

# Scaling Up: Development of Participatory Budgeting (PB) within Scotland from 2014 to 2018

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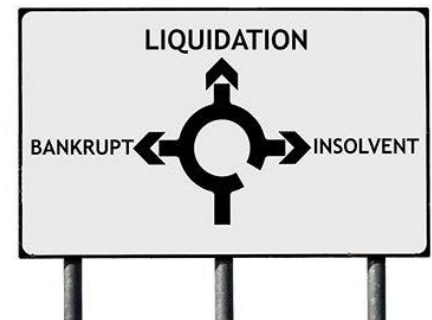
## UK PB MODELS

- Small grants allocation  
(funds direct to civil society)
- Mainstream Investment  
(co-directed investment)
- Community Planning,  
(Alignment and scenario  
development)



## The First Wave: 2000 - 2012

- Civil Society advocacy (inspired by Porto Alegre (2000-2007))
- The National Strategy (2007-2010) and the PB Unit
- Austerity: Bust followed boom. Funding for PB support ends by 2012
- Message... Political will matters + Culture didn't change quickly + Small scale = Learning but no resilience



# The Scottish New Wave

## Referendum – September 2014

“Harnessing the Democratic Energy” (Nicola Sturgeon)

## Commission on Strengthening Democracy (2014):

*“that a process of participatory budgeting, covering tax and spending options, is adopted by all local governments ...”*

## Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015

Provisions for public participation  
on decision making (including resources)

## Programme for Government 2017 and the COSLA 1% agreement

## ALL 32 Local Authorities commit to PB

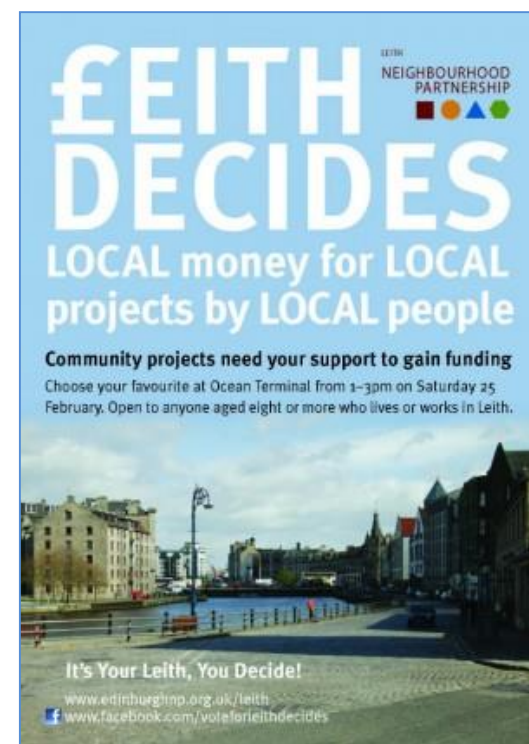
*“the best people to decide the future of our communities  
are the people who live in those communities.”*





# Objectives of PB In Scotland

- Increase quality and quantity of community engagement (more deliberative, inclusive and transparent);
- Increase trust in politics and in politicians;
- Stimulate dialogue and positive action within communities;
- Encourage well targeted public investments.



# How PB can support Democracy

**Margo Howe, a local Councillor said:**

*I think it's revealing that people themselves have grabbed the opportunity and seen the benefit of it. It's their ideas and, because of this, they will make it work. They're loving it!"*



*"Democratic power should be delivered from communities up, not drip down from above."*

**The Commission for Strengthening Local Democracy, 2014.**

PB brings new opportunities for engagement with voters and, perhaps most importantly ...  
building trust in the democratic process.

