF Scotland enabled them to live more independently.

Here is some of the recipient feedback that we have received.

"I can make my own choices and live a much more independent life, because of ILF funding. Thank you."

Rosie, recipient in Scotland.

"ILF funding makes a big difference to my daughter's week. It enables her to take part in the activities she chooses, such as drama and swimming, with the one to one support she needs."

Sophie, mum of recipient in Scotland.

"It is great that I can decide what I want to do and where I want to go to do things, because I receive ILF funding."

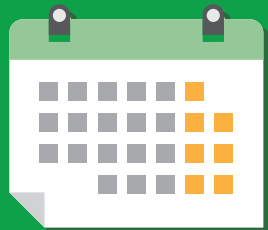
Alexander, recipient in Northern Ireland.

Financial overview

33,000 = £40.7million
payments



Over 33,000 payments were made totalling **£40.7 million** with no errors, enabling disabled people in Scotland and Northern Ireland to continue to live the lives they choose.



700

recipients were paid
each week totalling
approximately

£1 million.



For every pound
distributed, the
organisation has spent

2.75 pence

on administration in
2015/16.

Financial figures

Award Payments



● **Scotland:** £35,400,334
● **Northern Ireland:** £5,590,000



● **Scotland:** £35,155,481
● **Northern Ireland:** £5,582,036

Administration Costs

Scotland & Northern Ireland
Income

£1,160,000

Scotland & Northern Ireland
Expenditure

£1,157,635

Totals

Scotland & Northern Ireland
TOTAL Income
£42,150,334

Scotland & Northern Ireland
TOTAL Expenditure
£41,895,152

Any enquiries related to this publication should be sent to us at:

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