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THIRD SECTOR NEWS



NORTH HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS CLIMATE HUB

The North Highlands and Islands Climate hub, funded by the Scottish Government and operated currently by Thurso Community Development Trust, aims to support both existing and emerging groups within communities in the Northern Isles and Highland region to engage with their communities and to design, develop and deliver sustainable community led climate action projects.

We aim to also assist groups and organisations to embed **climate action and Net Zero strategies** into their existing work. We can assist with all areas of a project from signposting to specialised agencies and organisations for support, providing funding and engagement support, creating and connecting to networks and planning for sustainable projects.

We have a small funding scheme available of up to £500 to assist groups in the early stages of development to either get a project underway or engage with your community on climate action. You can find out more about the Hub on our website <http://www.nhclimatehub.co.uk> or by attending our **information session on the 3rd February**.

- 2-3pm: [North Highlands and Islands Climate Action Hub: Information Session Tickets, Thu 3 Feb 2022 at 14:00 | Eventbrite](#)

- 7-8pm: [North Highlands and Islands Climate Action Hub: Information Session Tickets, Thu 3 Feb 2022 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)

The Hub is currently in its 6 month pilot phase (and is funded for three years past this) and Jonny, the Islands based Climate Action Development Officer, is currently conducting mapping of Shetland and Orkney to identify what groups, projects and support are present so that he can better understand how to tailor support, network effectively and identify room for more climate action. If you are currently operating a climate action project please get in touch to discuss as the hub identifies best practice work already existing and identify where gaps may exist.

If you want to discuss a project, find out more about the Climate Hub or just introduce yourself, please don't hesitate to contact Jonathan@nhclimatehub.co.uk.

A NEW NAME AND RE-BRAND FOR SCOTLAND'S FUNDRAISING WATCHDOG

The Scottish Fundraising Adjudication Panel oversees enhanced self-regulation of fundraising in Scotland. It is responsible for fundraising standards and handles fundraising complaints related to Scottish registered charities. Their new website has a member's resource area for charities registered for the Good Fundraising Guarantee, an improved complaints submission process and is easy to navigate with clear language. Members should use the new logo.

CONTRACT SIGNED FOR MAJOR COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Shetland Community Benefit Fund has taken the first important step towards a major Shetland-wide consultation to consider priorities for the £2.2m annual funds it will receive when the Viking Wind Farm begins operating.

IBP Strategy and Research, based in Lanarkshire, have been appointed as the contractors for the consultation which will take two years to design and complete. In preparing the community consultation, IBP will carry out an initial assessment of current issues in the islands including both face-to-face and virtual discussions with local statutory, industry and voluntary stakeholders.

The object of the consultation is to identify the strategic priorities for using the Viking Community Fund from summer 2024 when the wind farm is expected to begin using the interconnector cable. SCBF is able to use the £2.2m benefit funds, which are index-linked over the lifetime of the scheme, for grants, loans or investments in voluntary, charitable, social enterprise bodies as well as local businesses.

For further information please contact:

Chris Bunyan on 01595 820336 or 07880 590331

Eddy Graham on 07846 270104

SAVE THE DATE – [NO SMOKING DAY – 9 MARCH 2022](#)

The theme of No Smoking Day 2022 is Quit Your Way and we will be inspiring people to think about quitting and to access the free expert advice and support available to them.

ASH Scotland will be sharing a new social media resource pack to help organisations and individuals to spread the message and support No Smoking Day 2022 on 9 March 2022.

To request a resource pack please e-mail enquiries@ashscotland.org.uk, specifying what social media channels you use and we'll send you the resources as soon as they're available.

SELF DIRECTED SUPPORT NATIONAL ADVICE LINE

Enable Scotland has launched a national advice line for self directed support. Through Family Connect, the advice line will support families, carers and people affected by learning disabilities to access advice and support surrounding self directed support.

For more information, please contact: 0300 303 0228 or familyconnect@enable.org.uk

[#TIMETOTALK DAY 2022 - FEBRUARY 3RD](#)

Time to Talk Day 2022 takes place on February 3rd 2022 in partnership with See Me and SAMH. Time to Talk Day aims to get people and organisations talking about mental health and challenge discrimination.

