

The Smarter Choices, Smarter Places Open Fund is looking for more walking projects!

Could your Health Walk be one?

If you are delivering Health Walks and looking for funding, you can apply to the Smarter Choices, Smarter Places Open Fund. Grants of £5,000-£100,000 are available. To access funding, you should record the **number of people** who attend your Health Walks over the funding period – you can access this number via your Health Walk registers on the [Paths For All database](#).

What can be funded

- Staff salaries and expenses e.g. Health Walk Coordinator, Volunteer/Development Coordinator
- Volunteer expenses
- Volunteer training e.g. Walk Leader training
- Communication and promotion – resources/marketing
- Step Count Challenge/Pedometer Challenge – team places, prizes, and incentives
- Maps/Leaflets design and printing – e.g. if you are updating maps/leaflets to provide information about accessing Health Walks via active or sustainable travel
- Proportional contribution to overheads

To be eligible for funding you need to:

Deliver Health Walks **and** deliver **two activities** focused on promoting active and sustainable travel with walk participants. Some activity examples are included below:

1. Promote leaving the car at home and traveling to the Health Walk on foot, or by cycling, wheeling, or using public transport. This could be done as part of the Health Walk introduction and/or through any newsletters and flyers.
2. You could add public transport details to our [Health Walk Map](#).
3. Adjust the start time/end time/location of Health Walks to make it easier for participants to leave the car at home and travel by public transport.
4. Set up a new Health Walk which starts near a bus stop and considers bus times. Encourage participants to travel by bus.
5. Promote walking, wheeling, or cycling for short local journeys out-with the Health Walk e.g. to the shop, library, pharmacy, GP, post office, bus/train station via newsletters etc.
6. Set up a new Health Walk, or amend an existing walk, to incorporate everyday journey locations as part of the route e.g. shop, library, pharmacy, GP, post office, bus/train station etc.
7. Set up a Buggy Walk and incorporate the nursery/school drop-off.
8. Run a Step Count Challenge or Walk Challenge

Match Funding

50% match funding is required for this fund. If you are struggling to identify/source match funding, please get in touch. This shouldn't be a barrier to applying. Walking for Health funding can be used as match. **Funding from Transport Scotland cannot be used as match for this fund.**

Up to 25% of the total project cost can be in-kind/non-cash contributions e.g. staff hours or volunteer hours, insurance etc. Trained Volunteer Walk Leaders time would equate to a rate of £30 per hour.

If you would like to discuss this further, please contact:

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