

ONLINE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES



Talk, Learn, Do: talking money with families in a fun, friendly way!



Talking about money isn't always easy, but getting children used to doing this early can help them make good financial choices in the future.

Talk Learn Do (TLD), is a free, online programme which trains staff or volunteers who support carers / parents with 3-11 year olds to discuss and develop positive money habits in a fun, age-appropriate way.

It's evidence-based and developed by the Money Advice Service, who have funded Children in Scotland to provide the programme, and all the materials and support you'll need.

There's no limit on how many staff or volunteers can attend, and no financial experience needed.

Find out more [here](#).

ALLIANCE: Getting it right for every child approach



Join the Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE) GIRFEC team for an interactive online training event on the 'Getting it Right For Every Child' approach.

The purpose of this workshop is to enable a broad range of practitioners from the third sector to deliver information workshops for children and young people or parents and carers to inform them about GIRFEC and what it means for them; to bring GIRFEC to life, to make it real for them.

Parents and carers are welcomed to the training as well, as these sessions also aim to explain the approach to them and their rights.

To register your place and indicate any accessibility needs, please email integration@alliance-scotland.org.uk.

Find out more [here](#).

Visibility Scotland: Social Security Scotland Benefits – Information Session



The session being held via Zoom with the option to join by video or phone, from 4-5pm on Tuesday 6th April. It is open to individuals living with a sensory impairment and their family members and carers. Professionals are also very welcome to attend. The session will provide an overview of the benefits that are available from Social Security Scotland including benefits for carers, benefits for families on a low income, payments to help with funeral costs and the costs of starting a new job for people on a low income and help with heating costs for families with disabled children.

Catherine Graham, Local Delivery Relationship Lead from Social Security Scotland will highlight the benefits that are available from Social Security Scotland including those that have transferred to Scotland from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) and a number of brand new benefits. She will also give a brief overview of some of the benefits that will be available from Social Security Scotland in the future including the planned transfer of disability benefits from the DWP.

There will be the opportunity to ask questions, however please note that this session is intended to provide a general overview of the benefits that have been devolved to Scotland and we will not be able to answer questions about individual entitlements etc.

If you would like to attend the session please register in advance online [here](#) or by calling us on 0141 332 4632.

Claim Your Free Staff Training

Over 35 government funded courses are available at the Skills Network and at no extra cost to you or your organisation. Worth up to £450, the courses cover a range of different subject areas. They are the perfect way to upskill your staff and will provide them with the skills and knowledge needed to excel and progress in their roles.



Find out more [here](#). Register your interest [here](#).

Exercise in a Box

The SBRC (Scottish Business Resilience Centre) is currently working with Scottish Government to deliver the 'Exercise in a Box' programme of work in Scotland. A free online tool which helps organisations find out how resilient they are to cyber-attacks and practice their response in a safe environment.



More information and details of planned sessions to date can be found [here](#) on the SBRC website.

Coping and Self Care

You're busy looking after other people, how about looking after yourself? How is your psychological first aid kit looking? The National Wellbeing Hub



have a series of resources for you to use to keep yourself going despite the stresses of work and home life.

More information can be found [here](#).

Policy Hub Scotland: “Dementia – the One Stop Guide”

Online learning course

This on-demand learning course is presented by Professor June Andrews, one of the UK’s leading clinicians on Dementia care. Her video classes provide you with a greater understanding of dementia, as well as offering ideas and thoughts on how to treat and care for someone diagnosed with the condition.

June guides course learners through 5 video classes as well as a range of activities and case studies which bring the issues alive. In total, the course provides over 4 hours Continuous Professional Development and a personalised certificate of completion.

In addition, course learners can speak with June directly via a series of scheduled webchats, enabling them to discuss any issues, queries or questions they may have as they progress through the course.

Find out more [here](#).

More information on Policy Hub Scotland learning courses can be found [here](#).



Policy Hub Scotland: "Adults with Incapacity"

Online learning course

Former Public Guardian for Scotland, Sandra McDonald, presents her online learning course on all things Adults with Incapacity – taking you from policy to practice; offering you the legal concepts without the legal jargon.