# Scottish Government Investment

**2013-15:** Awareness raising, capacity building, research on digital PB, plus a PB Scotland website (approx £150,000)  
Match funding for local authorities to try PB (approx £500,000)

**2016-17:** Community Choices Fund – (£1.5M )  
50% local authorities, 50% community led,  
Plus Impact acceleration projects, (£200,000)  
Plus Support costs including: evaluation, digital  
and establishment of PB Scotland Network. (£300,000)  
**Mainly focused on small grants.**

**2017-18:** Community Choices Fund, again evenly split, (£1.5M)  
Plus continued support costs (£500,000 )  
Plus a new dedicated CoSLA officer  
**This time the main focus is on mainstream.**

**All to help progress towards the 2021: 1% commitment.**

# Scottish PB infrastructure

- Training and capacity building – on how to ‘do PB’
- Resources - how to guides, briefings for elected members
- Research, testing, and implementation of digital platforms
- Scottish PB identity and network
- PB advisory group
- PB evaluation
- Trained facilitators and advocates
- SG funding and leadership
- A critical mass of processes from which to learn





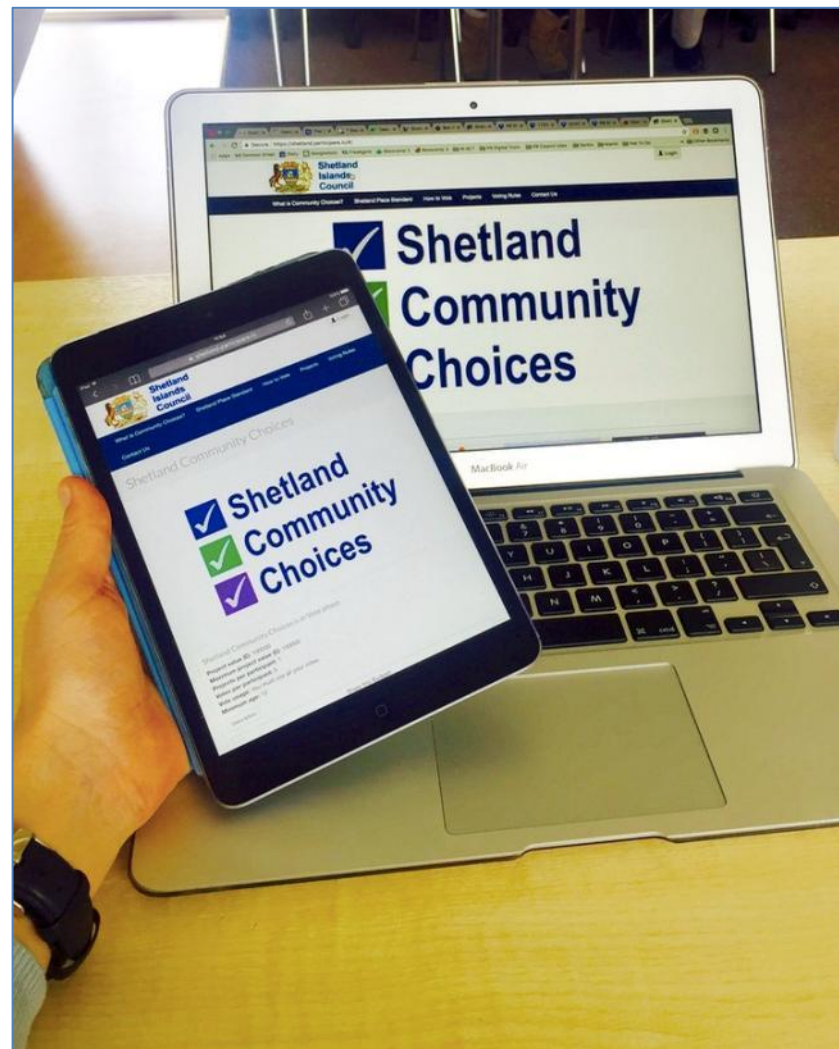
# ONLINE PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

Digital tools and engagement

Connecting on and offline participation

To reinforce and amplify...

**Ideas, engagement, deliberation and voting**



# ONLINE PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

Council grant  
funding to support  
Local Communities

£2.5k per project

150 ideas  
generated online

1,300 people taking  
part in discussions  
online

Map shows the  
spread of ideas



# ONLINE PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

Dundee  
Decides

£1.2 million  
Community  
Infrastructure  
fund.

11,500 votes  
cast- over  
10% of entire  
eligible voting  
population.

