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THIRD SECTOR NEWS

[COMMUNITY WEALTH BUILDING BILL PASSES IN HOLYROOD](#)

This new Bill will support investment in communities – with councils, health boards and other public bodies focusing on the generation, circulation and retention of wealth in local and regional economies. This could include buying or procuring more goods and services from local businesses, boosting social enterprises or helping community groups to acquire vacant buildings and land.

Scotland will become the first country in the world to legislate for the implementation of the Community Wealth Building economic development model at national, regional and local levels.

See also: **[COMMUNITY WEALTH BUILDING: FROM LEGISLATION TO THE REAL WORLD - SOCIAL ENTERPRISE SCOTLAND](#)**

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT DISSOLUTION

[Dissolution](#) begins on 9 April 2026. The recess and dissolution together are known as the 'campaign period' before the election on Thursday 7 May 2026. During dissolution:

- MSPs stop being [Members of the Scottish Parliament](#).
- [Committees](#) close.
- Any [bills](#) that have not been passed fall.
- [Petitions](#) cannot be submitted or signed.
- All [motions](#) (and amendments to motions) fall.
- [Cross-party groups](#) cease to exist.

SCVO ELECTION MANIFESTO 2026: PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

The Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations has published its priorities for the next Scottish Government ahead of the next Scottish Parliament elections. The manifesto outlines key asks from the voluntary sector including a commitment to fair funding, partnership working, and modernising regulations. You can read the full manifesto on the SCVO website.

IMPROVING UNDERSTANDING OF FUNDRAISING COMPLAINTS

The Fundraising Regulator has launched an 18-month partnership with BMG Research to look into complaints that charities receive about their fundraising. The new research project will look at the types of fundraising complaints that charities receive during 2026/27 and how the sector can learn from their experience.

HIGHLAND AND ISLANDS CLIMATE HUB: LOCAL GROUPS TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE

At the recent Climate Action Ting in Lerwick local groups came together to share their ideas for tackling climate change. Held at Mareel on 14 March, the event gave people the chance to vote for the projects they wanted to see funded -from rewilding to greener transport. More than £60,000 was awarded on the day, supporting grassroots initiatives and highlighting the passion for climate action across Shetland. You can read more about the [successful projects here](#).

WHO WILL BE THE FUTURE LEADERS IN THE SCOTTISH THIRD SECTOR? AND HOW ARE YOU BUILDING THAT PIPELINE NOW?

A strong flow of young talent helps organisations stay resilient, innovative, and reflective of the communities they serve. However, little is known about how well the Scottish third sector is building a pipeline of future leaders.

FreshSight, student-led social enterprise, wants to understand what youth opportunities in place currently look like in Scotland's third sector so we can help future-proof the sector, building a pipeline of motivated and skilled young talent.

The link to our survey is here: [Young Talent Pipeline in Scottish Third Sector survey](#)

Please complete the survey by 30th April 2026. If you have any questions you can email us at insights@freshsight.com or contact Rocket Science, our research partner that is conducting the survey at Zubiya.Moin@rocketsciencelab.co.uk

UPDATE FROM DISCLOSURE SCOTLAND

Five-year PVG scheme – 1st April 2026

From 1st April 2026, the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme will move to a five-year membership. This reform is an important step towards a safer, more accurate system - one that better reflects who is actively carrying out regulated roles and gives organisations the confidence that their records are up to date and data is secure.

Important points to remember:

- Five-year membership does not affect your current application processes. Do not apply for a PVG scheme application earlier than your normal process or change how often you would apply.
- There is no added cost related to five-year membership.
- Anyone who makes a PVG scheme application from 1 April will be automatically entered into the five-year PVG scheme.
- Those who do not make an application will be moved to the five-year PVG scheme by Disclosure Scotland. This will be done in batches in order of the date you joined. You do not need to do anything, and Disclosure Scotland will contact scheme members before they intend to move you. This work will not start immediately – Disclosure Scotland will let you know when they expect it to begin.