CONSULTATION: SCOTTISH AND SOUTHERN ELECTRICITY NETWORKS RESILIENT COMMUNITIES FUND - STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION ON CRITERIA AND SCOPE OF FUND

Closing date: 2 February 2022, 5pm

The fund is going to be boosted this year by an additional £500,000 in response to Storm Arwen and SSEN want to ensure they are committing their funds in a fair and proportional way for resilience across their north of Scotland network. See attached document.

[CHILDREN'S HEARING SCOTLAND: NEW VOLUNTEER PANEL MEMBERS NEEDED](#)

Applications for new Panel Members open on 12 January 2022 and close midnight on 9 February 2022

Children's Hearings Scotland is the organisation responsible for recruiting, training and supporting volunteer Panel Members. There are 2,500 volunteer Panel Members across Scotland who take part in children's hearings and make decisions with and for infants, children and young people in their local community.

QUIT YOUR WAY WITH HEALTHY SHETLAND

It's that time of year where many people feel like making resolutions, including stopping smoking, which is one of the best things we can do for our health. Smoking remains a leading cause of ill-health and premature death in Scotland, accounting for 16% (9,360) of all Scottish deaths in 2018¹. Since the onset of COVID-19, people are reporting smoking more^{2,3}, and there is growing evidence that smokers are more at risk of experiencing severe or critical COVID-19 and have poorer in-hospital outcomes than non-smokers⁴.

It is important we are all aware of the support that's available for anyone who would like to quit smoking, how you as a professional can help and how we at Healthy Shetland can support you.

Raising the issue of smoking - Are you asking people about their smoking? Asking the question and recording someone's smoking status at every potential opportunity is an important way we can encourage someone to think about their smoking.

Referral or signposting - Do you know where to refer people for more support? The specialist smoking cessation service (known nationally as Quit Your Way) can be accessed through Health Improvement directly, and in every Health Centre and Community Pharmacy. You can refer to us directly by sending an email to shet.healthyshetland@nhs.scot with the person's name, preferred method of contact and the Health Centre they're registered with. Anyone can also self-refer, but they may be more likely to make a quit attempt if you make that link for them.

Knowing what to expect - People are often reluctant access a service if they think they might be lectured or pushed into quitting before they are ready, or if they don't know what will happen. Explaining to someone that there are no expectations to begin with - they can come for a relaxed chat to hear more about the options - can put them at ease about making that first step. Our service currently offers:

- 12 week programme consisting of 1 to 1 support with a specialist smoking cessation advisor
- FREE medication (Nicotine replacement therapies - NRT)

Optional:

- Peer support Facebook group
- Additional group support pre-quit/during quit/maintenance
- 6-month / 12-month follow up appointments

Self-help - If someone is happy for you to point them towards some resources you can use the following:

- [Quit Your Way Scotland | NHS inform](#)
- National Quit Line: 0800 84 84 84
- [How to Stop Smoking and Stay Stopped Booklet](#)
- [Quit Smoking app](#)

Training - We offer a variety of bespoke training and CPD options for Health and Social Care professionals, contact us at shet.healthyshetland@nhs.scot for more info:

- Raising the issues of smoking
- Health behaviour change conversations
- Smoking and mental health
- Specialist Smoking Advisor training

If you need any support or advice, please feel free to get in touch.

Healthy Shetland

Email: astryd.jamieson@nhs.scot

Office Phone: (01595) 807497



RECRUITING VOLUNTEER INDEPENDENT PRISON MONITORS (IPMS)

Could you provide invaluable support by ensuring prisoners' human rights are upheld and that life in prison contributes to their rehabilitation, resulting in a safer Scotland?