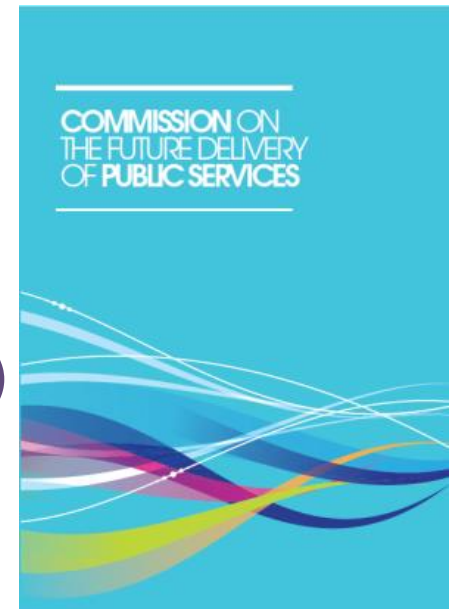
72% new to  
engaging in  
community  
planning

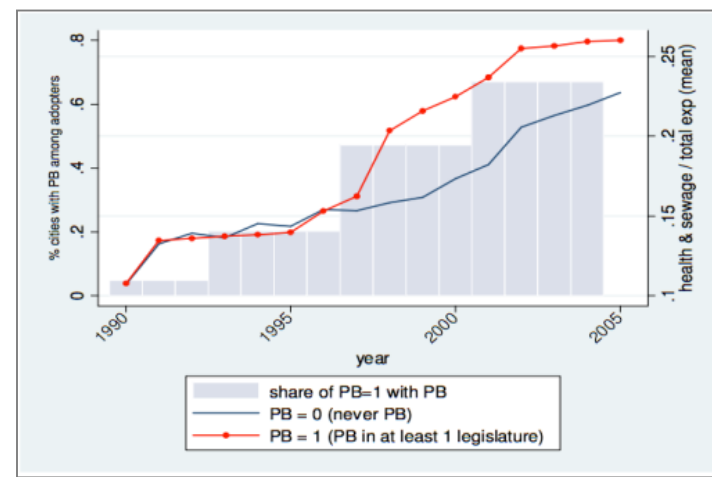
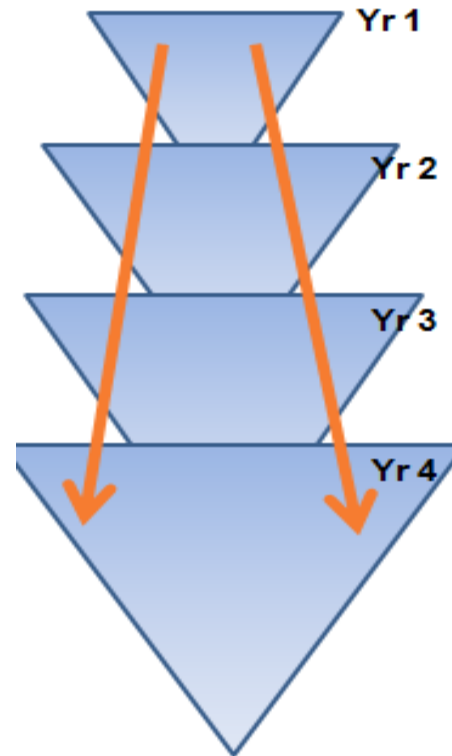
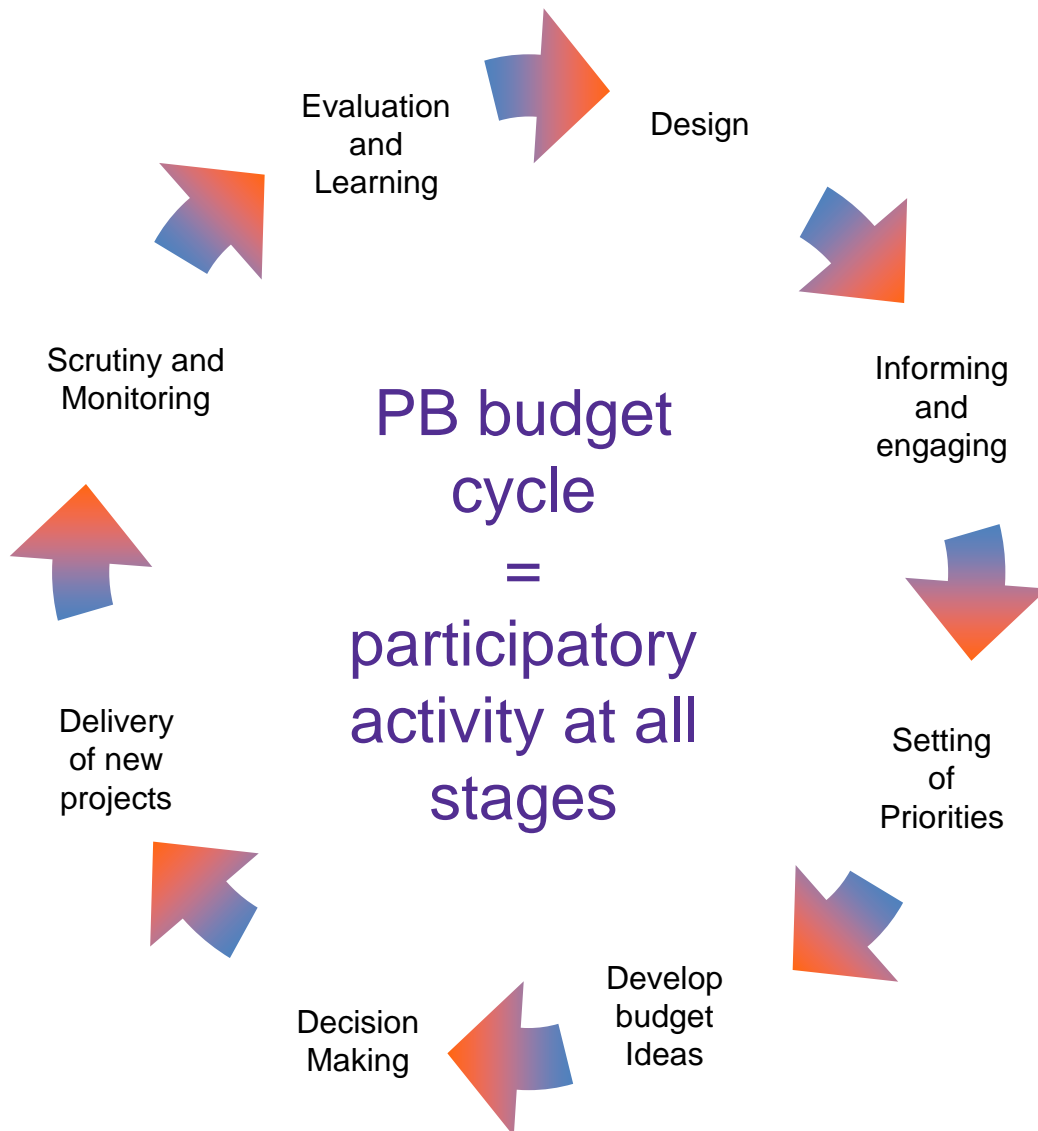


# THE NEED FOR PB IN SCOTLAND

Scottish Government's response to the Christie Commission (September 2011) - Four P's'

- a decisive shift to **Prevention**;
- continually improving **Performance**
- working in **Partnership**(nationally and locally)
- engaging and developing our **People**







## PB Resources:

The UK PB Network Website: [www.pbnetwork.org.uk](http://www.pbnetwork.org.uk)

