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THIRD SECTOR NEWS

[SCOTTISH DISABILITY SPORT SEEKS MEMBERS FOR NATIONAL ADVISORY FORUM](#)

New closing date: 4 February 2026

Are you passionate about shaping the future of disability sport in Scotland? Do you have lived experience of disability and want to make a real impact? The National Advisory Forum brings together people with lived experience, insight and ideas to help drive meaningful, positive change across disability sport. This is your opportunity to influence, challenge and help shape what comes next.

[SCOTTISH ASSEMBLY OF PARENTS AND CARERS](#)

The [Scottish Assembly of Parents and Carers](#) is keen to ensure that parent voices from Shetland are included alongside those from across Scotland. The Assembly brings together parents and carers of school-aged children and young people to share lived experience of education and additional support needs. Parents take part in ways that suit them, including:

- Short surveys
- Online discussions
- Sharing views to inform national work, including the Additional Support for Learning (ASL) Review by the Scottish Parliament

There is no requirement for specialist knowledge and participation is flexible to fit around family life. At the moment, **Shetland is the only local authority not currently represented**, and we'd really value the opportunity for island parents and carers to have their experiences reflected in this work. Parents or carers wishing to join, can find more [information here](#) :

PRIDE OF SCOTLAND AWARDS

The Daily Record Pride of Scotland Awards, with P&O Cruises, celebrate Scots who are transforming the lives of the people around them. Dozens of famous faces from Scotland and beyond take part every year, but the real stars are the winners, of all ages and from all walks of life, who are chosen by the Pride of Scotland judging panel following thousands of public nominations. Their extraordinary achievements are celebrated at the glittering Pride of Scotland Awards dinner, in a truly inspirational highlight of the national calendar.

The Awards will be filmed on March 23rd, and are searching for extraordinary people to nominate in various categories including Outstanding Bravery, Young Fundraiser, Child/Teenager of Courage, Lifetime Achievement, Emergency Services (people who have gone beyond the call of duty), and Special Recognition (for achievements not covered elsewhere, such as inspiring carers, campaigners and members of armed forces).

NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR CHARITABLE COMPANY DIRECTORS

If your charity is also a company limited by guarantee, your trustees also act as company directors. Directors and people with significant control (PSC) within charitable companies are now required to verify their identity through [GOV.UK One Login](#) when filing with Companies House. If you're both a director and a PSC for one or more companies (including Charitable companies), you need to link your verified identity to each role you hold.

The aim is to increase transparency and reduce fraud under the Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency (ECCT) Act 2023. The process should take no more than 10 minutes. More information [here](#)

CHARITY AUDIT THRESHOLD INCREASED

[The Charities Accounts \(Scotland\) Amendment Regulations 2025](#) came into force on 1 January 2026, raising the audit income threshold from £500,000 to £1 million. This new audit income threshold applies to accounting periods starting on or after 1 January 2026.

NATIONAL CARER ORGANISATIONS - [CARERS MANIFESTO 2026](#)

The National Carer Organisations (NCOs) have published their carers' manifesto ahead of the 2026 Scottish Parliament elections. Shaped by unpaid carers and organisations that support them, the manifesto calls upon all political parties to make a commitment in the 2026 election to supporting unpaid carers. Read their manifesto [here](#).

SCVO [HR FOR CREATIVES PROGRAMME](#)

Organisations want to create working environments where people can thrive in the creative industries. But budgets are tight, people are busy, and dedicated HR expertise isn't always accessible. The programme offers free HR support and development to 35 arts, screen and creative industries employers for 12 months.

SCVO's HR for creatives programme offers organisations:

- an HR health check of policies and procedures
- one-to-one expert HR and people management advice from SCVO's HR Service team
- webinars, peer-to-peer learning and networking.

[Applications are now open](#) until **12 noon on Monday 16th February 2026** for micro to small sized arts, screen, and creative industries organisations based in Scotland with no in-house HR, or specialist HR support.

[NATIONAL COMMUNITY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT \(CLD\) WORKFORCE SURVEY](#)

Please follow the link to complete the survey:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/CLDWorkforceSurvey/>

The survey is open to CLD practitioners, employers, stakeholders and volunteers. It's purpose is to capture workforce data, building on what we found in the last survey conducted in 2018.