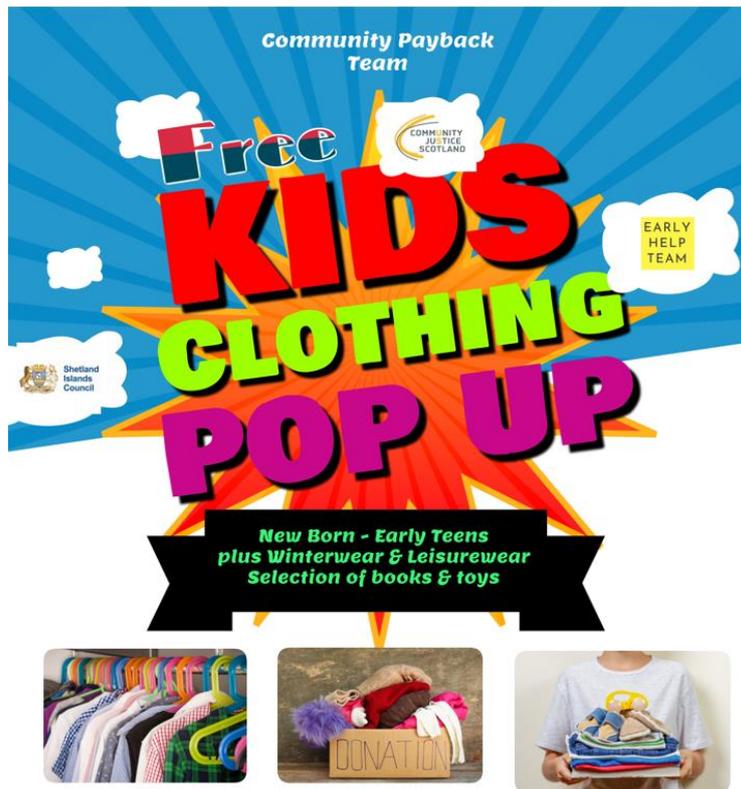
If yes, you may be the person who can make a unique contribution to improving Scotland's prisons, listening to and supporting prisoners and positively impacting on their lives in your local community.

We are currently recruiting Independent Prison Monitors (IPMs), a voluntary role that can be challenging and rewarding. As well as the opportunity to participate in one of the most unusual and valuable types of voluntary work, you will have the opportunity to meet and work with many people from diverse backgrounds and walks of life.

We encourage diversity and particularly welcome applications from groups currently under-represented in the IPM Team.

If you are interested please visit our website for more information:

www.prisoninspectoratescotland.gov.uk



To book a browse or request items contact Julie: 07775 407809 or email julie.halcrow@shetland.gov.uk

Donations also welcome!

NEWS FROM THE CHARITY REGULATOR

CHARITIES URGED TO SUBMIT ANNUAL RETURN INFORMATION

If your annual return deadline date is 31st December (those who's financial year end is 31st March) please file returns in time for the deadline. OSCR's office will be closed from 12pm on 24 December 2021 until 05 January 2022 and staff will not be available to support those who are having difficulties logging in to OSCR Online.

RESOURCES

[CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SMS:CONNECT SERVICE](#)

Children's Health Scotland has launched a new online Self-Management Service for children and young people with long-term health conditions.

- SMS:Connect encourages children and young people to build their confidence and self-esteem by accessing information and developing skills to manage health conditions.
- SMS:Connect offers two online programmes for children and young people aged 10-12 and 13-17 years.

[UPDATED COVID-19 GUIDANCE: THIRD SECTOR FAMILY SUPPORT](#)

The Scottish Government has produced a summary of the updated Covid-19 guidance for third sector organisations who provide family support.

[SCVO FREE HR & EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT](#)

Free support and guidance to all Third Sector organisations. Queries can range from policy/contract templates to reducing jobs within an organisation. Contact via email hremployment@scvo.scot or through the [online webform](#) and SCVO will triage and process the query, either answering via email, or invite you to a 1-2-1 phone or video call of up to 30 minutes to discuss further. They can also refer SCVO members to their pro bono legal advice service - however you do not have to be a SCVO member to access the HR & Employment support service.

CHARITY DIGITAL

- Video: [Five key stages of income budgeting](#)
- [The future of volunteering](#)
- [How to create charity merchandise](#)

[CHALLENGING DISCRIMINATION: LAUNCH OF FREE, CONFIDENTIAL, SECOND-TIER ADVICE LINE](#)

The Scottish Just Law Centre is officially launching a new free, confidential second-tier discrimination advice line on 13 January 2022. It will be open every Thursday, between 2 and 4pm. The advice line number is 0141 406 5353.