There is more information on the five-year scheme and how your PVG scheme membership is changing on Disclosure Scotland's [website](#).

Important for PVG scheme members

Tell Disclosure Scotland your email address if you haven't already done so. Please email dsupdate@disclosurescotland.gov.scot with the subject header 'Email address update,' and provide your:

- Name
- Date of birth
- PVG scheme number
- Current email address

NEWS FROM THE CHARITY REGULATOR (OSCR)

[CHANGES TO THE INFORMATION PUBLISHED ON THE OSCR WEBSITE FROM 9 MARCH 2026](#)

OSCR has introduced some important changes to the information published about charities on the Scottish Charity Register. 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.

- The **first and last names** of charity trustees are now displayed on the charity's Register entry.
- **Every accounts document** submitted to OSCR from 9 March 2026 as part of a charity's online annual return will be published in full, without any redactions, on the Scottish Charity Register. Trustees will now be responsible for redacting sensitive information.

OSCR's session on key legislative changes to charity law is available to [watch on YouTube](#)

Publishing trustee names

OSCR will start publishing the names of every charity's trustees on the Scottish Charity Register. Charities can update their trustee information at any time through OSCR Online. While OSCR now collects a range of information about trustees for regulatory purposes, only the names of each trustee will be published on the charity's page on the Register. Some exemptions may apply. No other personal information will be published. Read [guidance on managing charity trustee information in OSCR Online here](#).

Publishing annual reports and accounts in full

OSCR will begin publishing annual reports and accounts in full, without any redactions, for every charity as soon as they are submitted from 9 March 2026 onwards. Unlike the previous approach, when only some accounts are published and personal details were redacted, OSCR will no longer redact any information from these documents. The new legislation requires OSCR to publish the information in an unredacted form. Charities must always provide all the information that is legally required in their accounts.

OSCR [charity accounting guidance](#) and [annual reporting guidance](#) includes more information about what you need to send to OSCR each year, and how to submit this information using OSCR Online.

Other changes

At the same time, OSCR will also begin publishing the following additional information on the Register:

- A description of what the charity is set up to do and how it does this – in the charity's own words
- The number of staff
- The number of charity trustees
- The number of volunteers

This information is already collected as part of the online annual return.

GUIDANCE: OSCR'S [GUIDANCE FOR CHARITIES](#) TO UNDERSTAND THE RULES OF CAMPAIGNING DURING ELECTIONS

RESOURCES

[THE NATIONAL AUTISTIC SOCIETY SCOTLAND: WHAT'S NEXT? PROGRAMME FOR AUTISTIC ADULTS LIVING IN SCOTLAND](#)

The programme is funded by the Scottish Government and Inspiring Scotland's Autistic Adult Support Fund and provides free, structured support for autistic adults who are recently diagnosed or self-identifying. What's Next? is a six-week programme offering a supportive space for participants to:

- Deepen their understanding of autism and autistic identity
- Explore wellbeing and day-to-day strategies
- Connect with other autistic adults and share experiences

The programme is open to autistic adults over the age of 18 and living in Scotland. More information and registration details can be found here: <https://bit.ly/48jHkoS>

[FUNDRAISING REGULATOR ANNUAL REPORT](#)

A central focus of the report is the publication of the new Code of Fundraising Practice, following extensive consultation with charities, fundraisers, sector bodies and members of the public. The updated code is clearer and easier to use, while continuing to set high expectations for legal, open, honest and respectful fundraising.

SCVO [DIGITAL CALL TO ACTION](#)

The Call to Action is designed as an essential read for people involved in leadership, governance and digital change. It focuses on the practical foundations organisations still need to get right, including:

- Board-level leadership and oversight of digital, data, AI and cyber risk
- Building skills and culture, not just buying new tools
- Using data for insight and impact
- Communications and content in a noisy online world
- Cyber resilience and reliable technology foundations
- Approaching AI with curiosity and care, grounded in trust and values.

It includes real examples and practical guidance, and can be used to support board discussions, strategy refreshes and day-to-day decision-making.

