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THIRD SECTOR NEWS

[TAKE PART IN RESEARCH BY ACADEMICS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW ON VOLUNTEERING](#)

Dr. Parichehr Riahi Pour, Lecturer in Marketing at the University of Glasgow and Professor Cleopatra Veloutsou are conducting a research project on volunteers, their underlying motives for volunteering and contributions to charity and third sector organisations.

As part of this research at the University of Glasgow, Adam Smith Business School, Marketing Department/Cluster, is collecting information on the topic via a questionnaire with charity/third sector organisation volunteers.

Findings of the research will be shared with charities/third sector organisations. and will also make a small financial donation to each organisation/charity that submits at least one completed response to the questionnaire (there will be a lucky prize draw, and this donation would be paid on behalf of one of the respondents/volunteers who has completed the questionnaire). The questionnaire would take approximately 20 minutes to complete. The questionnaire is reviewed and ethically approved by the Ethics Forum at the University of Glasgow.

Please share the link to the questionnaire (which is as follows:

https://uofg.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ergHZq4f0npaljic) with volunteers at your organisation, and other third sector organisations, where possible. Your assistance will be of great value to our team.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch directly with me at:

Parichehr.RiahiPour@glasgow.ac.uk.

[SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT LAUNCH SOCIAL ENTERPRISE ACTION PLAN 2024-2026](#)

Scottish Government has launched the Social Enterprise Action Plan 2024-2026, a transformative strategy to strengthen Scotland's social enterprise ecosystem. The plan outlines 17 key actions to be implemented over the next two years, with a focus on innovation, inclusivity, and sustainability.

NEWS FROM THE CHARITY REGULATOR

CHARITY LAW HAS CHANGED IN SCOTLAND

Join OSCR and fellow TSI members for an online information session where we will discuss the changes introduced by the Charities (Regulation and Administration) (Scotland) Act 2023 (the "2023 Act") and what this means for charities in Scotland. There will be an opportunity to submit questions both in advance and during the session.

Choose a date:

[WEDNESDAY 4TH DECEMBER AT 10AM - 11.30AM](#)

[THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER AT 6.30PM - 8PM](#)

WEBINAR WITH SCVO: [CHARITY LAW IS CHANGING: HOW YOUR TRUSTEES AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT MAY BE AFFECTED, 10:00-11:00, 5 DECEMBER 2024, ONLINE](#)

The [implementation of important new measures in charity law](#) is currently under way. One important change is that The Charities (Regulation and Administration) (Scotland) Act 2023 will extend the range of criteria that result in automatic disqualification. This could affect both your trustees and senior management. Find out more about the changes at this webinar.

RESOURCES

[YOUNG PEOPLE AND GAMBLING 2024: OFFICIAL STATISTICS](#)

Gambling Commission report produced by Ipsos on young people and their gambling behaviour, attitudes and awareness in 2024.

[YOUNG SEA CHANGERS SCOTLAND LAUNCHES NEW ROUND OF MARINE ADVOCACY TRAINING PROGRAMME](#)

Running from January to April 2025, Turning the Tide equips young people with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to have a say in how our seas are managed.

[SHETLAND PARTNERSHIP 23/24 ANNUAL REPORT](#)

The Shetland Partnership's [2023/24 Annual Report](#) highlighting trends in outcome indicators illustrating what life is like in Shetland has been published.

[NEW FUNDRAISING RESOURCES FOR SMALL CHARITIES](#)

The Chartered Institute of Fundraising recently launched a new set of helpful fundraising resources for small charities and small fundraising teams. They include templates and 'how-to' guides on a wide range of subjects.

[LGBTQ+ INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE GUIDE BY PRIDE OUTSIDE \(SEE ATTACHED\)](#)

Language is changing all the time, with 650 new words being added to the Oxford dictionary in 2022. In the LGBTQ+ community, language is also changing as our understanding of sexual orientation and gender identity continues to evolve. Using LGBTQ+ inclusive language not only benefits the LGBTQ+ community, it also benefits many other minority groups by helping them to feel included and accepted. Using LGBTQ+ inclusive language will also help you build better connections and relationships with the LGBTQ+ community as it shows respect and kindness and signals that you are an LGBTQ+ Ally.

[SCOTTISH ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEM GUIDE](#)

Details of more than 120 organisations that support new and growing companies all across Scotland. You can view the guide online on the Scottish Enterprise website.