The Scottish legal system is complex and constantly changing. Advisers and frontline workers who are supporting vulnerable people every day may need help too. For them, the [Scottish Just Law Centre](#) is launching a new free, confidential, second-tier advice line.

By calling us, they will be able to ask our legal team for second-tier input to enable them to support clients and service users who have one or more “protected characteristic”, and who have experienced discrimination as the result of a practice or policy of a public body or public service provider.

You will be able to discuss your client’s case with one of our solicitors, free of charge and with full confidentiality, so that they can advise you on how to best help your client.

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AND SPORT IN SCOTLAND

SENScot and sportscotland have jointly produced this briefing paper which builds on the back of a decade of sportscotland’s support for the sport SEN. This partnership is based on a shared vision of raising awareness of social enterprise, of promoting a deeper understanding of the contribution that sport and physical activity can bring to wider priorities and of increasing the capacity and capability for collaborative working practices between sport and other sectors. The briefing paper seeks to highlight these activities in communities across the country.

FORTHCOMING TRAINING AND EVENTS

EVOC TRAINING COURSES (FEE APPLIES - £67 NON MEMBERS VOLUNTARY ORGS)

- Mind your language on Mon 31 Jan (10am - 1pm) and it will look at ways to develop, review and refresh your organisation’s key messages.
<https://www.evoc.org.uk/course/mind-your-language-mon-31-jan-22/>
- Developing a communications action plan: Wed 23 Feb (10am – 1pm)
<https://www.evoc.org.uk/course/developing-a-comms-action-plan-wed-23-feb-22/>
- Real life stories – how to write and promote compelling case studies: Mon 14 Mar (10am – 1pm)
<https://www.evoc.org.uk/course/how-to-write-and-promote-case-studies-mon-14-mar-22/>

CLIMATE EMERGENCY TRAINING FOR YOUTH WORKERS

Register now for this free, essential, climate emergency training for Youth Workers and those working with young people. Gain an understanding of the climate emergency: this course will equip you with the skills and tools you need to support young people in climate action. Following COP26 it has never been more important to support young people’s concerns about climate change and turn it into positive action.

Not only will you gain knowledge, skills and some real-life ideas for communicating and working with young people on this topic, but for those who successfully complete the course, you have the opportunity to earn a certificate of Carbon Literacy – a vital qualification for supporting young people in climate action.

The training is part of the Scottish Government funded COP26 Youth Climate Programme and is being delivered by Keep Scotland Beautiful and YouthLink Scotland.

New February and March training dates have just been released!

Find out more and book your place at: <https://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/cop26-scottish-youth-climate-programme/>

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE SCOTLAND FREE WEBINARS

- [Finance Focus: Investing in Communities Fund, 26 Jan](#) - find out how to access this funding.
- [Community Wealth Building and social enterprise, 2 Feb](#) - what is it and how can you get involved?
- [What next for Community Interest Companies? on 9 Feb](#) - What are the current challenges, barriers and opportunities for CICs? Come and meet the CIC Regulator - and share your own views and experiences.
- [The new National Care Service and social enterprise, 16 Feb](#) - What is the NCS and how can you get involved?
- [Next CPG meeting - Social enterprise and public service delivery](#) - Come to our next national policy forum and explore public service delivery by social enterprises.

Any questions, comments or suggestions about upcoming webinars - including if you want to be a speaker - please do get in touch with us:

duncan.thorp@socialenterprise.scot

HERITAGE DIGITAL ACADEMY COHORTS - DIGITAL BUSINESS SUPPORT SESSIONS THAT FOCUS ON INNOVATION, ENTERPRISE, AND ORGANISATIONAL PLANNING

[Cohort 4 - Designing digital services](#) (online – zoom)

Module 1 - 3rd February

Module 2 - 17th February

Module 3 - 10th March

Module 4 - 24th March

The cohort equips heritage organisations and those who want to pioneer digital with tools to make effective use of digital within their services and strategy. Suitable for a wide range of job seniority and roles that directly create experiences and deliver services.