IMPACT EUROPE REPORT: [COLLABORATION IN ACTION - HOW TO COLLECTIVELY WORK TOWARDS SYSTEMS CHANGE](#) (PDF)

Impact Europe has been developing a study titled “Collaboration in action - How to collectively work towards systems change”. The research aims to understand how different types of actors and capital can align to drive impact that goes beyond projects, toward long-term, systems change solutions.

PUBLICATION: ['KNOW YOUR COST BASE'](#)

Charity Finance Group (CFG) and HaysMac have jointly published 'Know Your Cost Base', a new publication that helps charity leaders understand and calculate their organisation's cost base, leading to greater clarity and more informed conversations and decisions.

[ADULT SUPPORT AND PROTECTION LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK](#)

This framework from Scottish Government is intended for all staff and volunteers operating across Scotland who might come into contact with adults as part of their role. The end of the framework includes a list of [helpful publications](#), alongside access to some [learning and development training resources](#).

HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS ENTERPRISE (HIE)

[HIE CYBER RESILIENCE RESOURCES](#)

Cyber Resilience Resources are here to help businesses across the Highlands and Islands strengthen their digital security through expert guidance, funding opportunities and trusted support from national partners.

[HIE DIGITAL STORYTELLING AND BRAND CLARITY WEBINAR SERIES](#)

HIE recently delivered three webinars designed to help creative businesses strengthen their brand, sharpen their storytelling and make confident, informed choices about their digital activity.

[HIE CLIMATE SPRINGBOARD - FREE NET ZERO SUPPORT](#)

Join a free six-week online programme to kick-start your net zero journey. Climate Springboard helps SMEs, social enterprises and community organisations across the Highlands and Islands to measure carbon emissions, create a compliant footprint, and build a practical action plan. You'll gain expert guidance, quick-win tips to cut costs, and access to a growing network of like-minded organisations.

GCVS VIDEO: APPLYING FOR GRANTS

The refreshed GCVS training video "Applying for Grants" is now available for anyone to view from YouTube. Although this short (18mins) video contains references to Glasgow, it provides a useful general introduction to help voluntary organisations anywhere with their applications for grant funding.

MHOR COLLECTIVE: FREE TRAINING FOR THE THIRD-SECTOR

The free training is focused on digital inclusion, health literacy, and accessing safe online health and wellbeing info. View [Digital Champion training](#)

SCOTTISH RURAL ACTION: THE RURAL WATER AGENDA IN SCOTLAND - DIGITAL HUB

In support of the rural water agenda in Scotland, Scottish Rural Action has launched [a new digital hub and community library](#) dedicated to information and research on private water supplies and wastewater systems in rural and island Scotland. This platform brings together resources on rights, law, research and support to help address the unique challenges facing rural communities' water security and sustainability, highlighting how vital clean, reliable water is to people, places and livelihoods across Scotland.

WATCH VILLAGE HALLS WEEK 2026 RECORDING: FROM ISOLATION TO CONNECTION: THE ROLE OF COMMUNITY SPACES IN TACKLING LONELINESS

The session explored the vital role community spaces play in social cohesion and mental wellbeing, fitting perfectly with the week's health & wellbeing theme.

If you missed it, you can catch up on the presentations by Ian Harrower (Heids and Herts) and Kenny Alexander (Polmont Community Hub) [here](#).

WATCH MEETING RECORDING: RURAL SOCIAL ENTERPRISE NETWORK (SEN): AI & DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY NOTES

The notes, meeting recordings, and copy of the slides from the Rural SEN meeting which had a focus on 'AI & Digital Technology for Social Enterprises is now available on the RuralSEHub. If you missed this session or if you want to catch up on the discussions.

GENERATIONS WORKING TOGETHER: MAKE INTERGENERATIONAL WORK A PRIORITY THIS SCOTTISH ELECTION!

