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<b>THIRD SECTOR NEWS</b>
<p><b><u><a href="#">DISCLOSURE SCOTLAND FEES: DISCOUNTING, WAIVERS AND ACCREDITED BODIES CONSULTATION</a></u></b>  <b>Closes: 28 May 2024</b></p> <p>As part of Disclosure Scotland’s work to implement the <a href="#">Disclosure (Scotland) Act 2020</a> by April 2025, they’re reviewing fee waivers, discounting and registration fees. Disclosure Scotland is also offering short workshops to review the proposals, for you to share your feedback this way. <a href="#">Read the consultation paper</a>. The consultation paper contains full background information for this consultation. You may find it useful to read or refer to while responding.</p> <p><b>Proposals include the removal of the fee waiver for volunteers, which has been free for qualifying voluntary organisations since the scheme launched in 2011. Proposals may increase difficulties in recruiting volunteers.</b></p>
<p><b><u><a href="#">TACKLING HATE CRIME - NEW LAWS TO TACKLE THE HARM CAUSED BY HATRED AND PREJUDICE COME INTO FORCE NEXT MONTH</a></u></b></p> <p>The Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act will provide greater protection for victims and communities from 1 April. It creates new stirring up of hatred offences for protected characteristics including age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, and transgender identity. These extra provisions will add to the long-standing stirring up racial hatred offences, which have been in place since 1986.</p>

### **THIRD SECTOR FAIR FUNDING CHARTER**

Developed by the [TSI Scotland Network](#) and [SCVO](#), and learn about the fair funding principles they set for our sector with the aim of supporting improvements in the funding our sector receives from the public and independent sectors.

### **SOCIAL INVESTMENT SCOTLAND'S AMBITIONS PROGRAMME NOW OPEN**

**Deadline: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April**

[Ambitions 2024: Supporting Leaders, Building Growth](#) is now open and is inviting interested leaders to sign up to be the first to hear more about this support programme. There will be two distinct programmes; Step Up for early-stage enterprises and Scale Up for established and aspiring organisations. If you are interested, please get in touch with the programme lead, [Julie Kyle](#). Alternatively, complete the application form [here](#).

### **SURVEY: PROPOSED NATIONAL HEALTHCARE STANDARDS FOR SCOTLAND**

**Closes: 3 April 2024**

To reduce duplication and support nationwide improvements in the quality of care, HIS have decided to develop a set of standards outlining the core requirements for all healthcare services. They are inviting stakeholders to comment on the proposed scope of the standards.

### **NATIONAL LOTTERY COMMUNITY FUND - PROGRAMMES CLOSING ON 21 AUGUST 2024**

**[Community Led](#), [Improving Lives](#) and [Cost of Living Support Scotland](#) funds will close to applications at noon on Wednesday 21 August.**

The National Lottery Community Fund recently unveiled our new UK wide strategy – [It starts with community](#). We are currently developing new funding programmes which will align with the ambitions of this strategy whilst meeting the emerging needs of the communities we serve in Scotland. New funding programmes will launch in November 2024. National Lottery Awards for All, Young Start and Scottish Land Fund will remain open to applications with no closing dates.

What this means for groups

- If you have already submitted an application to Community Led, Improving Lives or Cost of Living Support Scotland funds, it will be assessed as usual.
- If you already have an application form but haven't applied yet, we'd advise they apply as soon as possible. If you're no longer going to apply or are unsure about timescale for this, contact your Funding Officer.
- If considering applying to one of these programmes but you haven't discussed this with NLCF or requested an application form yet, they should contact us as soon as possible so the Funding Officer in that area can advise them.
- If you have an existing grant under one of these which you wish to continue, speak to your Funding Officer if not already done so.

If you have any questions, please contact 0300 123 7110 or [advicescotland@nlcommunityfund.org.uk](mailto:advicescotland@nlcommunityfund.org.uk) to speak to our area funding teams.

## NEWS FROM THE CHARITY REGULATOR

NO UPDATES

## RESOURCES

### [SCVO - CLOSING DOWN AN ORGANISATION – GUIDE](#)

If you're closing down (sometimes called winding up) an organisation, or thinking of it as an option, SCVO offers a guide to help you. Please come and talk with Voluntary Action Shetland as well and we can support you through the process.