The survey includes topics on staff and volunteer numbers, focus on CLD activities, qualifications, career plans, and challenges for the CLD workforce. It should develop important insights to help us better understand and support the workforce moving forward.

Communications regarding the survey will come from [Rocket Science](#) – the organisation we've commissioned to run the survey, and please be ready to share the survey with your networks – **the more responses, the more we will know.**

The survey will be open for around 8 weeks closing at the end of February, please complete as soon as possible for your responses to be counted. If you have any questions, please contact Jamal Hassan, Rocket Science Research Consultant -jamal.hassan@rocketsciencelab.co.uk

HAMECOOKED – COMMUNITY MEAL SERVICE (COMING SOON)

HameCooked is a small, Shetland-based meal service providing home-cooked, nutritious meals for individuals who may find cooking or shopping difficult. The service is designed to support older adults, people recovering from illness or hospital stays, and those with care packages that include an element of batch cooking. See attached flyer.

[YOUTHLINK SCOTLAND: NATIONAL YOUTH WORK AWARDS 2026](#)

Deadline extended: 9th February

Nominations are now open for this year's National Youth Work Awards! This is your chance to recognise and celebrate the youth workers, projects and youth work organisations transforming young lives across Scotland.

NEWS FROM THE CHARITY REGULATOR (OSCR)

[CHANGES TO CHARITY LAW](#)

The information we publish about charities on the Scottish Charity Register will be changing soon. This will be the final set of changes resulting from the [Charities \(Regulation and Administration\) \(Scotland\) Act 2023](#), which aims to strengthen oversight and public trust in the charity sector.

From early in 2026:

- The **first and last names** of charity trustees will be displayed on the charity's register entry.

- **Every accounts document** submitted to OSCR as part of a charity's online annual return will be published in full, without any changes, on the Scottish Charity Register.

We expect to be able to announce the exact date when these changes will take effect in the next few weeks. In the meantime, please ensure you are prepared for this change by:

- Making sure your [charity trustee details are up-to-date in OSCR Online](#).
- Carefully considering what information to include in your accounts before drafting them. Please remember, the documents will be published in full, as they are received, so you may want to consider if it is appropriate to include the names and images of volunteers or beneficiaries.
- Making sure your accounts can easily be displayed online, with a PDF document being the most preferable option.
- Considering adding digital or typed signatures, rather than handwritten.

RESOURCES

[CHILDREN FIRST SUPPORT LINE](#)

All stages of growing up bring their own unique challenges. From baby milestones, toddler tantrums, friends, bullying, school, exams, mobiles, harmful online content, social media, peer pressure to mental health. The list is endless. To make matters worse, a staggering one in four children in Scotland are living in poverty. If you are struggling you are not alone. The Children First support line offers emotional, practical and financial support. You can also call if you are worried about a child's wellbeing in your local community.

Call free on 08000 28 22 33 or start a webchat at www.childrenfirst.org.uk/supportline .

[PEER SUPPORT IN SCOTLAND: INSIGHT REPORT 1](#)

The Scottish Recovery Network has published the first in a series of four Insight Reports developed to increase knowledge and understanding of peer support in Scotland. It is part of a programme of work to champion peer support and peer working in mental health, as set out in Strategic Action 2.3 in the Scottish Government and COSLA Mental Health and Wellbeing Delivery Plan.

[CYBER RESILIENCE RESOURCES FROM SCVO](#)

Organisations are increasingly depending on digital tools and services but with this capability comes a level of risk. Unfortunately the threat of a cyber breach or attack is not just likely – it's inevitable. For free practical advice and support to help protect your third sector organisation online check out [SCVO's Cyber Resilience page](#).

[ASSOCIATION OF CHAIRS: FREE TEMPLATES FOR YOUR BOARD RECRUITMENT](#)

Find chair, trustee, and vice-chair role descriptions, plus suggested template interview questions for chair, trustee, and treasurer recruitment. You can download these all for free and adapt them to use for your organisation.

JUST ENTERPRISE GUIDE & TOOLKIT: [GETTING STARTED WITH SOCIAL IMPACT MEASUREMENT](#)

This practical guide demystifies social impact measurement for social enterprises, with tips on where to start, how to choose the right indicators, and how to collect meaningful data on a shoestring budget. Learn how impact data can sharpen your mission, boost funding success, and influence policy – and then use our free downloadable workbook to help you get started.