At Generations Working Together, we want Scotland to become the world's first truly intergenerational nation. That will only happen if policymakers understand the impact this work already has in communities. We are asking members to help us get the message out locally. We have created [a short Policymaker Resource](#) that you can use when speaking with councillors, MSPs, or election candidates. It includes key messages and a few simple ways to introduce them to intergenerational work.

[READ THE FULL GWT MANIFESTO 2026 TO 2031](#)

EMPLOYABILITY: REFRESHED SCOTTISH APPROACH TO SERVICE DESIGN (SATSD) GUIDANCE

The Scottish Government have launched their refreshed landing page, guidance and maturity assessment matrix for the Scottish Approach to Service Design.

EMPLOYABILITY: [TOURISM & HOSPITALITY TOOLKIT LAUNCHED](#)

Are you supporting people into roles in the hospitality and tourism sector in Scotland? If so, you might want to check out the recently launched Tourism & Hospitality Toolkit - full of useful resources on training & skills, rights at work, visas & immigration and more.

EMPLOYABILITY: [NO ONE LEFT BEHIND ALLOCATIONS](#)

The Scottish Government have shared allocations for No One Left Behind 2026/27 by Local Authority Area. No One Left Behind is an approach which ensures employment support is person-centred, tailored and responsive to the needs of local labour markets and individuals of all ages who are looking for help to find and remain in work.

[SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT INCLUSIVE COMMUNICATION TOOLKIT](#)

The Scottish Government have worked with SES member Kim Hartley Kean at Communication Inclusion People to create a toolkit that provides practical support to make communication between people and services more inclusive.

FAR-RIGHT RIOT GUIDANCE

Asylum Matters, Praxis and Refugee Action have come together to produce guidance for people concerned about far-right violence targeting people in temporary asylum accommodation or with refugee status living in the UK. This guidance includes information to support keeping you and your family safe, how to spot far-right activity, and what to do in the event of an attack or threat. Download the guidance in English [here](#). Find the guidance in other languages and other relevant information [here](#).

[VOLUNTARY HEALTH SCOTLAND ELECTION 2026 TOOLKIT](#)

One month left until the Scottish Parliament Election! VHS has developed a handy Election 2026 Toolkit stacked with useful information and resources for influencing candidates and parties. This includes a candidate letter template, social media graphics, and links to ensure you are campaigning safely and legally. More content will be added to the webpage in the weeks to come.

COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP SUPPORT SERVICE (COSS): NEW FUTURES: FORMER PLACES OF WORSHIP – NEW RESOURCES

[CHURCHES ROUTE MAP](#)

The Churches Route Map guides community groups, looking at purchasing a building owned by the Church of Scotland, through the steps to community ownership. The Route Map details four key stages: getting started, preparing the project, developing the project and finalising the purchase. This resource illustrates the process in chronological order, allowing community groups to follow each step in detail as they progress through their journey to community ownership.

[CHURCHES CROWDFUNDER GUIDE](#)

The Churches Crowdfunder Guide has been created and published in collaboration with [Democratic Finance Scotland](#) in response to the growing prevalence of crowdfunding campaigns among community groups raising funds to purchase a former place of worship. The resource gives practical guidance on how to run a successful crowdfunding campaign and is illustrated with recent case studies.

TRAINING AND EVENTS

NPC 2026 TRUSTEE SEMINAR SERIES, BUILDING STRONGER CHARITIES: LESSONS FOR TRUSTEES

Supported by the Clothworkers Company. Across six free, online events from May to October, NPC will share practical guidance, real-world examples, and actionable takeaways to help trustees lead their organisations with confidence. You can book as many or as few sessions as you want - [explore the full series now](#) or book [our first session 7 May on SORP guidelines](#).

[NEW WEBINARS FROM THE DISABLED LEADERS SOCIAL ENTERPRISE NETWORK](#)

Join the Disabled Leaders Social Enterprise Network this April and May for a series of online, free events. The programme of events kicks off on Monday 20 April with [webinar and Q&A session on the Access to Work scheme](#). Other sessions include Inclusive Facilitation, Collaborative Leadership, as well as Co-production and Next Steps network meetings.

