## Innovation Fund open for applications

A new £500,000 <u>Innovation Fund</u> is now open for funding applications from voluntary, charitable, not for profit organisations who provide health and social care in Edinburgh.

Funding is available from Edinburgh's <u>Health and Social Care</u> <u>Partnership</u> for innovative projects that meet the changing needs of people in the city. The categories are:

- using social media in mental health
- carer support
- employee-owned health and social care co-operatives
- social enterprises for household and garden safety maintenance
- making choice and control a reality in wards
  Portobello/Craigmillar and Craigentinny/Duddingston
- Kick Start Funding to support new initiatives that demonstrate innovative practice.

<u>Applications</u> must be made no later than 31 October for Kick Start funding and 15 November for the other categories.

A panel of service users and carers, along with representatives from the City of Edinburgh Council, NHS Lothian and partnership organisations will consider the applications and decide on funding before mid December.