Eight Scottish charities to receive share of £1.25m donation

The ScottishPower Foundation has announced this year's recipients of its annual award fund. Eight charities in Scotland will share a part of the £1.25m pot helping them make a positive difference to people's lives in many diverse communities.

The eight charities chosen by the ScottishPower Foundation include causes as diverse as a support group for autistic young people, a project aiming to end appearance related bullying amongst young people, a STEM learning programme and a therapeutic initiative for vulnerable children. The ScottishPower Foundation selected Changing Faces, Hearts & Minds, National Autistic Society, National Museums Scotland, The Prince's Foundation, Music in Hospitals & Care, Maggie Keswick Jencks Cancer Caring Centres Trust and Young Enterprise Scotland as eight of twenty-five projects across the UK to receive funding this year, bringing real benefits to communities across the country.

Mike Thornton, Chairman of the ScottishPower Foundation, said: "Each year it's incredible to see the applications received from projects across Scotland that are making a lifechanging difference to people in their communities. We're so pleased to announce this year's funding package for 25 projects across the UK, which are all doing incredible work to make a real difference to their communities and the people living in them."

Phillipa Quinn, Fundraising Officer for one of this year's funded charities, Hearts & Minds, said: "Hearts & Minds is a charity that relies on funding to help us reach the people who need us most. The donation from the ScottishPowerFoundation will extend the reach of our Clowndoctors programme – a therapeutic initiative that encourages interaction and communication among vulnerable young people in specialised educational and healthcare settings. We can't thank them enough for this donation."

The ScottishPower Foundation was established in 2013 with the aim of making a significant and lasting contribution to society, enhancing the lives of people living in communities throughout the UK. It provides funding to registered charities which are involved in the advancement of education, environmental protection, citizenship and community development, science, the arts, heritage or culture as well as the prevention of poverty and relief of disability or other disadvantages.

This year's funding recipients in Scotland are:

- <u>Changing Faces</u>
- <u>Hearts & Minds</u>
 - Maggie Keswick Jencks Cancer Caring Centers Trust
 - <u>Music in Hospitals & Care</u>
- <u>National Autistic Society</u>
- National Museums Scotland
 - <u>The Prince's Foundation</u>
- <u>Young Enterprise Scotland</u>

The funding total also covers an awards ceremony hosted by the

ScottishPower Foundation, which gives this year's selected projects the opportunity to receive a further boost to funding for a specific initiative.



Pupils from Oaklands School in Edinburgh were joined by Phillipa Quinn from Hearts & Minds and Mike Thornton from the ScottishPower Foundation at one the of project's 'Clowndoctors' therapeutic sessions to launch the ScottishPower Foundation's 2019 funding programme. Hearts & Minds is one of 25 good-cause projects to receive funding from the ScottishPower Foundation this year, which will help it extend its impact to vulnerable young people in specialised educational and healthcare settings.