### **HEALTH PROTECTION GUIDANCE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SETTINGS, INCLUDING EDUCATION**

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH SCOTLAND (PHS): [HEALTH PROTECTION GUIDANCE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SETTINGS, INCLUDING EDUCATION](#)**

The information is intended for use by staff and volunteers in children and young people settings (for example teachers, managers, teaching assistants, and cleaners). This new guidance covers a broad range of health protection issues and replaces the COVID-19 specific education settings guidance produced and maintained by Scottish Government during the pandemic. This guidance has been produced through the Scottish Health Protection Network (SHPN) and is adapted from the United Kingdom Health Security Agency (UKHSA) guidance. Find advice on:

- Infections: transmission and those at higher risk
- Preventing and controlling infections
- Supporting immunisation programmes
- Managing specific infectious diseases (A to Z)
- Responding to outbreaks and incidents
- Additional health protection considerations for specific settings and population
- Posters for display in settings

### **HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE ALLIANCE SCOTLAND REPORT: [ACCESSING LONG COVID SERVICES IN SCOTLAND: TO BE BELIEVED, LISTENED TO AND SUPPORTED](#)**

A report looking at why people in Scotland are disengaging with Long Covid services.

### [CHARITY WORKERS DISCOUNT SCHEME](#)

Charity Worker Discounts is a benefit provider for charity workers and volunteers. If you sign up (free) as a member there are a whole range of deals to consider.

**VOLUNTEER EDINBURGH AND VOLUNTARY HEALTH SCOTLAND REPORT:  
[DEVELOPING THE MENTAL HEALTH WORKFORCE: THE ROLE OF VOLUNTEERING AT THE ROYAL EDINBURGH HOSPITAL IN EMPLOYABILITY DEVELOPMENT](#)**

The [report](#) looks at the impact volunteering had on volunteers in their career and provides a snapshot of the important role volunteering programmes, such as the Volunteer Hub, can provide to the NHS and to mental health services.

**THRE – THIRD SECTOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUALITIES [RESOURCES FOR VOLUNTEER MANAGERS](#)**

THRE has a new resource with practical advice on establishing a culture for human rights and equality that can support volunteers and inform volunteering programmes. It includes tips for designing flexible volunteer roles, writing inclusive role descriptions and fostering a supportive environment.

**YOUTHLINK SCOTLAND REPORTS:**

**[CHILD AND PARENTAL WELLBEING: MEASURING OUTCOMES AND UNDERSTANDING THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH POVERTY](#)**

**[THE IMPACT OF THE COST-OF-LIVING CRISIS ON YOUNG PEOPLE](#)**

Lack of support for young people in education, transport and mental health provision has “had a negative impact” according to a new report from the Youth Select Committee.

**FAST FORWARD: [GAMBLING EDUCATION TOOLKIT 2024 NOW AVAILABLE](#)**

Fast Forward is delighted to launch the new edition of their toolkit which includes updated research and features brand new activities.

**[HM INSPECTORS: OVERVIEW OF SCOTLAND’S COLLEGE SECTOR](#)**

HM Inspectors visited all Scotland’s colleges where they met with college leaders, staff, learners, and other stakeholders. They evaluated the progress colleges were making towards their own improvement targets and their impact on learner recruitment, retention, attainment, and progression.

**[FAIR WORK FIRST IN PROCUREMENT](#)**

Updated guidance on Fair Work First in Procurement is now available. The guidance was drafted in consultation with public, private, and third sector representatives and included the Fair Work Convention. Read a Scottish Procurement & Property Directorate blog summarising the changes [here](#).

## FORTHCOMING TRAINING AND EVENTS

### Online Volunteer Fayre

Thursday 28th March

10.30am - 12.30pm



[Food Train Connects](#) will be hosting an online volunteer fair on Thursday 28th March at 10.30am – 12.30pm. Alongside will be [Who Cares Scotland](#), [CHAS](#), [Make Your Mark](#) and [Scottish Refugee Council](#).