CULTURE & BUSINESS SCOTLAND CONFERENCE 2022

10 February 2022 – 14.00 – 17.00 (free, online, [register here](#))

Arts & Business Scotland is delighted to invite you to the Culture & Business Scotland Conference 2022, hosted by BBC Scotland's Arts Correspondent Pauline McLean. This event welcomes the business, public, and arts and heritage sectors to come together to discuss how engaging with creativity and culture can be the key to not simply surviving but thriving in the face of key universal challenges.

Whilst the event will be invaluable for culture organisations (as it will share innovative practice, fresh perspectives, and the value of cross sector collaboration), there is a deliberate focus on presenting things from a business and public sector perspective, to help those sectors better understand the value of and return on establishing partnerships with the culture sector. This includes how engaging with culture can deal with the impacts of covid-19, address environmental sustainability, and manage staff wellbeing, engagement and retention.

LIVING STREETS SCOTLAND

[Walkable communities](#) two-part webinar series 8th and 22nd February

Walking infrastructure: what it is and how to get it. We encourage local authorities, active travel advocates, and equalities groups to join us in our mission to find a route to walkable neighbourhoods that everyone can travel.

- [Part 1: Beyond Tarmac: what communities really need to get them walking](#) 8th February 10 am
- [Part 2: Learning from Benches: a case study on infrastructure frustrations](#) 22nd February 10 am

ENGENDER AND EQUALITY NETWORK

[Tackling Workplace Sexual Harassment In Scotland: virtual focus group for LB+ women](#) 24th February, 6pm. Research on employer responses to sexual & sexist harassment.

To attend / more info please email Eleanor@equality-network.org

GENERATIONS WORKING TOGETHER INTERGENERATIONAL CONFERENCE 2022 - Monday 7th – Thursday 10th March 2022

Generations Working Together is delighted to confirm that the conference programme will be launched week commencing the 10th January 2022. The programme will run over three afternoons (Mon/Wed & Thurs) and one evening (Tues). Opportunities will be available to attend daily sessions, two day sessions or with a weekly pass.

GENERATIONS WORKING TOGETHER

RESEARCH NETWORK

24th January 2022, 2:30pm–4:30pm at Zoom virtual meeting (FREE)

Speakers Simone Tomaz, Generating Older Active Lives Digitally (GOALD); University of Stirling Hannah. [Book Now](#)

LETS TALK SOME MORE ABOUT AGEISM

25th January 2022, 10:00am–11:30am at Zoom virtual meeting (FREE)

Ageism is present in the way we think, feel and act towards others and ourselves according to age, whether we are conscious of it or not. It is everywhere, in our institutions, relationships and ourselves. We will host this workshop with network members and explore the characteristics of ageism and how challenging assumptions and attitudes is a big step towards happy healthy communities of all ages and places to feel safe to grow up and grow old in. [Book Now](#)

RECONNECTING OUR NETWORKS

17th February 2022, 2:00pm–3:30pm at Zoom virtual meeting (FREE)

Generations Working Together would like to hear your thoughts about starting back face to face network. [Book Now](#)

CENTER FOR CHARITY EFFECTIVENESS CHARITY TALK: CHANGE JUST CHANGED! WEDNESDAY 26TH JANUARY 2022 18:30, ONLINE

[Keith Leslie](#), Chair of Samaritans and [Caroline Copeman](#), Bayes Senior Visiting Fellow and CCE consultant will explore how to face the challenge of uncontained change - that which is simultaneously up close and personal, and continual and relentless.

YOUTH VIP VOLUNTEERING SUMMIT

Thursday 3rd February 2022 (12pm-4pm) Online

In partnership with YouthLink, the #IWill Movement, Project Scotland and the Scottish Government, The Youth Volunteering Legacy Group are hosting a Volunteering Summit this February. The summit will provide young people with the opportunity to meet staff from youth and voluntary organisations, hear about other young people's volunteering experiences and share their thoughts on matters surrounding volunteering in Scotland. Register [here](#).