This online learning course provides over 9 hours of CPD, including 22 on-demand video classes and related activities, case studies and responses. You can click and play as many of Sandra's video classes as you like, whenever you like, in whichever order you like. Providing you with a comprehensive understanding of AWI legislation and the confidence of how to use it effectively in practice.

Find out more [here](#).

More information on Policy Hub Scotland learning courses can be found [here](#).



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Child Poverty Fund

Children and young people growing up in poverty are more vulnerable than their peers to a wide range of negative outcomes. Together in partnership with NHS Orkney, VAO are administering The Child Poverty Fund – we have three grants of to £1000 available for small projects that help to support families and children in poverty.



The closing date for application submission has been extended until 5th April.

Find out more [here](#).

BBC Children in Need

BBC Children in Need award funding across several programmes. The work they fund make differences in children's lives that help prevent or overcome the effects of the disadvantages they face. Funded organisations achieve these differences by either working directly with children or seeking to improve their social and physical environments.



Their Main and Small Grants programmes are available for not-for-profit organisations applying for grants of up to three years. The Main Grant offers over £10,000 per year and the Small up to £10,000 per year.

The closing date for application for these funds is 12th April.

Their Emergency Essentials Programme (delivered by Family Fund Business Services) supports children and young people who are facing exceptionally difficult circumstances. The programme provides items that meet a child's most basic needs such as a bed to sleep in, a cooker to provide a hot meal and other items or services critical to a child's wellbeing.

All applications must be made by a registered referrer.

Find out more about all the BBC Children in Need grants [here](#).

Woodward Charitable Trust

Grants are available for locally based small-scale registered charities in the UK to support children's summer playschemes.

Most grants awarded are in the range of £500 to £1,000. Around 35 grants are made each year.

Preference is given to:

- Small local playschemes that provide a wide-ranging programme of activities. Trustees prefer activities that are relatively inexpensive such as crafts and cooking, as well as outdoor activities and sport.
- Schemes that involve a large number of children.
- Schemes catering for children from disadvantaged backgrounds or who are disabled.
- Schemes where past users are encouraged to come back and help as volunteers.

Find out more [here](#).

Boost Drinks Ltd



One-off grants are available to community groups in the United Kingdom to support them in delivering projects or activities that will facilitate change and benefit local people.

The grants will be managed by Groundwork, a specialist charity working locally and nationally to transform lives in the UK's most disadvantaged communities, and will help groups make a difference in their local areas.

Applications will be shortlisted three times throughout the year in May, July and September. Following each shortlist taking place organisations will be notified and the public will cast their votes for the one that they would like to receive a grant.

Find out more [here](#).

The Allen Lane Foundation



They award funding for charitable purposes across the UK. Their focus is on funding 'unpopular causes' and we currently make grants towards seven specific beneficiary groups. In January 2019 we launched a new funding programme – Social Cohesion.

The overall aims are to: make a lasting difference to people's lives; reduce isolation, stigma and discrimination; and to encourage or enable unpopular groups to share in the life of the whole community.

Applications can be submitted from now, until Monday 12th April.

Find out more about their aims [here](#) or how to apply [here](#).

The Baring Foundation



Grants of between £10,000 and £40,000 are available to arts organisations in the UK for projects that promote the role of creativity in the lives of people with mental health problems from ethnically diverse backgrounds.

They are looking for projects that:

- Find ways to attract participatory artists from ethnically diverse communities into this area of work and to support them. Examples might include shadowing, internships or apprenticeships, or mentoring or free training opportunities.

- Undertake activity to offer creative opportunities to members of specific ethnically diverse communities who have mental health problems.
- Or a combination of these approaches.

The deadline for applying is 12pm midday on Wednesday 21 April.

Find out more [here](#).

Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust

Gordon Fraser
Charitable Trust



The Trustees have complete discretion as to the type of charitable work supported, however the Trust has focused on supporting projects relating to young people, people with disabilities, the environment and the arts.

Find out more [here](#).

The Adamson Trust

**THE ADAMSON
TRUST**

Grants are available for voluntary and community organisations and charities to help with the cost of holidays or respite breaks for disabled children (aged 3 to 17 years) with physical, mental, or emotional impairments.