[SUICIDE PREVENTION SCOTLAND CONFERENCE - CREATING HOPE TOGETHER 2026 – GROWING CAPACITY FOR HOPE THROUGH ACTION, WEDNESDAY 27 MAY 2026, 09:30AM – 4:00PM, RADISSON BLU HOTEL, GLASGOW](#)

Building on the strong foundations of Scotland's national suicide prevention movement, this year's Creating Hope Together Conference will bring people together from across sectors, communities and lived experience networks to focus on how we grow capacity for hope through meaningful, collective action.

This national event is designed for:

- Professionals and volunteers across the public, private and third sectors
- People working with adults, children and young people in any setting connected to suicide prevention, mental health or wellbeing
- Organisations working in suicide prevention, mental health, wellbeing, inequality, or community-based support
- People with lived and living experience who want to shape Scotland's suicide prevention work
- Anyone supporting communities, tackling inequalities, or working collaboratively to reduce suicide risk

GENERATIONS WORKING TOGETHER: GLOBAL INTERGENERATIONAL WEEK (GIW), 24TH TO 30TH APRIL 2026

The campaign invites individuals, community groups, organisations, governments, and NGOs to come together to embrace and promote intergenerational practice in all its forms.

Daily Themes

- [Day 1 \(24 April\): Let's Raise Intergenerational Awareness](#)
- [Day 2 \(25 April\): Let's Challenge Ageism](#)
- [Day 3 \(26 April\): Let's Challenge Social Isolation and Loneliness](#)
- [Day 4 \(27 April\): Let's Celebrate Intergenerational Spaces and Communities](#)
- [Day 5 \(28 April\): Let's Save the Planet... Together!](#)
- [Day 6 \(29 April\): Let's Develop Intergenerational Workplaces](#)
- [Day 7 \(30 April\): Let's Improve Intergenerational Quality and Sustainability](#)

A full schedule of events is taking place across the week, including webinars, local activities and international collaborations. Please find the schedule for the webinars happening across the week [here](#).

A wide range of resources are available to support your involvement in Global Intergenerational Week 2026, including activity ideas, communications guidance and teaching materials. You can find all the resources [here](#).

[SCVO CONFERENCE: CREATING COMMUNITY: VILLAGE HALLS AND COMMUNITY SPACES CONFERENCE, WEDNESDAY 27 MAY 2026, GLASGOW](#)

Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) is holding their 'Creating Community' conference on Wednesday 27 May 2026 at The Pyramid at Anderston, Glasgow. This free, one-day event will give people running village halls and community spaces across Scotland the chance to connect, share ideas, and inspire each other. It is **in-person only and bursaries are available to assist travel costs**.

EARLY INTERVENTION TO PREVENT GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Early Intervention to Prevent Gender Based Violence has been scheduled for 13 May, this training is for ELC practitioners and Primary school staff who are in a position to influence practice and support change within their settings. Bookings can be made through VOR Online [Shetland Islands Council Training - VOR Online](#)

[DTAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2026, TUESDAY 1 & WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER, GLASGOW](#)

You can now book your place at the [DTAS Annual Conference 2026](#). The details of the programme will be released in the coming months, so keep an eye on [DTAS website](#) for announcements. Bursary applications are now also open. Find more information regarding how to apply and what the bursary can cover in the [Bursary Application Form 2026](#)

EVALUATION SUPPORT SCOTLAND: [RESOURCE SESSION: WEDNESDAY 13 MAY 11:30AM-12:10PM, ONLINE](#)

Join a short free lunchtime session with [Evaluation Support Scotland](#) and hear about their evaluation resources and explore tips to help you get the most out of it, you'll also have the chance to ask any questions. They have lots of great resources and practical tools freely [available on their website](#) – please let them know if there is a particular resource you'd like to see featured in a future session!

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE SCOTLAND

Sport and Activity

[MEANINGFUL CONVERSATIONS, TUESDAY 28 APRIL | 11AM - 12PM, ONLINE](#)

Explore meaningful conversation and Appreciative Inquiry techniques in small breakout groups, giving everyone the opportunity to contribute, listen and reflect. [Book here](#).