BUSINESS GATEWAY

- [Producing engaging content Date: 25th January, Time: 2pm - 4pm](#)
- [Get impact & engagement with social media analytics, Date: 26th January, Time: 2pm - 4pm](#)
- [LinkedIn for business, Date: 27th January, Time: 2pm – 4pm](#)

[View the full list of forthcoming events here](#)

SCVO TRAINING

- [Building personal resilience and self confidence](#), 9 February
- [Time management in the workplace](#), 22 February
- [Plan, measure and report social impact](#), 24 February & 3 March
- [Develop your fundraising skills: thriving funds in difficult times](#), 1 & 8 March
- [All things financial: building a strong financial foundation](#), 2 March
- [Meeting today's volunteering challenges](#), 2 March
- [Social media fundamentals](#), 9 March
- [Be report writing ready](#), 15 March
- [Train the trainer: a training toolkit](#), 15, 16 & 22 March
- [Effective minute taking virtually and beyond](#), 22 March
- [Comms and marketing made easy](#), 29 March

Full list of training is available [here](#)

FREE FUNDING WORKSHOP: EASYFUNDRAISING PLATFORM - HOW TO TAP INTO UNRESTRICTED FUNDING FOR YOUR COMMUNITY ORGANISATION IN 2022

An informal session to find out your voluntary group, CIC, social enterprise, church, school, sports club or charity can benefit from unrestricted funding in 2022.

Community Fundraising Manager Becky Coleman will talk through how your volunteers, staff and supporters can use the easyfundraising platform to raise donations for your organisation when they shop with thousands of leading retailers. Becky will demonstrate how it works, show you how to get started and answer any questions you might have. easyfundraising is free to use and is trusted by 170,000 good causes around the UK.

When: Tuesday 1st February 2022, 12.30 – 1.00pm, Online via Zoom

Register at: <http://efraising.org/1vY4Fny7kh>

If you would like to get started with easyfundraising ahead of this session, you can do that here: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/community

GET THE GEN TRAINING

Volunteering matters, YouthLink Scotland and Young Scot and are delighted to announce further dates in February for their highly successful Scottish Government funded Get the Gen training. If you would like to learn more about how to make your organisation more young people friendly you can sign up for one of two (which ever best suits your ambitions for widening youth participation) highly immersive and interactive online workshop with lots of practical takeaways, or if you are an experienced practitioner and would like to facilitate and host a session for your organisation there is a workshop for you too.

You can find further information about Get the Gen [here](#) and sign up for the workshops [here](#).

JUST ENTERPRISE - WINTER/SPRING ONLINE BUSINESS SKILLS WORKSHOPS

Workshops are currently being delivered on-line, they are all fully funded and they're available to book right now. Places are limited, however, so if you see something of interest, don't delay in registering!

Tuesday 25th January	10.00am - 12.00pm	Writing for the Web
Thursday 27th January	11.00am - 12.30pm	Charitable Trading
Thurs 27th Jan & 3rd Feb	10.00am - 12.30pm	Planning for Community Led Soc Ents
Wednesday 9th February	1.00pm - 4.00pm	Business Planning
Thursday 17th February	11.00am - 12.30pm	Planning in Uncertain Times
Tuesday 22nd February	1.30pm - 3.30pm	Understanding Financial Statements
Thursday 3rd March	11.00am - 12.30pm	Charitable Trading
Friday 4th March	10.00am - 12.30pm	Tendering for Public Sector Contracts
Wednesday 9th March	10.00am - 12.00pm	Introduction to E-Commerce
Tuesday 22nd March	1.30pm - 3.30pm	Budgeting
Thurs 24th & 31st March	10.00am - 12.30pm	Planning for Community Led Soc Ents
Tuesday 29th March	10.00am - 12.00pm	Writing for the Web
Thursday 31st March	11.00am - 12.30pm	Planning in Uncertain Times
Wednesday 6th April	1.00pm - 4.00pm	Business Planning
Thursday 21st April	11.00am - 12.30pm	Charitable Trading
Tuesday 26th April	1.30pm - 3.30pm	Understanding Financial Statements
Wednesday 4th May	10.00am - 12.00pm	Introduction to E-Commerce
Tuesday 10th May	10.00am - 12.00pm	Writing for the Web
Thursday 12th May	10.00am - 12.30pm	Tendering for Public Sector Contracts
Tuesday 17th May	11.00am - 12.30pm	Planning in Uncertain Times
Tuesday 24th May	1.30pm - 3.30pm	Budgeting