TRAINING AND EVENTS

RURAL SOCIAL ENTERPRISE HUB

[RURAL SOCIAL ENTERPRISE NETWORK MEETING- NET ZERO PARTNERSHIPS: 03 FEBRUARY 2026, 14:00–15:30](#)

If your community is facing high energy costs, damp housing, or a lack of local contractors, come join us this session. We will look at how rural communities can lead the net-zero partnerships. Home Energy Scotland will share their experience working with the Raasay Development Trust, transforming Raasay's homes on the journey to net-zero. You can also hear about reflections from the Rural Social Enterprise Gathering hosted in Malaysia by the Social Enterprise World Forum.

[ENGAGING YOUNG VOLUNTEERS: TURNING INTEREST INTO IMPACT, WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2026, 10:30AM - 12:00PM](#)

Learn how to recruit, retain, and support young volunteers (aged 14–25). This session will be packed with practical advice shaped by the real-life experiences of young people. Whether you are just starting out or want to improve your current setup, this session will be helpful for you.

[FAIR WORK FESTIVAL 16TH TO 20TH MARCH 2026](#)

The festival features a week-long programme of sessions designed to promote and support the increasing adoption of Fair Work practices by employers across Scotland.

Join Scottish Union of Supported Employment (SUSE) for [Fair Work in Action: Practical Steps through Supported Employment. Wednesday 18th March 10-11am, online \(Free\)](#). Discover how inclusive hiring through Supported Employment can boost your business, strengthen workplace culture, and deliver on Fair Work principles.

[NPC: YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH REPORT LAUNCH, 26 FEBRUARY 2026, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM, ONLINE, ZOOM, FREE](#)

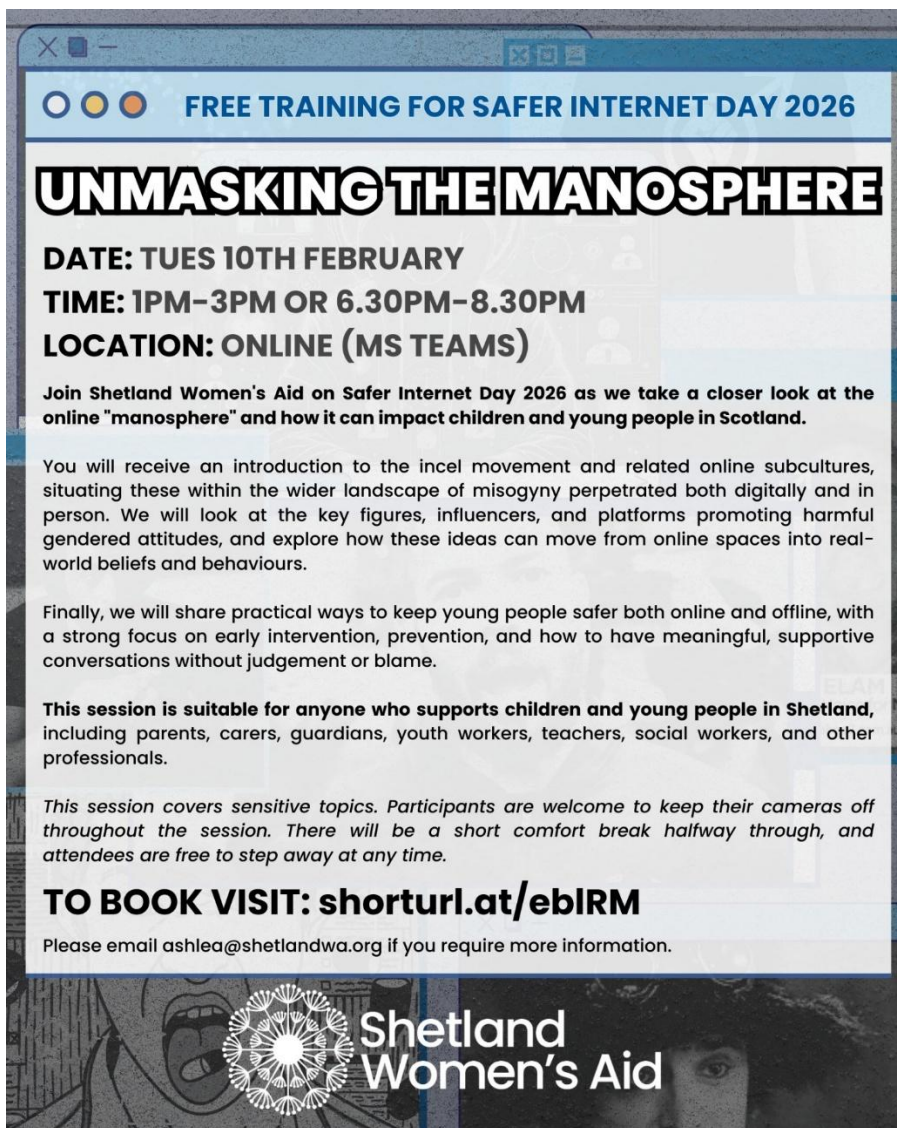
This webinar celebrates the launch of our report on youth mental health, which maps the factors that impact whether or not children and young people are able to access support for their mental health and wellbeing. In this 1-hour session, you will hear directly from young people, hear the key findings and recommendations from the report, and join a discussion with expert panellists.