Find out more [here](#).

The Gordon & Ena Baxter Foundation



The Gordon & Ena Baxter Foundation's Covid-19 Emergency Fund has reopened to help organisations and community groups to continue to help those in need as a result of the Covid restrictions. Up to £500 is available.

For more information, please email kay@gebfoundation.com.

Device Refurbishment Support Fund



Covid has forced many organisations to deliver in-person services online, resulting in a proportion of our community who cannot afford the cost of digital devices to miss out on support.

The Device Refurbishment Support Fund aims to prevent digital exclusion and will award up to £15K to support organisations in the refurbishment and distribution of second hand devices.

The fund launched on 25th February and will close for applications at noon on 22nd April.

Find out more [here](#).

Victims' Fund

The Victims' Fund, which is administered by Victim Support Scotland, is open to people affected by crime across Scotland, who are in urgent need of financial help as a result of what they have experienced. This may be especially relevant during the COVID-19 pandemic. Up to £3k is available.

Find out more [here](#).



The Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust: Force For Change



This year the fund will support ideas that need small amounts of funding to deliver nimble and focused local projects to Armed Forces communities; or make small grants to support services, projects and activities that are used by Armed Forces communities but are struggling as a result of the impact of the Covid pandemic. Up to £10k is available.

Find out more [here](#).

Enabling Neighbourhoods & Communities Fund



The Corra Foundation are administering the Enabling Neighbourhoods and Communities Fund. It will distribute £500,000 to community and voluntary groups across Scotland who are connecting and supporting people within their community. The Fund aims to reach groups who have strong local relationships and who work to increase social connections and improve wellbeing.

Find out more [here](#).

Baile Gifford Community Awards

Grants are available for constituted charitable organisations in Scotland that work to reduce isolation, overcome homelessness, support financial inclusion (including food poverty) or improve employability.



**Foundation
Scotland**

The closing date is 30th April 2021

Find out more [here](#).

The Ideas Fund

The newly launched Ideas Fund is currently connecting with communities across the Highlands and Islands of Scotland who are interested in building relationships with researchers to develop and try out ideas which address local issues around Mental Wellbeing.

Led by the British Science Association and funded by Wellcome, the fund will be supporting early-stage ideas up to £25,000 and larger projects up to £90,000.

Find out more [here](#).



Cameron Grants for Innovation in Mental Health

Small cash awards from between £100- £2500 are now available from Cameron Grant Memorial Trust to support innovation in mental health.

The grant can be used to trial a new service, create an asset, a technology, a performance, fund research, or otherwise experiment in any way that supports the treatment mental health. The emphasis will be on innovation – using new methods, channels, technology, ideas or approaches to reach out and effect change. Ideas should typically fit into one of the following categories:

- Destigmatising Mental Health
- Reducing Barriers to Mental Health Care
- Improving Mental Well Being

For details of the grants, what they're for, how to apply etc, please see [here](#).



The Heritage Trade Up Programme

Support Programme & Grant for Heritage Organisations



The School for Social Entrepreneurs have partnered with the National Lottery Heritage Fund to promote a stronger heritage sector that supports a connected, inclusive society. The Heritage Trade Up Programme will support 52 organisations across the UK, with: Eight days of cohort-based learning, a £10,000 Match Trading grant, access to a supportive network of like-minded peers.

Apply [here](#).

Garfield Weston Foundation

The Garfield Weston Foundation is a family-founded, charitable grant-making foundation, which supports a wide range of causes across the UK.

The Trustees have a preference for charities directly delivering services and activities to those in need, and are especially keen to see applications from charities in the Welfare, Youth and Community sectors and also in regions of economic disadvantage.



They have 2 funds:

- Regular Grants – Under £100,000
- Major Grants – Over £100,000

There is no deadline for either fund. Only Charities can apply.

For more information on this fund please go to [Garfield Weston Foundation website](#).

The Robertson Trust



The Robertson Trust offer both revenue and capital funding for registered charities and constituted community groups that help people and communities in Scotland who are living with poverty and trauma.