START UP WORKSHOPS & WEBINARS

The following ONLINE workshops & webinars are aimed at social entrepreneurs and early stage social enterprises. Dates & topics beyond February 2022 will be added in due course:

Monday 24th January	1.30pm – 3.30pm	Workshop : Legal Structures
Thursday 27th January	2.00pm - 3.00pm	Webinar : Developing a Marketing Strategy
Monday 31st January	12.00pm – 1.00pm	Webinar : Review your Cashflow
Tuesday 1st February	9.00am – 5.00pm	Event : Fine Tune Your Social Enterprise

Thursday 3rd February	1.00pm – 3.00pm	Workshop : Branding & Marketing
Monday 7th February	10.30am – 12.30pm	Workshop : Finance
Tuesday 8th February	10.30am – 11.30am	Webinar : Business Model Canvas
Thursday 10th February	2.00pm – 3.00pm	Webinar : Marketing Your Business
Monday 14th February	12.00pm – 1.00pm	Webinar : Starting a Charity
Tuesday 15th February	10.00am – 11.00am	Webinar : Governance
Thursday 24th February	2.00pm – 3.00pm	Webinar : Developing a Marketing Strategy

LEADERSHIP PROGRAMMES

The majority of our Leadership Programmes due to commence in Winter/Spring 2022 are already fully subscribed. However, we have limited availability on our 'Developing a Coaching Approach to Leadership' Programme which is due to commence in February:

February to April	6 day Programme	Developing a Coaching Approach
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SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT NEWS

[COVID-19: STAYING SAFE AND PROTECTING OTHERS](#)

Rules and guidance on how to stay safe and help prevent the spread of Covid-19. Updated on 18 January 2022 to summarise changes that will come into place from 5am on 24 January 2022.

[CORONAVIRUS FUNDING FOR BUSINESSES AFFECTED BY OMICRON CONTROL MEASURES](#)

Funding is available for businesses affected by measures introduced in December 2021 to control the spread of coronavirus. Top-up payments for hospitality, leisure, nightclubs and taxi and private hire will be made as soon as possible in January. Timescales will vary depending on the specific fund.

[HELP TO GROW](#)

From 20 January 2022, businesses across the UK will be able to access free and impartial online support on how technology can boost their business performance. The online support service will be joined by a voucher scheme, where businesses will be able to apply for a discount of up to 50% on the costs of approved software, worth up to £5000.

CONSULTATION: GIRFEC ASSESSMENT OF WELLBEING PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Closing Date: 4 February 2022

The Scottish Government is carrying out a public consultation on the statutory guidance that explains what 'wellbeing' means in the context of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

We encourage all organisations that work with children, young people and families to read the draft guidance and respond.

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19): THIRD SECTOR FAMILY SUPPORT - GUIDANCE SUMMARY

This guide is a summary of the varying Scottish Government guidance which is relevant to the provision of Third Sector family support during the COVID-19 pandemic. The rules and guidance on how to stay safe and help prevent the spread of COVID-19 is set out in the [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): staying safe and protecting others](#) guidance.

This is not new guidance, but a helpful tool to signpost those delivering family support to the guidance that is most applicable to them (see [a full list of the coronavirus guidance](#)). It is for each organisation to decide which guidance applies to their activity and to apply it as appropriate. Guidance is being updated as the need arises, and in the event of any discrepancy between relevant guidance and legal requirements that are in force at the time, the latter requirements prevail.

CORONAVIRUS FUNDING FOR BUSINESSES AFFECTED BY OMICRON CONTROL MEASURES

Funding is available for Scottish businesses in the following sectors affected by the coronavirus measures introduced in December 2021:

- close contact services
- creative sector
- events sector
- hospitality
- leisure
- nightclubs
- taxi and private hire drivers and operators
- tourism sector, including inbound tour operators
- wedding sector supply chain
- wholesalers affected by hospitality cancellation

Top-up payments for hospitality, leisure, nightclubs, taxi and private hire will be made as soon as possible in January. Timescales will vary depending on the specific fund

DECEMBER AND JANUARY BUSINESS SUPPORT TOP UP - HOSPITALITY

This fund is to support Scottish hospitality businesses which have lost bookings during the festive trading period. It will provide a one-off payment to support businesses affected by

latest coronavirus public health advice in December 2021. Eligible hospitality businesses that previously received support through the Strategic Framework Business Fund will be contacted directly by their local authority.