JOIN SHETLAND WOMEN'S AID ON SAFER INTERNET DAY 2026 AS WE TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THE ONLINE "MANOSPHERE" AND HOW IT CAN IMPACT CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN SCOTLAND.

This session is suitable for anyone who supports children and young people in Shetland, including parents, carers, guardians, youth workers, teachers, social workers, and other professionals. There will be opportunities to ask questions throughout the session. If you would prefer to submit a question in advance, or have any comments or concerns, please contact Ashlea at ashlea@shetlandwa.org.

We are hosting two sessions on Tuesday 10th February, and you can book on using these links:

- Daytime session (1pm-3pm) - [Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)
- Evening session (6.30pm-8.30pm) - [Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)



The image is a screenshot of a Microsoft Teams event page. At the top, it says 'FREE TRAINING FOR SAFER INTERNET DAY 2026'. The main title is 'UNMASKING THE MANOSPHERE' in large, bold, black letters. Below the title, it lists the date as 'TUES 10TH FEBRUARY', the time as '1PM-3PM OR 6.30PM-8.30PM', and the location as 'ONLINE (MS TEAMS)'. The text describes the session's focus on the incel movement and online subcultures, and provides practical advice for keeping young people safe. It also includes a booking link: 'TO BOOK VISIT: shorturl.at/ebIRM'. At the bottom, there is a logo for 'Shetland Women's Aid' featuring a stylized snowflake or flower design.

SCVO WEBINAR: [CHARITY TAX AND VAT, 13:00-14:00, 3 MARCH 2026, ONLINE](#)

Join SCVO and AZETS on this interactive webinar where you'll hear the latest updates and insights on VAT and tax developments for charities, and get hints and tips on VAT reliefs and recovery.

SCOTTISH COMMUNITY MEDIATION CENTRE - NEW TRAINING CALENDAR LAUNCHED FOR 2026

The Scottish Community Mediation Centre are pleased to announce the launch of our training calendar. For 2026 we have some exciting new workshops to offer, plus our popular and well-respected courses in mediation, conflict resolution and restorative skills. Below are a few highlights of the coming year.

Mediation ‘taster’ workshop (1.25 hours), Dates: 22nd April, 7th September, 8th December

Heard of mediation but not sure what it means? This short workshop explores some of the principles of mediation and outlines the process.

Introduction to restorative skills (1.25 hours), Dates: 29th April, 16th September

This ‘taster’ workshop provides a short introduction to the definitions used in the restorative world, together with some of the practical skills that restorative practitioners need.

Introduction to Restorative Practice (1 day), Dates: 20th May, 21st October

Based on our well-respected and accredited six-day Restorative Skills course, this workshop provides managers, team leaders and workers an understanding of:

- the restorative process
- restorative skills required of a facilitator
- an outline of the restorative meeting

For more information on any of these courses and how to book a place, [visit our calendar now!](#)

DIGITAL CONFIDENCE PROGRAMME: FREE!