GENERATIONS WORKING TOGETHER - FIRST-EVER HYBRID ONE-DAY INTERGENERATIONAL TRAINING COURSE IN LERWICK ON THURSDAY 30TH APRIL 2026

This will be a fantastic opportunity for practitioners, volunteers, and organisations across the isles to come together and build skills, confidence, and ideas for intergenerational work.

• **Format:** Hybrid - online and in person at the Islesburgh Community Centre, Kind Harald St, Lerwick.

- **In person:** Alison Clyde (in Shetland)
- **Online:** Corrina or Lorraine

This blended model is a first for GWT, helping us include as many people as possible while keeping the session interactive and practical. In case you are considering training here are a couple of reasons this training is worth considering:

1. To build practical skills you can use immediately

You'll explore tools, resources, and approaches to design high-quality intergenerational projects that reduce ageism, strengthen community connection, and improve wellbeing across all ages.

2. To connect locally and get personalised support

The course gives you space to talk through ideas, challenges, and opportunities with GWT staff and local peers — helping you strengthen intergenerational work across Shetland's unique settings.

For more details and to register please [click here](#).

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 BOATING CLUB, FRIDAY 10AM – 4PM

For the next 4 weeks the Hub will be relocated to the Brae Boating Club- Same time-10-2pm

Friday 10th April

RNID (Royal National Institute for Deaf People) will be at the Living Well Hub between 12 noon and 1.30pm, this will be a free drop-in-service. No appointment needed. The friendly volunteers can help with Information on hearing loss and tinnitus, how to do a hearing check, hearing aids and how to access support and services in your area.

Voluntary Action Shetland Volunteering: For anyone interested in finding out more about the benefits of volunteering and support to find a suitable volunteering opportunity. We also help organisations who would like to recruit volunteers. We can offer training to volunteers and volunteer managers. Voluntary Action Shetland Volunteering also administer the Saltire and local volunteering awards.

Friday 17th April

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/>

If you need to talk about advice or support, come along and see how we can help.

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

ETHICAL PROPERTY FOUNDATION: FREE SPECIALIST SUPPORT CLINICS FOR CHARITIES, 28TH APRIL 2026. TIME: 09:30AM - 12:25PM AND 1:35PM - 4:30PM, LOCATION: ONLINE

the Ethical Property Foundation, in partnership with Utility Aid, is bringing back our free, all-day Specialist Support Clinic. This is your opportunity to book one-to-one sessions with leading experts in property, law, finance, fundraising, tax, and energy efficiency. Whether you're planning a property project, tackling legal or financial issues, or looking to reduce costs, our specialists are here to provide practical, high-quality advice tailored to charities and voluntary organisations.

Bookable experts include: EPF surveyors, Russell-Cooke, Birketts, Lindsays, CAF, Heaward Solutions, Cubed Tax, Norris & Fisher, and Utility Aid.

Places are limited! [Utility Aid and Ethical Property Foundation Specialist Clinic Tickets, Tuesday, Apr 28 from 9 am to 5 pm GMT+1 | Eventbrite](#)

Shetland Befriending Scheme Tea & Cake at Islesburgh

A free group for adults
to meet, eat cake, chat
and make new friends!

Friday 17th April
2.30–4.00pm

Featuring a chance to
chat and relax

Future Dates:
15th May &
19th June



For more details contact Ian Edwards on 01595 743 964



PARKINSON'S POLISH ONLINE CAFÉ

This online session is for members of the Polish community affected by Parkinson's. This monthly gathering is a chance to connect, share experiences, and support one another in a friendly and welcoming environment. The cafe will take place on the **last Thursday of every month** via Zoom, from **6:30 pm to 8:00 pm**. If you would like to join the meeting or learn more, please contact **Kinga** at kinga@polishparkinsonssupport.com


CLIMATE RELATED NEWS, EVENTS & TRAINING

DYNAMIC COAST

Dynamic Coast is encouraging the public to report coastal erosion as it happens via its online tool. These real-time reports help inform the Scottish Government and local authorities as they plan for climate adaptation. Anyone who spots a new area of erosion can submit a quick, straightforward form on the [Dynamic Coast website](#), helping build a clearer national picture of coastal change.