JANUARY BUSINESS SUPPORT TOP UP - HOSPITALITY AND LEISURE

This fund is for Scottish businesses in the hospitality and leisure sectors affected by the requirements for physical distancing and capacity limits that came into force from 27 December 2021 due to coronavirus. Eligible businesses that previously received support through the Strategic Framework Business Fund will be contacted directly by their local authority by the end of January.

NIGHTCLUB CLOSURE FUND

This fund will provide a one-off payment to support nightclubs in Scotland that were required to close as a result of coronavirus restrictions in December 2021 and January 2022. Nightclubs that have previously received support will be contacted and asked to complete an application by 14 January 2022. Businesses that have not received an invite by this date should visit the Scottish Government's website for more information.

LARGE OUTDOOR EVENTS RESUME FROM 17 JANUARY 2022

Large outdoor events can resume without physical distancing or capacity limits from 00:01 on Monday 17 January 2022, following a review of all measures in place to limit the spread of coronavirus. Measures covering indoor events and hospitality to be reviewed on Tuesday 18 January 2022.

COVID-19: CLOSE CONTACT SERVICES

Information for people who provide close contact services such as hairdressers, barbers and beauty therapists on working safely during coronavirus. Updated on 13 January 2022 to reflect latest situation and added revised checklist.

COVID-19: CERTIFICATION SCHEME - INFORMATION FOR BUSINESSES AND EVENT ORGANISERS

How the certification scheme (Covid passport) operates and what venues, businesses and event organisers need to do. Updated on 13 January 2022 with the definition of 'fully vaccinated' for the purposes of the scheme.

COVID-19: SAFER BUSINESSES AND WORKPLACES

Guidance for businesses and workplaces on reducing the risk of Covid-19 and supporting staff and customers. Updated on 13 January 2022 to reflect changes from 17 January 2022.

LOW EMISSION ZONE SUPPORT FUND FOR BUSINESSES

Eligible Scottish micro businesses and sole traders can apply for up to £2,500 to take older, more polluting vehicles off the road and move towards cleaner transport options. This is for operating vehicles that are not compliant with the proposed Low Emission Zone (LEZ) standards, in Scotland's 4 largest cities. Funding is subject to availability on a first come, first served basis until 31 March 2022.

LOW EMISSION ZONE RETROFIT FUND

This fund helps micro businesses and sole traders improve their vehicle and avoid future LEZ penalties. Eligible businesses operating non-compliant vehicles with available retrofit solutions in a planned LEZ can receive up to 80% funding to retrofit of their vehicle, subject to availability and terms and conditions. Funding is subject to availability and will be awarded on a first come, first served basis until 31 March 2022.

EASING OF RESTRICTIONS ON INTERNATIONAL TRAVELLERS

People travelling to Scotland from abroad who are fully vaccinated or under the age of 18, will no longer need to take pre-departure Covid tests, and will no longer be required to self-isolate on arrival until they've received a negative result. This is effective from 7 January 2022.

COVID-19: SAFER BUSINESSES AND WORKPLACES

Guidance for businesses and workplaces on reducing the risk of Covid-19 and supporting staff and customers (updated 6 January 2022).

CONSULTATION: WINTER HEATING BENEFITS – LOW INCOME WINTER HEATING ASSISTANCE

Closes: 23 February 2022

The Scottish Government has committed to replacing the UK Government's Cold Weather Payment (CWP) of £25 for every 7 day period of very cold weather, with a new £50 winter heating payment paid annually to low-income households. This consultation seeks views on whether the policy will best meet the needs of those it is intended to help.

CONSULTATION: PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY

Closes: 7 March 2022

Consultation on proposals for the review into the effectiveness of the Public Sector Equality Duty in Scotland.