Won Connect are running a FREE 4-month course on digital skills, fully funded by the People's Postcode Trust, starting March 2026. This programme will cover digital skills such as online security, finances, professional communication, universal credit access, and a practical introduction to AI. The course offers structured weekly classes and hands-on weekly drop-in sessions. This programme is completely **FREE** and fully funded by the [People's Postcode Trust](#). You can sign up for the full programme or just the specific sessions that interest you. Check the form below

BRAINSTORM YOUR BRAND COMMS: A FREE PROBLEM-SOLVING Q&A WORKSHOP FOR SOCIAL IMPACT ORGANISATIONS IN SCOTLAND, THURSDAY 26 FEBRUARY, 9.15AM - 12PM, ZOOM, PARTICIPANT NUMBERS: UP TO 6 PLACES AVAILABLE (FREE)

This workshop, delivered by Brand Developer & Designer, Adam Piggot, has been specially created for social impact organisations – charities, community groups, social enterprises and voluntary associations. Structured around questions that **you** bring to the session, the workshop is designed to generate ideas and suggestions that will help you address key issues around the communication of your brand.

WELCOME TO YOUR VOTE WEEK 2026

Every year the Electoral Commission asks schools, youth groups and anyone who works with young people to join them in supporting young people to learn about democracy and voting. Welcome to Your Vote Week will take place from Monday 9th to Sunday 15th March.

The theme this year is “Why Voting Matters”. The focus is on exploring why voting is important to your young people and discussing the impact their vote can have on their everyday life.

SCOTTISH ADHD COALITION CONFERENCE IN SHETLAND

The Scottish Coalition was established in 2017. The mission of the coalition is

- To raise awareness of ADHD and of the voluntary support groups available to parents and people with ADHD across Scotland;
- To build the capacity of leaders of voluntary ADHD groups to run effective, sustainable support in their local areas by sharing ideas, resources, and encouragement between groups;
- To represent the views of our member groups and the people they support and provide a platform for joint campaigning to improve diagnosis and support for people with ADHD and their families across Scottish public services, including the NHS, education, local authorities, police and the criminal justice system. We will do this in partnership with other organisations wherever possible and appropriate.

Bill, Alison and Lorna are taking the time to come to Shetland in person to deliver these short sessions. They will also be attending the Third Sector Forum as part of their visit, to inform the forum of their aims and objectives, and also to spend time with Ability Shetland to provide support and information to begin setting up local ADHD support groups.

If you would like to book a space on the conference, then please email abilityshetland@shetland.org.



ADHD CONFERENCE SHETLAND

MARKET HOUSE, LERWICK

→ 5TH MARCH 2025 → 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM


10:15 - 11:15 **ADHD in the Workplace**

11:15 - 12:15 **ADHD in Education**

12:15 - 1PM **LUNCH**

1 - 2PM **ADHD & Comorbidities**


2 - 2.30PM **Networking**



BILL COLLEY (CHAIRPERSON SCOTTISH ADHD COALITION)

BILL IS AN INDEPENDENT EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANT, SPECIALISING IN ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS (ASN).

TALK: ADHD IN EDUCATION




ALISON CLINK (TREASURER SCOTTISH ADHD COALITION)

ALISON IS THE CEO FOR THE DUNDEE AND ANGUS ADHD SUPPORT GROUP.

ALISON FOUNDED THE GROUP IN JUNE 2013 AND HAS SINCE QUALIFIED AS AN ADHD COACH.

TALK: ADHD IN THE WORKPLACE



LORNA REDFORD (VICE CHAIRPERSON SCOTTISH ADHD COALITION)

LORNA IS THE GROUP SERVICES CO-ORDINATOR AT PERTH AND KINROSS ADHD SUPPORT GROUP. LORNA IS A CO-FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE GROUP AND HAS OVER TWENTY YEARS' EXPERIENCE IN ADHD

TALK: ADHD & COMORBIDITIES

SCOTTISH PERSONAL LICENCE HOLDER COURSE AND REFRESHER, SATURDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2026, TIME: 9.30-3.30PM, CUNNINGBURGH HALL

This course covers all aspects of Licensing and includes the formal Examination Price of the course –Personal Licence Holder Course - £90 + £18 Reg and Cert per person. Refresher Course £68 + £18 Reg and Cert. For more information contact: Donna Maver on 01569 785696 or email info@dmtraining.org

**FREE
TRAINING**



ASIST

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training

**North
Mainland**

ASIST is a 2 day face-to-face workshop that provides participants with practical skills and knowledge to effectively recognise those who may be at risk of suicide and conduct a suicide intervention

WHEN: Wednesday 18th & Thursday 19th February 2026

WHERE: Voe Public Hall

TIME: 9 - 5pm (both days)

BOOKING: Contact Health Improvement Team:

Phone: 01595 74 3330

Email: shet.healthshetland@nhs.scot



We are delivering ASIST training in local communities, for local communities. This training is open to anyone - whether it is for your personal interest & skills or in a work capacity.