The 2024 edition of the guide includes support options such as:

- incubators
- accelerators
- co-working spaces
- innovation assets
- entrepreneurial support organisations
- networking organisations and communities
- specialist support
- finance and investment support

[FREE THIRD SECTOR CRISIS RECOVERY SERVICE](#)

Are you a community group, social enterprise or third sector organisation really worried about your future sustainability or facing very severe challenges and not sure where to turn? Follow the link to the [FREE Third Sector Crisis Recovery Service](#) run by partners such as Community Enterprise, DTAS and InspirAlba and someone will be in touch quickly.

FORTHCOMING TRAINING AND EVENTS

TREASURER TRAINING, MON, JAN 20, 2025 AT 6:00 PM- 8.30PM, MARKET HOUSE, LERWICK

Join Wendy Hand on this **FREE** course for voluntary/community groups to improve their treasurer skills. Topics Covered:

- Treasurer role and responsibilities
- Recording income and expenditure
- Recording petty cash
- Reconciling the books with the bank statement
- Keeping files, receipts and forms
- Presenting financial information

UNDERSTANDING FINANCES, SAT, FEB 22, 2025 AT 10:00AM - 12.30PM, MARKET HOUSE, LERWICK

This **FREE** course is for anyone who is involved with a committee/ has a treasurer role who would like to understand more about finances. The workshop, designed for voluntary groups, will help you develop the knowledge and confidence to understand, monitor and question financial information and to use this to contribute to Board decisions regarding financial planning and expenditure.



Are you a dad with a child 5 years or under?

Well Dads Group

This service is for dads over the age of 18 years to speak about how they are feeling as they adapt to being a dad, and the everyday pressures they face.

Our wellness practitioners are available for **low level wellbeing support**, to provide appropriate signposting to local agencies, and lend a listening ear.

This wellbeing group meets weekly on Saturday mornings at Islesburgh Community Centre from 10.00am - 12.00 noon.

The group is drop-in, with no obligation to stay for the whole session and children 5 years or under are welcome. Our aim is to provide a supportive space for dads that is convenient and accessible for them.

We have a small selection of toys available but Dad's remain responsible for their child/children at all times.

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SOCIAL ENTERPRISE SCOTLAND WEBINAR: ENCOURAGING MORE WOMEN ONTO BOARDS, 3RD OF DECEMBER AT 10:30AM, ONLINE

Social Enterprise Scotland are hosting an upcoming webinar on how to tackle gender disparity on boards. This session will explore essential skills and experiences needed to thrive in board roles, along with actionable tips to strengthen and diversify board recruitment. Taking place Tuesday, 3rd of December at 10:30am

COMMUNITY HEADSPACE PROGRAMME

Starting in early 2025, the [Community Headspace programme](#), is aimed at helping businesses champion mental health and build a more inclusive workplace environment. It is fully funded by The National Lottery Community Fund and includes: training workshops, one-on-one advice, and a custom action plan for teams.

The community headspace programme offers a unique blend of bespoke consultancy, mental health inclusion workshops, expert by experience guidance, and shared learning opportunities all focused around our CARE principles. It runs over 12 months. During that time your team will receive specialist training workshops, 1-1 advice sessions, shared learning sessions with a cohort of peers, and personalised support to develop an action plan.

The programme is open to business leaders and teams across the UK, and the charity is seeking to share this opportunity with social enterprises.

INVITATION TO SOCIAL ENTERPRISE CPG ON DECEMBER 3RD - FUNDING AND INVESTMENT, SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT & ONLINE (HYBRID EVENT), FREE, 6PM

Join the next Social Enterprise Cross-Party Group (CPG) meeting at the Scottish Parliament on Tuesday, the 3rd of December at 6 pm. The theme of this meeting is The Challenge of Funding and Investment. Everyone is welcome so we encourage you to share and promote this event to your colleagues and contacts!

The Challenge of Funding and Investment

The current financial and economic climate is a big challenge for Scotland's social enterprises and other businesses and community groups. The now familiar issues of inflation, energy and running costs, as well as restrained public sector finances, mean a difficult operating environment for many organisations.

At this meeting we'll discuss these challenges – but crucially some of the many solutions – come along to share what's happening with your organisation, as well as discussing what might be done to address the challenge. It is an opportunity to discuss the issues that social enterprises are facing and bring them directly to our MSPs in parliament.

SCOTTISH RURAL ACTION - SAVE THE DATE - VILLAGE HALLS WEEK - 17 - 23 MARCH 2025

Scottish Rural Action is working with Action for Rural Communities in England, SCVO, Community Enterprise, the TSI network, the Scottish Community Alliance and others to make this the best UK-wide Village Halls Week ever!

Thanks to sponsorship from [Utility Aid](#), rural community buildings in both countries are being offered free resources including bunting, badges and posters to help them hold local events and draw attention to their good work. Learn more about the campaign [here](#).