For more details of the kind of work they fund, take a look at [Who and what we fund](#). Here is an overview of the current funds available:

[Community Vehicle Grants](#)

- For registered charities with an annual income of between £25,000 and £2 million
- Capital funding of £1,000 to £10,000 for a vehicle to support your work towards the purchase of a new or used vehicle, or the upgrade of an existing one

[Community Building Grants](#)

- For registered charities with an annual income of between £25,000 and £2 million
- Capital funding of £2,000 to £75,000 towards a community hub* where your work is based towards new buildings, or the upgrade and refurbishment of existing buildings

[Wee Grants](#)

For constituted community groups and charities with an annual income of less than £25,000
Funding of up to £2,000 for one year only

[Small Grants](#)

For registered charities with an annual income of between £25,000 and £100,000
Revenue funding of between £2,000 and £15,000 for up to five years

[Large Grants](#)

For registered charities with an annual income of between £100,000 and £2 million
Revenue funding of between £15,000 and £50,000 for up to five years

Further information can be found [here](#).

The National Lottery Grants for Heritage (NLHF)



The NLF has resumed its project funding for grants from £3,000 up to £5 million. It is committed to supporting the same broad range of heritage projects and activities it has always supported, including industrial heritage and sites, castles and historic places of worship, stories and memories of communities, public parks, natural landscapes and native wildlife. It is expected that all applications will fully reflect the changed circumstances brought about by the pandemic.

Find out more [here](#).

National Lottery Community Fund Scotland: Programmes to Remain Open



The National Lottery Community Fund Scotland has made the decision to keep its current funding programmes open for an extra 18 to 24 months to help support third sector organisations respond to and recover from the impact of the pandemic. The National Lottery 'Awards for All' and 'Young Start' will remain open and unchanged. The 'Community-Led Activity Fund' has adapted to fit the current situation. The 'Improving Lives' fund has been expanded and there is only one application form now. The maximum grant size is now £200,000 and the maximum grant length is three years.

Further details on changes can be found [here](#). Information on the funds currently available can be found [here](#).

The National Lottery Community Fund Scotland: UK-wide Climate Action Fund now open for second round



They are offering two types of funding in this round - development funding up to £150,000, and full awards up to £1.5 million. It is expected they will make 12 to 15 awards in total in this round, and to award more development grants than full awards.

The fund aims to support medium to large scale projects addressing waste and consumption. In particular they are looking for place-based, community-led partnerships that will make the changes in their community they believe will have the biggest impact on climate change.

They are looking to invest in community-led partnerships that are made up of a mix of organisations from different sectors. But the lead applicant should be a community-based organisation (e.g. voluntary sector organisation, social enterprise, school – see their [website](#) for a full list).

The deadline to submit initial ideas is before 5pm on Thursday 8 April.

Find more information [here](#).

The Volant Charitable Trust Open Grants Programme



The Volant Charitable Trust aims to support Scottish charities and projects, which help alleviate social deprivation, particularly supporting women, children and young people at risk.

Projects must demonstrate a strong focus on supporting women and children affected by hardship or disadvantage and on tackling the issues they face in order to make a lasting difference to their lives and life chances.

Foundation Scotland are delivering the Volant Charitable Trust's Grant Programme and applications must be made through them. To receive a decision by October 2021 all enquiry forms must be submitted between 11th January and 30th April 2021.

For more details see their website [here](#).

Kickstart Scheme



As part of the UK government's [Plan for Jobs](#), a new £2 billion [Kickstart Scheme](#) will create hundreds of thousands of new, fully subsidised jobs for young people across the country.

The 6-month placements are open to those aged 16-24 who are claiming Universal Credit and are at risk of long-term unemployment. They will be available across a range of different sectors in England, Scotland and Wales. Employers will receive funding for 100% of the relevant National Minimum Wage for 25 hours a week, plus associated employer National Insurance contributions and employer minimum auto-enrolment pension contributions.

Applications are being accepted now from employers directly or groups of employers – [check the guidance for employers](#).

Young people can find out more about the Kickstart Scheme at the 'jobhelp' [website](#).

Red Cross Hardship Fund



The Hardship Fund was created by the British Red Cross to help those most financially impacted by the coronavirus outbreak. The British Red Cross are looking for organisations to become a 'Referral Partner' for the Hardship Fund. This means if an organisation has a beneficiary who does not have access to basic living essentials (see list below), they can order the individual a pre-paid card through the Hardship Fund scheme.