This free training has been made possible by the generous donations made by the Shetland community.



1-DAY HUMAN RIGHTS AND HEALTH INEQUALITIES AWARENESS WORKSHOP (WITH MAT STANDARDS) (FREE)

Friday, February 13th, MS Teams, 10am-3pm (45min lunch), 15 participants per workshop
Or

Wednesday, March 18th, MS Teams, 10am-3pm (45min lunch), 15 participants per workshop

This workshop helps participants understand the way that human rights, advocacy, and health inequalities relate to their workplace and lives. We will cover the MAT standards, and other relevant standards, guidelines, and legislation. Participants will leave with an improved understanding of how to embed a human rights-based approach, with tools and frameworks for improving local service delivery.

Suitable for: Staff across the health and social care workforce including frontline staff, community groups, statutory services, third-sector organisations, those with lived/living experience, family members, and decision makers

Individuals can secure a place by emailing Nicky.Collins@nhs.scot

TRAINING COURSES FROM [PLANNING AID SCOTLAND](#)

A new programme of free training funded by [the Scottish Government](#) through the [National Planning Hub](#)

All the courses are currently operating a waiting list. However, people signing up should have access to the recording of the training.

The training is free and open to anyone across Scotland. It provides a clear introduction to engaging with the planning system, with a particular focus on renewable energy, community engagement and place-based planning. The sessions are available to any community or individuals across Scotland who want to engage more confidently in decisions that affect their places. The programme includes the following sessions:

- [How to engage your community: A practical introduction](#)
- [Understanding renewable energy and planning: Part 1](#)
- [Understanding renewable energy and planning: Part 2](#)
- [Local Place Plans: Knowing the essentials](#)
- [Ask Away: Local Place Plans](#)
- [Beyond the survey: Creative approaches to community engagement](#)
- [Where water meets land: Offshore wind & how it connects to the grid](#)
- [Understanding the electricity network & how power line routes are chosen](#)
- [How to create your project management plan](#)
- [Online & engaged: Learn how to use Placecheck](#)
- [How to analyse community feedback](#)
- [How to benefit from a renewable energy as a community](#)

Planning Aid Scotland

This is a one-off programme of sessions and will not be repeated, so we encourage early booking. All sessions will be delivered in early 2026 and will be recorded, with recordings available to rewatch for three months after delivery. Please keep an eye on our [Eventbrite page](#) as additional sessions will be added in the new year.

If you have any questions or accessibility requirements, please contact our Planning & Projects Officer Anne Kripler at anne@pas.org.uk



#VILLAGEHALLSWEEK2026 RUNS 16–22 MARCH 2026!

Celebrate the vital role your hall plays in your community's health and wellbeing. This UK-wide campaign is run by [ACRE](#), in partnership with [Scottish Rural Action](#) and [WCVA](#). Highlights of the week:

- Thematic events: [Scottish Rural Action](#) and [Social Enterprise Scotland](#) will run two events for Community Spaces Network members. Sign up to the network and receive registration details: [Thematic Social Enterprise Networks - Register your Interest](#).
- Resources: SRA and partners will release useful resources including the latest [Village Halls Handbook](#) edition, with guidance on governance, facilities, funding, net zero, and more.

[SCOTLAND'S MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID \(SMHFA\) COURSES ARE RETURNING TO SHETLAND IN JUNE 2026 - \(LIMITED EARLY BIRD OFFER AVAILABLE UNTIL 13 FEBRUARY\)](#)

Early bird prices (until 13 February)

-  £175 per person (*full price £210*)
-  £800 for 5 places (*full price £950*)

Discount codes to use at booking:

- **EBPLACE** – single place
 - **EBGROUP** – 5 place group booking
- book at: www.chrisgrantgla.com/courses
Invoicing also available

Course dates

- 18 & 19 June 2026 - Islesburgh
- 20 & 21 June 2026 - Clickimin

I'll be delivering two courses to offer flexibility - one weekday and one weekend course.