THE CLIMATE COALITION: [GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK 6–14 JUNE 2026](#)

Every year, for nine days each June, something special happens across the UK. In towns, cities and villages, people come together to celebrate the places they love. It might be a nature walk, a repair café, a community meal, or something simple that brings people together. That moment is called Great Big Green Week. This year the theme is Together for Good. Together for Good means coming together over a shared week to send a powerful message: we care, we are acting, and together we want to see action for people, climate and nature.



climatecafé
SHETLAND
presents

CLIMATE HUSTINGS

**Thursday
23rd April**

**Islesburgh
Community
Centre**


6.30 - 8pm

Hear from **local political candidates** about climate change, net zero, and what it means for our communities.

Ask questions and learn about their priorities.

Moderated by Shetland News Editor Hans Marter.

Candidates confirmed so far:



A. ARMITAGE Green Party	J. ERSKINE Labour Party	H.M. GOODLAD SNP	E. MACDONALD Lib Democrats	B. NUGENT Sovereignty
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JOB OPPORTUNITIES/ VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

PEOPLE'S EXPERIENCE VOLUNTEER: [HEALTHCARE IMPROVEMENT SCOTLAND \(SHETLAND\)](#)

People's Experience Volunteers (PEVs) provide views, experience and opinions and challenge on issues that HIS has identified as priorities or areas of focus important to health and care in Scotland. PEVs may be involved in both regional and national projects, depending on the scope of the activity. You may be invited to share your views on various topics, review materials to ensure they are clear and accessible, or use your local knowledge to help shape engagement strategies.

You can give your time for as little or as much as you wish. This makes the role highly flexible and suited to individuals with varying availability. Time commitments are project-specific and occasional, allowing volunteers to contribute as opportunities arise. How you take part might vary depending on the activity and your personal circumstances. Activities are usually online but occasionally may be by telephone or face-to-face.

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT NEWS

REPORTS

[SCOTTISH ISLANDS FEDERATION: NEW NATIONAL ISLANDS PLAN](#)

SCOTTISH BROADCASTING REPORT

A new [report](#) by the [Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee](#) on Scottish broadcasting states that the BBC must have more Scottish voices telling Scottish stories. It also states that the BBC must be clearer on devolved and reserved issues in its news reporting. The report also raises concerns about the downgrading of local news in Scotland.

LEGISLATION

[CROFTING AND SCOTTISH LAND COURT BILL](#) – PASSED ON 24 MARCH 2026

This bill amends the law on crofting and merges the Scottish Land Court and Lands Tribunal for Scotland.

[VISITOR LEVY \(AMENDMENT\) \(SCOTLAND\) BILL](#) – PASSED ON 24 MARCH 2026

This bill amends the [Visitor Levy \(Scotland\) Act 2024](#), which gave local authorities the discretionary power to impose a levy in respect of persons staying in certain types of accommodation overnight. It allows local authorities to charge the levy as a fixed amount and makes other changes to the operation of the levy.

RESTRAINT AND SECLUSION IN SCHOOLS (SCOTLAND) BILL – PASSED ON 24 MARCH 2026

This bill creates statutory guidance and duties in relation to the use of restraint and seclusion in schools.

COMMUNITY WEALTH BUILDING (SCOTLAND) ACT 2026 – RECEIVED ROYAL ASSENT ON 25 MARCH 2026

This act requires Ministers to publish a community wealth building statement setting out the measures they intend to take in relation to community wealth building. Each local authority also needs to work with certain public bodies (such as health boards) in their areas to publish a community wealth building action plan for that area.

Bills that have been passed can still be submitted for Royal Assent. Bills that have not been passed will fall at the start of dissolution.

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