THE RURAL YOUTH ACTION NETWORK IS LIVE!

Scottish Rural Action and [Youth Scotland](#) have launched the Rural Youth Action Network (RYAN) team. Building on the Scottish Rural and Islands Youth Parliament's work, RYAN was created to amplify young voices across rural Scotland. Supported by funding following a meeting with Rural Affairs & Islands Cabinet Secretary Mairi Gougeon MSP, RYAN's goal is to unite local groups and empower young people in decision-making on issues that matter to them. Be part of shaping Scotland's future—young people, please join! For questions, reach out to Mia at mia@sra.scot.

FREE GAMING AND GAMBLING HARM WORKSHOPS

Fast Forward is a national charity working in prevention and education of gambling and gaming harm in Scotland. We will be coming to Shetland on Monday 24th March 2025 for the week to deliver free workshops to young people, parents/caregivers, families, communities and the practitioners who support them.

These interactive workshops are able to be adapted to different audiences and can be delivered in person or online. We can also be flexible with timings and deliver in the evenings if needed. These workshops will look at what gaming and gambling harm looks like, spotting the signs of harm and where to go for support.

If you are interested in getting a free workshop or have any questions please get in touch on the contact details below.

fast forward

PLEASE CONTACT US FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT FAST FORWARDS WORK:
 0131 544 4300
 sgeh@fastforward.org.uk
 www.gamblingeducationhub.fastforward.org.uk

Fast Forward provide free workshops around gaming and gambling harm to young people, families, communities and practitioners supporting them. They are coming to Shetland the week commencing **24th March 2025 to deliver sessions**. We have some primary school, teacher and parent sessions booked but we have some availability to do some more free sessions.

If you are interested in a free workshop please contact Fast Forward. Workshops can be in person or online and are flexible with times.

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM 2024 AGAINST GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

The [16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence](#) is an annual international campaign that starts on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and runs until 10 December, Human Rights Day.

SPOTLIGHT: ENGAGING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE AROUND ONLINE MISOGYNY, 28 NOVEMBER 2024, 2.00PM - 4.00PM | ONLINE

Explore approaches to understanding and addressing the risks of online misogyny and abuse for young people in Scotland.

WOMEN WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES INVOLVED IN SELLING OR EXCHANGING SEX, 28 NOVEMBER 2024, 11.00AM - 12.45PM | ONLINE

A free event where we will shed light on women with learning disabilities and their involvement in selling or exchanging sex in Scotland. The event will bring together experts who will share case studies and good practice examples.

SPOTLIGHT: WOMEN'S POLITICAL REPRESENTATION, 3 DECEMBER 2024, 10.00AM - 12.00PM | ONLINE

Explore the barriers to political participation and representation for women and girls, and how this is related to tackling violence and abuse.

SPOTLIGHT: CHILDREN'S VOICES IN COURT PROCESSES, 4 DECEMBER 2024, 12.00PM - 2.00PM | ONLINE

Explore the link between embedding children's rights and tackling VAWG in Scotland, particularly in the context of court process and justice responses.

SPOTLIGHT: HONOUR-BASED ABUSE, 5 DECEMBER 2024, 2.00PM - 4.00PM | ONLINE

Explore the current work to raise awareness and improve responses to so-called 'Honour'-based abuse for women and girls in Scotland.

FACILITATING DISCLOSURES OF SELLING OR EXCHANGING SEX, 10 DECEMBER 2024, 9.30AM - 1.00PM | ONLINE

The recent CSE Aware report "Barriers to Disclosures of Selling or Exchanging Sex" revealed a number of challenges that practitioners face in relation to disclosures of selling or exchanging sex. To increase workers' skills and confidence to manage disclosures of selling or exchanging sex, CSE Aware is offering an online training session for frontline practitioners.

FREE E-LEARNING FROM JUST ENTERPRISE

Prefer to learn at a time, place and pace of your own choosing? [Just Enterprise eLearning programmes](#) are split into short, focused modules that help you fit essential training into your busy schedule. Choose the courses that are relevant to you and your organisation and learn at your own pace via desktop, laptop, tablet or smartphone. [REGISTER NOW](#)

CLIMATE NEWS

[JUST TRANSITIONS SCOTLAND: NET ZERO ACCREDITATION SURVEY](#)

Just Transitions Scotland C.I.C. are in the process of securing funding to collaborate with sustainability experts to create a net zero accreditation standard for the third sector, and they need your views to shape the standard. To do this, they are conducting research and would really value community input!