Both courses require 2 days attendance

If you'd like to discuss group bookings, **would prefer an invoice** or have any questions before committing, feel free to get in touch - **Chris Grant**, contact@chrisgrantgla.com

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE SCOTLAND

[TUESDAY 24 FEBRUARY | 1.30PM, THEMATIC WORKSHOP: LIVED EXPERIENCE PANELS](#)

Lived Experience Panels can make a big difference to how we plan and deliver public and community services. And that, in turn, can truly transform people's experience of accessing these services. This thematic workshop will provide a safe space to explore top tips from experienced Lived Experience Panel participants and hosts, helping you avoid common mistakes and get off to a good start, or rebuild a flagging group.

[UNLOCKING MUSEUM AUDIENCE INSIGHTS: MAKING THE MOST OF DATA, ONLINE, WEDNESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2026, 10:00AM TO 12:00PM](#)

This webinar is offered as part of the Museum Futures wraparound programme. The Museum Futures programme of essential support has been developed in direct response to the significant and ongoing financial and capacity challenges faced by the sector.

THRE TRAINING COMING UP SOON:

[GOVERNANCE - A HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUALITIES FIRST APPROACH](#), 4 FEBRUARY, 3PM-5PM, ONLINE ON ZOOM

[VOLUNTEERING - A HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUALITIES FIRST APPROACH](#), 16 FEBRUARY, 1PM-4PM, ONLINE ON ZOOM

[LUNCHTIME WEBINAR: DEMANDING BETTER IN 2026](#), 17 FEBRUARY, 12.30PM – 1.30PM, ONLINE ON ZOOM

CYRENIANS SCOTTISH CENTRE FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION: FREE ONLINE EVENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS AND PRACTITIONERS

[ANXIETY AND RESILIENCE, WEDNESDAY, 12 FEBRUARY, 12PM, ONLINE](#)

We'll look at how anxiety can drive conflict and what we can do to reduce it.

[UNDERSTANDING EMOTIONS AND ANGER, WEDNESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY, 8.30AM, ONLINE](#)

'Understanding Emotions and Anger' will introduce you to primary and secondary emotions, emotions we present and emotions we feel. It demonstrates how the process of anger works, its trigger, escalation, release, de-escalation and resolve.

[HOW TO HAVE THAT DIFFICULT CONVERSATION, TUESDAY, 3 MARCH, 12PM, ONLINE](#)

Join our free online session to build confidence, resilience, and compassion while strengthening relationships and improving communication.

[THE CRANIAL COCKTAIL, TUESDAY, 19 MARCH, 12PM, ONLINE](#)

The Cranial Cocktail introduces the SCCR psychoeducational resource of the same name explaining the mind–body connection between neurochemicals, emotions, and emotional regulation. Participants will learn how physical feelings and neurochemicals influence emotional states and mental and physical health, with joining details provided by email before the event.

**DOMESTIC ABUSE IN RURAL & ISLAND COMMUNITIES, WEDNESDAY 18 FEBRUARY
10:30-11:30AM, ONLINE**

Join this webinar and hear from [Professor Sarah Pedersen](#) of Robert Gordon University about the work of a five-year research project exploring the unique challenges of supporting survivors and policing Domestic Abuse within remote, rural or island communities of Scotland. Explore how to respond effectively.

**LIVING WELL HUB BRESSAY, SPELDIBURN, WEDNESDAY MORNING 9.15AM – 11.15AM
AND LIVING WELL HUB SCALLOWAY - WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON 2-4PM**

Due to current restraints these Living Well Hubs will be suspended for the rest of 2025.

**LIVING WELL HUB, BRAE COMMUNITY HALL, CLUB ROOM, FRIDAY 10AM – 4PM
Brae Community Hall, in the Club Room between 10am – 4pm on Friday's.**

The Living Well Hub is based at the **Brae Community Hall, in the Club Room** and open on Friday's between **10am – 2pm**. [Living Well, Advice & Support – Shetland Islands Council](#) please pop along for a cuppa, a chat or to browse the leaflets that we hold.

The community cupboard is currently located in the side porch at the hall, please pop along if you are needing any food supplies.