The fund provides short term financial help for people who can't afford essentials such as:

- Food and toiletries
- Somewhere safe to sleep
- A telephone and the internet
- Fuel to keep the lights on, cook or stay warm

The British Red Cross are looking to target the following beneficiary groups:

- People with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)
- People aged 70 or older
- People who have had disruption or delays to welfare benefits or asylum support
- Households who have lost their primary earner to coronavirus
- Survivors of gender-based violence, including domestic abuse
- People facing homelessness or living in temporary accommodation

If you require more information or to progress your registration as a referral partner, find our more [here](#).

Emergency Energy Vouchers



Home Energy Scotland offers:

- Support for **households with prepayment meters**, including access to newly available crisis funding for those at risk of self-disconnection or running out of credit on their gas or electric meter to make sure they can keep their power on.
- Practical help for people who find themselves without heating or hot water.
- Clear advice on ways to save energy and reduce fuel costs while staying warm at home.
- The latest information about extra help from energy suppliers to make sure households don't get cut off.

Here's how you can help:

- You can refer your clients directly to Home Energy Scotland through their secure online [referral portal](#) and they will call them back within two working days.
- If you aren't on their portal, please call or email Michael Cromby on 07881109002 or michael.cromby@hi.homeenergyscotland.org and request to be added. This doesn't take long, and they can arrange a short online training session on how to use it, for example via Zoom or Microsoft Teams.
- You can also advise your clients to call them direct on **0808 808 2282** to talk to one of their friendly advisors about ways they can support them. All calls are free and confidential.

Foyle Foundation Small Grants Scheme



The Small Grants Scheme is currently operating under revised criteria for support reflecting the impact of COVID-19.

The Foyle Foundation are keen to be as flexible as they can be in support of small charities during this difficult and constantly changing ongoing period, while maintaining a focus on those who can demonstrate a clear (usually local) need for their services and financial viability.

Who Can Apply:

The Small Grants Scheme is designed to support charities registered and operating in the United Kingdom, especially those working at grass roots and local community level, in any field, across a

wide range of activities. Please note they are not able to support individuals. Online applications can be accepted from charities that have an annual turnover of less than £150,000 per annum. Larger or national charities will normally not be considered under this scheme. Please note that they expect the competition for this fund to be intense and will receive many more applications than they are able to fund.

There are no deadlines for submission. Online Applications can be received at all times, but it may take up to three months to obtain a decision from Trustees.

For further information or to view the criteria see [here](#).

Cycling Scotland – School and Work Grants



Cycling Scotland is encouraging Scotland's secondary students and workforce to cycle by issuing funds to schools and organisations to help purchase equipment, and facilities - all in the effort to reduce pollution and improve mental health.

Apply [here](#) as a secondary school, or [here](#) as an employer.

Social Security Scotland – Best Start Grants



Social Security Scotland is providing payments, known as Best Start Grants, to low income families in Scotland. These grants have been split into three categories and include payments to help with costs for a child starting school, early learning (toys and crafts), pregnancy and baby.

For further information or to view the eligibility criteria see Section 3 [here](#).

Carers Allowance Supplement



Recognising the additional pressure that unpaid carers are under at this time, the Scottish Government will be making a Coronavirus Carer's Allowance Supplement payment later this month. This one-off payment is in addition to the regular six-monthly Carer's Allowance Supplement. As a result, eligible carers will get a payment of £460.20. This will be paid from Friday 26th June.

As with the current supplement, carers will not need to do anything to get this extra payment as it will be paid automatically to people who were living in Scotland and in receipt of Carer's Allowance on 13th April 2020 eligibility date. Social Security Scotland will write to eligible carers in advance.

For further information or to view the criteria see [here](#).

Young Carers Grant

This grant is available to 16-18-year-olds who spend a weekly average of 16 hours caring for someone who receives a disability benefit. The Scottish Government has increased the yearly payment amount to £305.10 for eligible applicants from Wednesday 1st April this year, in line with inflation, to further support eligible young people of which over 1,000 young carers in Scotland have already qualified for a payment, according to the [Young Carer Grant Statistics Feb 2020](#).