The screenshot shows the PB Network website's resources page. At the top, the PB Network logo (a colorful pie chart with the text 'Making People Count' and 'PB Network') is on the left, and navigation links (HOME, ABOUT, NEWS, RESOURCES, CONTACT) are on the right. The 'RESOURCES' link is highlighted. Below the logo, the heading 'RESOURCES' is followed by the tagline 'Learning through best practice'. The main content area features four downloadable guides, each with a thumbnail image and a title: 1. 'DOWNLOAD OUR INTRODUCTORY GUIDE TO PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING' (thumbnail shows people at a table). 2. 'DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE ON GRANT MAKING GRANT MAKING THROUGH PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING' (thumbnail shows a group of people). 3. 'DOWNLOAD THE BRIEFING ON PB AT SCALE MAINSTREAMING PB' (thumbnail shows a group of people). 4. 'DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE TO EVALUATING PB HEAR THE VOICE MAKE THE CHANGE' (thumbnail shows a group of people). To the right of the main content, there are social media icons for Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and YouTube. Below these is a search bar labeled 'Search PB Network'. Further down is a 'FIND BY SUBJECT' section with a list of categories: Events, Geographic (England, International, Scotland, Wales), News, PB Network, Resources (Case Studies, Documents, Videos), Themes (Health, Housing, Neighbourhoods, Online PB, Policing, Young People).

**PB Network**  
Making People Count

HOME ABOUT NEWS **RESOURCES** CONTACT

### RESOURCES

Learning through best practice

**DOWNLOAD OUR**  
**INTRODUCTORY GUIDE TO PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING**

**DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE ON GRANT MAKING**  
**GRANT MAKING THROUGH PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING**

**DOWNLOAD THE BRIEFING ON PB AT SCALE**  
**MAINSTREAMING PB**

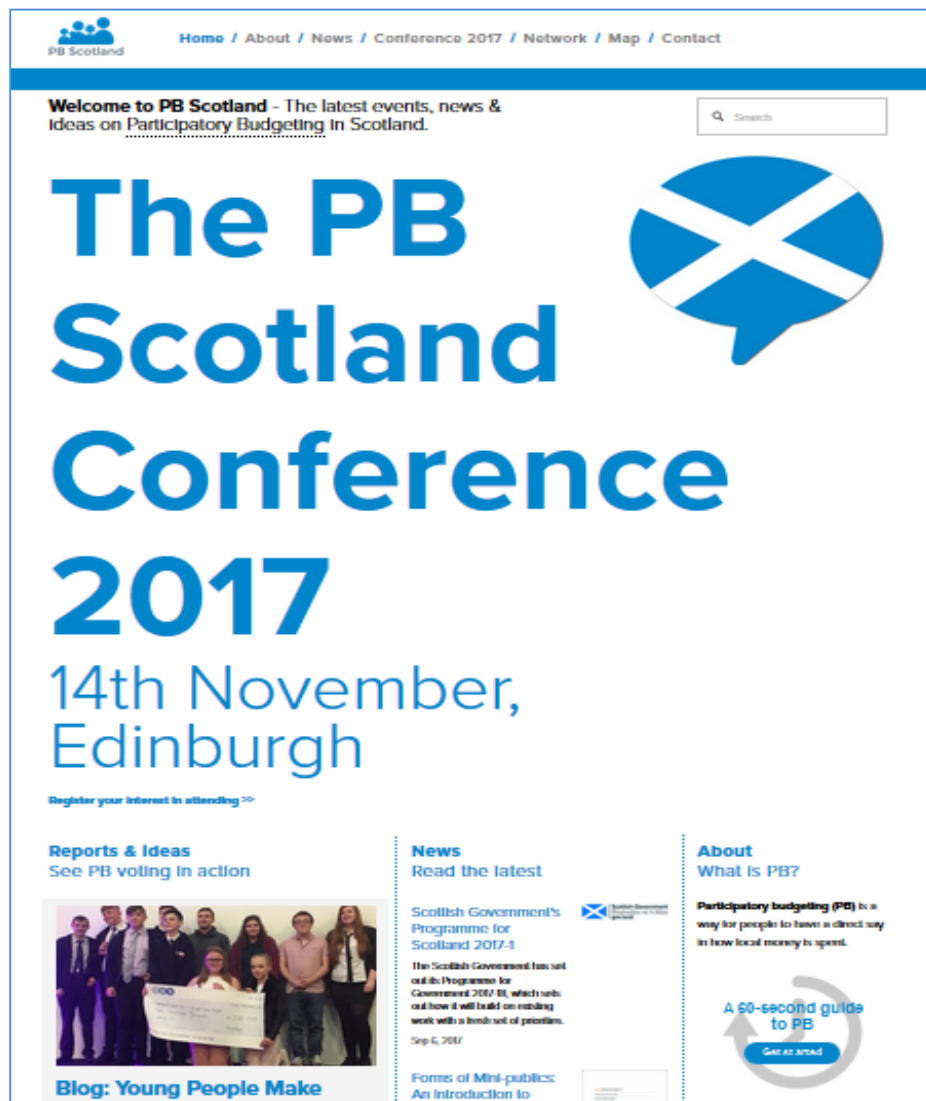
**DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE TO EVALUATING PB**  
**HEAR THE VOICE MAKE THE CHANGE**

