



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Embargoed until 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

### **£150,000 funding boost for local dementia projects in the Highlands**

The Life Changes Trust has today announced a new grants programme for local organisations across the Highlands.

Local projects can apply for up to £15,000 to deliver work which will support people affected by dementia living in the Highland area.

**Anna Buchanan, CEO of the Life Changes Trust, said,** "We know from experience that very often it is local, grassroots organisations which, by their very nature of being local, have the most immediate impact on people living with dementia, their families and unpaid carers. These local projects may have few resources but have real potential to make a difference in the lives of local people who are affected by dementia."

In November last year, the Life Changes Trust held a series of collaborative events in the Highlands to find out what mattered most to people with dementia and those who cared for them. They asked what people felt was missing in terms of local support and what was working well.

These events were run by local people for local people, and marked the first of fourteen country-wide events the Life Changes Trust will be funding over the next two years.

**Anna Buchanan went on to say,** “We plan to roll these events and the small grants programme out across Scotland over the next two years. We are very excited to see what this funding to local communities in the Highlands will achieve and how others can learn from it.”

Applications for grants of between £2,000 and £15,000 can be made up until 26<sup>th</sup> April by going to the Life Changes Trust website: [www.lifechangestrust.org.uk](http://www.lifechangestrust.org.uk).

Enquiries can be made to Colm McBriarty - [colm.mcbriarty@lifechangestrust.org.uk](mailto:colm.mcbriarty@lifechangestrust.org.uk)

The Life Changes Trust was set up with a Big Lottery Fund endowment of £50 million to improve the lives of two key groups in Scotland: people affected by dementia and care experienced young people.

## **ENDS**

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## **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

Our work with people with dementia has shown that the phrase “Dementia sufferers”, or using the word suffering to describe dementia has a strongly negative view from people with the condition. We would request that you avoid using the phrase in headlines or in any article you publish to combat the negative way that people with dementia feel the condition is described.

**The Life Changes Trust** was established by the Big Lottery in April 2013 with a ten year endowment of £50 million to support transformational improvements in the quality of life, well-being, empowerment and inclusion of people affected by dementia and young people with experience of being in care.