CLIMATE OUTREACH

[TALKING ABOUT CLIMATE TARGET SETBACKS, 9 DECEMBER AT 1200-1300 GMT, ONLINE, FREE WEBINAR](#)

How can institutions maintain trust but still be honest about carbon reduction challenges? Join us and our CAST partners to explore this issue

HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS CLIMATE HUB NEWS

INTRODUCING THE YOUTH CLIMATE NETWORK - [YOUNG PEOPLE AND CLIMATE ACTION](#)

The Hub is building a Youth Climate Network. Our goal is to create a network that is led by youth for youth, a network that gives young people from all backgrounds a platform to engage in the climate fight. To shape the first steps of the Youth Climate Network, we are recruiting a Youth Advisory Board.

Made up of seven young people aged 16-26 from across Highland, Orkney and Shetland we hope that the Board will direct the network in a way which gives the most benefits to young people. They will be responsible for making key decisions around the presentation and work of the Network.

The Board will meet and work online so we welcome applications from Lochaber right up to Shetland! How can you help?

Now this is where you come in - we need the help of our members and supporters to share the news!

We have created a survey that is open for young people (14-26) to give their thoughts on the climate emergency - where their priorities and concerns lie, and where they want to see more opportunity.

At the end of the survey young people are offered the chance to apply to the Youth Advisory Board. Please share the survey with young people you engage with and encourage them to apply for the Youth Advisory Board. No experience is necessary, just a passion for climate action.

Take the survey here: [YOUNG PEOPLE AND CLIMATE ACTION](#). Applications close on Monday 16th December.

[SUSTAINABLE SPACES](#)

Back for 2024-25, the Hub's Sustainable Spaces programme is now open to support community building's transitions to becoming sustainable. Our Development Officers are on hand to identify opportunities, source sustainable solutions & help secure funding.

CLIMATE ACTION FUND

Our Climate Action Fund remains open on a rolling monthly basis. Our members are invited to apply for up to £500 for new community organisations, new climate action projects or community engagement. T&Cs apply.

PAST EVENT RECORDINGS

- [Sustainable Spaces Launch](#) (October 2024)
- [Challenging Poverty through Climate Action: Challenge Poverty Week 2024](#) (October 2024)
- [Sustainable Event Planning with Ullapool Unpacked](#) (September 2024)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES/ VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Shetland have been invited to the Scottish Learning Disability Sport National Games in July 2025!

Ability Shetland is currently looking to form a committee to prepare and support the athletes attending the competition in Stirling. We have so far entered 6 sports; badminton, Boccia, indoor bowls, football, rugby and swimming. If you would be interested in joining the committee please get in touch.



Committee Volunteers Needed

Shetland have been entered in the Scottish Learning Disability Sport National Games in 2025. We are needing volunteer committee members to help the team compete in Stirling.

Positions available:

- Chair
- Secretary
- Travel Coordinator
- Funding and Fundraising

If interested please contact charis.scott3@shetland.org for more information.



SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT NEWS

REPORTS

[PROGRESSING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF CHILDREN IN SCOTLAND: UPDATE REPORT 2021-2024](#)

[This report](#) provides an update on the delivery of commitments outlined in the Scottish Government's [Action Plan 'Progressing the human rights of children in Scotland: Action Plan 2021 to 2024'](#).

[RESPECT FOR ALL: THE NATIONAL APPROACH TO ANTI-BULLYING](#)

New guidance to support schools and organisations working with children and young people to develop comprehensive anti-bullying policies and improve behaviour and relationships has been published.

LEGISLATION

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

[FUTURE OF FOSTER CARE CONSULTATION](#)

Closes 6 Feb 2025

This consultation sets out a vision for the future of foster care which prioritises children's experiences, and meets their many and varied needs, in a changing sector and society. It proposes a new flexible fostering approach that builds on the unique skills and qualities of foster carers, the good practice and innovation already happening across Scotland and the UK, and it is underpinned by comprehensive ongoing support for foster carers.

[DEVELOPING A UNIVERSAL DEFINITION OF 'CARE EXPERIENCE'](#)

Closes 8 Jan 2025

The purpose of this consultation is to seek views on the need for a universal definition of 'care experience' and what the potential impacts of this could be.

[CRIMINAL JUSTICE MODERNISATION AND ABUSIVE DOMESTIC BEHAVIOUR REVIEWS \(SCOTLAND\) BILL](#)

Closing date: 10 January 2025

The Scottish Government is proposing a new law about modernising procedures in criminal courts, and a process for reviewing deaths which relate to abusive behaviour within relationships, to allow lessons to be learned. The [Criminal Justice Committee](#) is looking for your views on the proposed bill.

[RIGHT TO ADDICTION RECOVERY \(SCOTLAND\) BILL](#)

Closing date: 20 December 2024