Please follow the link for further information or to view the criteria – [Young Carers Grant Factsheet](#)

If carers need to contact them they can call them free on 0800 182 2222 and request a call back. They can also access web chat by visiting [here](#).

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENTERPRISE

LocalCrowd: New Crowdfunding Platform Launching to Support Local Projects

A new approach to funding is launching next month to support social enterprises, community groups and small charities across Scotland through a unique crowdfunding platform called LocalCrowd. The platform will allow individuals and organisations to support ventures in their local community.

Anyone who would like to keep up with LocalCrowd as they launch later this year can contact be email info@localcrowd.org.uk or subscribe to their mailing list [here](#)

Social Enterprise Academy learning is now online

Learning Spotlight – Ongoing, twice weekly thought pieces – How to stay connected with your teams whilst inspiring a culture of learning and development too.

Further information [here](#).

To view additional programmes, click [here](#).



The Social Business Start-up School

Do you have an idea for a new enterprise? Do you have a great business idea which could positively impact your local community or environment? If so, the Social Business Start-up School, is now open for online workshops including:

- Workshops on key issues around social business



- Coaching sessions with a social business leader locally
- Online learning over 2000 leadership & enterprise resources

The programme will help people develop a vision for their social business, and then make this happen.

For more information please contact lorna@socialenterprise.academy or visit the Social Enterprise website [here](#).

GOVERNANCE

Guide to holding a Virtual AGM/Meeting

We know many of you will be starting to think about holding your AGM in the coming months and we understand this might not be possible in the usual way for some time to come due to obvious restrictions. This simple checklist sets out information and tips to help your organisation hold a successful virtual AGM. If you require any further assistance or would like an informal chat you will find our contact details at the foot of the document.



Please find the Virtual AGM Checklist [here](#).

COVID-19 OSCR Guidance for Charities

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic is forcing many charities to change how they usually operate. This guidance brings together information charities need to know during this time and highlights other organisations who may be able to offer support.



Full details are available [here](#).

COVID-19 Pandemic Volunteering & Remembering Data Protection Laws

Data protection rules will not stop you from helping those in need, however you should make sure that you take them into account to protect yourself and those that you are supporting. The Information Commissioner's Office has published an [article](#) for groups looking to help during the COVID-19 pandemic.



GUIDANCE

Planning Ahead

You may be a Third Sector Organisation who wants to move ahead with your work to help others. If you are unsure where to start or what the future might bring, take a look at our '[Covid-19 Scenario Planning Pack](#)' document, designed to help your organisation plan for the future months.



Returning to the Office?

Here's what you need to know to help you assess the risk of returning to your office to work.

- Firstly, check what Tier we are in- currently Orkney is **Tier 3**. Ask yourselves- are you now allowed to return to work? Refer to the appropriate government guidance for your sector, found [here](#).
- Secondly, do you need to return to work? Can you continue working from home? If so - use these advice pages for Working from Home [here](#) to help you and your staff make sure that the home environment is safe for working.
- Thirdly, assess the risk of returning to work to help you decide whether to return to work or not. For full guidance on risk assessment see the Health and Safety Executive website [here](#). Remember to sign and date your risk assessments!
- Fourthly, what do you do if someone develops coronavirus symptoms whilst in work? Guidance on decontamination can be found [here](#).

If you have any questions or need some support to do this, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us here at Voluntary Action Orkney.

EU citizens staying in Scotland: package of support



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

The Scottish Government has produced a toolkit to support EU citizens who wish to stay in Scotland. As part of the package, the Scottish Government has worked with JustRight Scotland to publish a number of [factsheets](#) explaining EU citizens' rights in Scotland. The factsheets provide information on EU citizens' rights to vote, work and access healthcare, education, housing and benefits. It includes information on the UK Government's EU Settlement Scheme, details of the application process and requirements, links to other resources and some practical suggestions about how employers can support their EU employees in the workplace.

Find out more [here](#).

VAO can help with your training and funding needs!

Please contact

enquiries@vaorkney.org.uk

to explore possibilities