You'll have the opportunity to chat to each organisation to find out more about their work and the volunteering opportunities that they have available.

To attend, [please register here](#).

#### **YOUTHLINK SCOTLAND TRAINING: BUILDING RESILIENCE: EMPOWERING YOURSELF AND SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE, 23 APRIL, 2024, 14:00 - 16:00, PAID, ONLINE**

This training will introduce practical models, tools and strategies that can be used to support you to bounce back from challenges, manage pressure, navigate changes, and look ahead to the future.

#### **QUALITY STANDARDS IN VOLUNTEERING, THURSDAY 28 MARCH 2-3:30PM**

Volunteer Scotland invite you to join in this FREE workshop where they will discuss the Quality Standard and the Quality Pipeline, to provide you with more information on each product, the standards, process and the difference this can make to volunteers experience.

#### **CONFERENCE: ALL-ENERGY AND DCARBONISE 2024, WEDNESDAY 15 AND THURSDAY 16 MAY, GLASGOW**

The conference will take place over two days at Glasgow's SEC. All-Energy offers an opportunity to meet, network and make connections with the renewable energy community with two days of uninterrupted business.

#### **SCVO: PLANNING BETTER ENDINGS, 23 APRIL, 1PM – 2PM, ONLINE**

In Scotland around 800 new charities are set up every year, and 600 wind up. The signs are that this will be no different in 2024, and organisational closures may be on the increase. Endings are inevitable, whether through choice or necessity. But better endings, to a project, or an organisation, can be achieved with enough time, planning and funding.

[The Decelerator](#), a free support service for charities and voluntary sector organisations. They offer information, tools, and hands-on support to help organisations anticipate and design closures, mergers, and project endings.

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES/ VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

NO UPDATES

## SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT NEWS

### LEGISLATION

The [Land Reform \(Scotland\) Bill](#) was introduced in the Scottish Parliament on Wednesday 13 March 2024. It is accompanied by the following key documents:

- [Explanatory Notes](#)
- [Policy Memorandum](#) (PM)
- [Financial Memorandum](#)

The PM states that the Bill covers four principal policy areas:

- Land reform
- A new Land Management Tenancy
- Agricultural holdings
- Small landholdings

This blog provides an initial overview of what the proposals relating to “land reform” contained in Part 1 Large Land Holdings: Management and Transfer of Ownership look like: [The Land Reform \(Scotland\) Bill: What do the proposals for large landholdings look like?](#)

**CALLS FOR VIEWS: THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT IS OPEN TO HEARING YOUR VIEWS ON A RANGE OF TOPICS, INCLUDING:**

### **[PROPOSED RIGHT TO PALLIATIVE CARE \(SCOTLAND\) BILL](#)**

**Closes: 4 June 2024**

Miles Briggs MSP is looking for your views on his proposal for a bill that would ensure everyone in Scotland with a terminal illness had a legal right to palliative care.

### **[RESTRICTING PROMOTIONS OF FOOD AND DRINK HIGH IN FAT, SUGAR OR SALT – CONSULTATION ON THE DETAIL OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS](#)**

**Closes: 21 May 2024**

The Scottish Government has launched a consultation on the details of proposed regulations to restrict the promotions of High in saturated Fat, Salt and Sugar (HFSS) foods where they are sold to the public.

### **LEARNING DISABILITIES, AUTISM AND NEURODIVERGENCE (LDAN) BILL**

**Closes: 21 April 2024**

Views are being sought on proposals to better protect, respect and champion the rights of people with learning disabilities, autistic and neurodivergent people. There is an explanation of how to respond and the consultation paper is provided in alternative formats, including: Easy Read, audio, British Sign Language, child-friendly version with an accompanying adult's guide, and a summary version. You can also request paper copies. You can also submit a response in writing, audio, video, or BSL video by sending via email to [LDAN.Bill@gov.scot](mailto:LDAN.Bill@gov.scot).

### **SUICIDE PREVENTION STRATEGY**

**Closes: 29 March 2024**

The [Equalities Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee](#) is running a short inquiry into the Scottish Government and COSLA's Suicide Prevention Strategy 2022-2032 and would welcome your views.