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**WRITTEN QUESTION FOR SUBMISSION TO EDUCATION,  
CHILDREN'S AND LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY  
20 FEBRUARY 2024**

**QUESTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR FERNANDES  
DATE SUBMITTED: 15 FEBRUARY 2024**

The list of schools that have been awarded a share of the £200,000 from the School Library Improvement Fund, administered by The Scottish Library and Information Council, was recently published.

No Moray schools received any funding this year, which was also the case in 2023. Did any Moray schools apply for the latest round of SLIF funding?

Across Moray, how many SLIF applications have been made since the funding's launch in 2017?

How many of these applications have been successful?

What support do school librarians receive to help them succeed in applying for the fund?

**RESPONSE**

**Did any Moray schools apply for the latest round of SLIF?**

No Moray schools applied for funding in the latest round of SLIF. Therefore, none received.

**Across Moray, how many SLIF applications have been made since the funding's launch in 2017?**

- 2021/22: Forres Academy: Equality, Inclusion, Diversity and A Mentally Healthy School.
- 2019/20: Elgin Academy: Raising Awareness of Everyday Sexism Project. The group of S6 pupils who led this project subsequently received Moray Young Citizen of the Year Awards.
- 2019/20: Dyke Primary School: Develop a culture of reading for enjoyment across the whole school community and to raise attainment in reading.
- 2018/19: West End Primary School: Library Transformation project.
- 2018/19: Moray School Librarians from Buckie High School, Elgin Academy, Elgin High School, Forres Academy, Keith Grammar School, Lossiemouth High School, Milnes High School and Speyside High School: Promoting Mental Wellbeing.

**How many of these applications have been successful?**

- Forres Academy
- Elgin Academy
- Moray Schools Librarians Group.

**What support do school librarians receive to help them succeed in applying for the fund?**

Shelagh Toonen, librarian at Elgin Academy (ST) is the Lead Contact for SLIF in Moray and when the funding is announced, she emails all primary headteachers; school librarians and QIO for Literacy at Moray Council to make them aware of funding and any requirements from SLIC. Applicants are asked to submit applications to ST a week before the SLIC deadline. ST and the applicant discuss the application and when the applicant is happy and confident about submitting their application, ST shares the application with SLIC. ST can talk to SLIC staff at any time about the application process and feedback is shared with applicants throughout the application process.

Within school, school librarians receive support from their line managers and SLT. Indeed, permission and approval for any projects should be granted by SLT before submission of any application for funding.

The project within schools is managed by a team, which includes the school librarian (usually project manager) and teachers, support staff and a member of SLT. The project team meets regularly during both the planning and the implementation of the projects. The project team is required to submit an evaluation of the project after its completion.