Search PB Network

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  - Housing
  - Neighbourhoods
  - Online PB
  - Policing
  - Young People

PB Scotland Website: [www.pbscotland.scot](http://www.pbscotland.scot)



The screenshot shows the PB Scotland website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Home / About / News / Conference 2017 / Network / Map / Contact. Below this, a welcome message reads: "Welcome to PB Scotland - The latest events, news & ideas on Participatory Budgeting in Scotland." A search bar is located to the right of the welcome message. The main heading is "The PB Scotland Conference 2017" in large blue text, with the date "14th November, Edinburgh" below it. To the right of the heading is a blue speech bubble containing a white Scottish Saltire. Below the main heading, there is a link "Register your interest in attending >>". The page is divided into three columns. The left column is titled "Reports & Ideas" and "See PB voting in action", featuring a photo of a group of people holding a large check. The middle column is titled "News" and "Read the latest", featuring a link to "Scottish Government's Programme for Scotland 2017-18" and a link to "Forms of Mini-publics: An introduction to". The right column is titled "About" and "What is PB?", featuring a link to "Participatory budgeting (PB) is a way for people to have a direct say in how local money is spent." and a link to "A 90-second guide to PB".

Home / About / News / Conference 2017 / Network / Map / Contact

Welcome to PB Scotland - The latest events, news & ideas on Participatory Budgeting in Scotland.

**The PB Scotland Conference 2017**

14th November, Edinburgh

[Register your interest in attending >>](#)

**Reports & Ideas**  
See PB voting in action

**News**  
Read the latest

**About**  
What is PB?

**Blog: Young People Make**

**Participatory budgeting (PB)** is a way for people to have a direct say in how local money is spent.

**A 90-second guide to PB**

[Get it now](#)

## PB Resources:

### Democratic Society Scotland

<http://www.demsoc.org/participatory-budgeting-in-scotland/>



#### The Democratic Society

Better democracy, everywhere.

##### Digital PB Case Studies

The Democratic Society has been actively working with local Councils and communities to select, implement, test and embed digital tools for participatory budgeting (PB).

Below you can read some case studies which capture key learning points from participatory processes at a local level. Please note that a PDF file will open in a new window.

To read more about our 'Digital Tools for Participatory Budgeting in Scotland' into digital tools, please visit our main PB page.

Read our case studies to find out how digital tools have enhanced PB processes in 2016-17:

#### CASE STUDIES

WE'VE WRITTEN ABOUT SOME OF THE PROCESSES WE'VE SUPPORTED TO USE DIGITAL TOOLS FOR PB IN SCOTLAND. [CLICK HERE TO READ THEM.](#)



The programme is informed by research, workshops and discussions with 18 councils working on PB around Scotland. We released our first report in February 2016 and we're planning to undertake further research in Autumn 2017. [Read about the research that informs the programme:](#)

#### RESEARCH

WE PUBLISHED RESEARCH INTO DIGITAL TOOLS FOR PB IN FEBRUARY 2016. WE WILL BE REFRESHING OUR RESEARCH IN AUTUMN 2017. [CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT MORE.](#)





# PB PARTNERS

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