Friday 6th February

- Lesley from Sport & Leisure will be along with sportswear “**kit for all**” boxes, anybody can come along and take what they need or make donations should they wish too. This is pre loved sportswear for all ages <https://sportscotland.org.uk/kit-for-all/>
- **Macular Society** will be along the hub today. The society is open to anyone affected by any form of macular impairment. Although they are connected to the Macular Society, the national organisation, they run independently in Shetland. [Beating Macular Disease - Macular Society](#)
- Joel from **Shetland Islands Council Housing Support** will be along the hub between 12 noon and 2pm. The Housing Support Service offers support to people to manage and maintain a home. This service is available to those who are finding it difficult to maintain their accommodation, are homeless or potentially homeless, and those in sheltered housing. It can include things like: help with budgeting and paying bills, planning meals and shopping, emotional support, , help to pursue social or leisure interests, advice on managing debts, help applying for the right benefits and grants, Housing Support is available to all Council and private tenants, and home owners.

CLS Living Well Hub@Community Care Social Work livingwellhub@shetland.gov.uk
The Hub is contactable Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm, 01595744120

CLIMATE RELATED NEWS, EVENTS & TRAINING

[NATIONAL CLIMATE HUB WEBSITE](#)

The website includes information on each climate hub and lots more content will soon be added to include news, blogs and images. Being part of the Hub network allows us to share knowledge, ideas, successes and challenges with a huge pool of likeminded, community led organisations and we can't wait for you to have better access to community stories from Scotland as a whole.

[RECREATION IN NATURE CONFERENCE - TUESDAY 3RD FEBRUARY, 0900-1630, ONLINE](#)

How can we enjoy wild spaces while helping them flourish? This conference brings together those ready to explore answers. Join conservationists, recreational groups, land managers, and researchers to share evidence, swap stories, and discuss practical solutions that support both wildlife and access. We'll be covering several themes (outlined below), through a series of talks, discussions and spotlight presentations. If you're interested in attending, please fill in the form below.

Read the Programme:

https://issuu.com/recreationinnature/docs/recreation_in_nature_conference_-_programme

HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS CLIMATE HUB - CLIMATE ACTION TING

This is a friendly reminder that **applications for Climate Action Ting are currently open** and will **close on 11 February**.

Climate Action Ting is Shetland's Green Participatory Budgeting programme, supporting **community-led projects** that help make Shetland greener, more resilient, and more sustainable. Grants of up to **£7,500** are available, with a total funding pot of **£60,000**.

If you're part of a community group, club, or organisation, or know someone with a good idea, we'd love to hear from you. You don't need to be a climate expert; just a practical, community-focused idea that responds to local needs. Funding is available for constituted groups.

👉 **Apply here:** [Shetland Climate Action Ting](#)

If you have any questions or would like support with your application, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

👉 **More information:** [Shetland Climate Action Ting — Highlands & Islands Climate Hub](#)

THE HOME RETROFIT GUIDE

Download [Loco Home Retrofit's FREE beginners' guide](#) to retrofit to help homeowners understand how they can make their homes warmer, more efficient and more affordable to run.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES/ VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

VICTIM SUPPORT SCOTLAND (VSS) – SUPPORT COORDINATOR SHETLAND

Primary location: Market House, Market Street, Shetland, Lerwick, ZE1 0DE

This is an exciting opportunity to join our team as a Support Coordinator 14 hours per week.

Working week will be between the following days and hours:

Monday - Friday between 8am - 8pm & Saturdays 10am - 4pm

Salary band: £27,598 - £36,445. Salary on appointment will normally be at the lower salary point, with progression subject to review - in line with VSS progression arrangements. A higher salary placing will only be considered in exceptional circumstances subject to experience demonstrated.

Send your CV to: Jobs@victimsupportsco.org.uk

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT NEWS

REPORTS

LEGISLATION

CALLS FOR VIEWS: [THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT IS OPEN TO HEARING YOUR VIEWS ON A RANGE OF TOPICS:](#)

[EXTENSION OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION IN \(SCOTLAND\) ACTS 2002 \(FOISA\) TO PRIVATE AND THIRD SECTOR PROVIDERS OF CARE HOME AND 'CARE AT HOME' SERVICES](#)

Closes 30 Mar 2026

The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA) gives people important rights to ask for and receive information from government and public services in Scotland. In doing so it places clear obligations on Scottish public authorities to provide people with information about their work. Currently, FOISA applies to public authorities with a role in arranging or providing care services, such as local authorities and NHS Boards, but not to private or voluntary organisations delivering social care.

This consultation explores whether extending FOISA obligations to these providers would improve transparency and accountability. It also seeks views on the best approach to any extension of FOISA to ensure that this does not create an excessive burden on providers.