

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

### Talk PANTS!



Support the Talk PANTS! Campaign and sign up to a virtual workshop to learn about the materials and resources that can help shape simple conversations with children. It's specially created for early years and primary school children, with engaging and age-appropriate messages to help keep them safe from abuse. The 27<sup>th</sup> January is the most appropriate for charities and community groups and further dates will be considered if needed.

| Date                        | Time    | Suggested Audience                   |
|-----------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Thursday 20th January 2022  | 6:30pm  | Childminders/Home Schoolers          |
| Tuesday 25th January 2022   | 4:00pm  | Teachers                             |
| Wednesday 26th January 2022 | 4:00pm  | Early Years                          |
| Thursday 27th January 2022  | 12:15pm | Health Visitors/Community Engagement |

To register email: [gail.sayles@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:gail.sayles@nspcc.org.uk) or [Mubashar.Khaliq@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:Mubashar.Khaliq@nspcc.org.uk)

### Post Graduate Diploma in Human Relations and Counselling Course



Human Development Scotland are going to run a 2 year Post Graduate Diploma in Human Relations and Counselling course in Orkney beginning in August 2022. The course has full professional validation by COSCA (Counselling & Psychotherapy in Scotland). The programme is managed, delivered and awarded by Human Development Scotland and leads to an award on the Scottish Credit & Qualifications Framework (SCQF). It has been credit rated by Robert Gordon University at SCQF level 11.

- Sessions will take place mainly online with a tutor visiting Orkney between 1 – 3 times a semester, depending on numbers
- There will be some face to face sessions
- Although the sessions will take place online, attendees are expected to join the sessions together in a venue, as attending these courses in your own home is not good for a person's well-being
- Intensive weekend teaching on a Saturday and Sunday (with the occasional Friday) from 9:30am to 17:00am. The Orkney group will join with the mainland Scotland Diploma group for the sharing of experiences, ideas etc
- Human Development Scotland (HDS) is affiliated with Robert Gordon University so to apply for the course you will need to demonstrate the ability to write to an academic standard. HDS is keen to support access to the course for those who may not have a degree, so they will ask people without a degree to write a paper to show they can meet the course requirements

- You will be expected to have gained a COSCA Certificate in Counselling skills before August 2022 when the course starts
- The course fee is £3,650 per year with additional costs such as clinical supervision and 40 hours of personal therapy over 2 years. For Orkney there will be additional costs such as tutor travel, expenses and accommodation along with venue hire. HDS said that there is often funding for organisations to apply for to cover training costs however, they will provide all books, papers and learning materials.
- HDS are willing to run the course with a minimum of 3 people up to a maximum of 10

Details about the course and how to apply can be found [here](#) or you can email Liz Cairns directly on [hrc@hds.scot](mailto:hrc@hds.scot) for further information [hrc@hds.scot](mailto:hrc@hds.scot).

## Digital Health and Care Leadership Programme (DLP)



Applications are now being accepted for Cohort 17 of the Digital Health and Care Leadership Programme (DLP). It is designed for experienced health and care professionals who have: an interest in digital health and care; a passion to increase the use of technology for the benefit of service users; and determination to develop their leadership skills. This is a virtually run programme involving live learning sessions, peer support groups and self-study time.

Applications are welcome from employees within NHS Scotland, social care and the third sector who are leading a team, service or digital transformation within their organisation. Multidisciplinary team applications would also be welcomed.

Informal Q&A sessions are being held for those wishing to find out more about the programme and ask any questions they may have. To book a place on a session, please register [here](#).

More information about the programme, including application guidance can be found [here](#) or by emailing [nes.dlp@nhs.scot](mailto:nes.dlp@nhs.scot).

## 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](#).

## DYW Employer Workshops



Developing the Young Workforce Scotland is offering a programme of free training webinars for employers across Scotland to support them in informing, inspiring and hiring young people. The sessions have been developed in response to industry need and include the following topics:

- Inspiring Young Minds
- Delivering Meaningful Work Placements
- Remotely Onboarding Young People
- Mentoring Young People
- Steps to Inspiring Young People with Additional Support Needs (in partnership with Enable)
- Inclusive Workplaces; Ensuring you're not missing out (in partnership with Forth Perspectives)

**To take part email [orkneydyw@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:orkneydyw@uhi.ac.uk) with your name, your business/organisation's name and the name and date of the webinar you wish to attend.**

Find out more and view the dates [here](#).

## Learning, development and connection for the children's sector



Children in Scotland are a national charity working to improve children's lives. One of their key priorities is to strengthen the children's sector workforce across Scotland. Their programme of events is constantly evolving encouraging those involved to learn, connect with others and share their own experiences. This includes:

- [Mindfulness work with children and young people](#)  
10:30am – 12:00pm Tuesday, 25 January 2022  
This webinar is an introduction to mindfulness, focusing on the origins of mindfulness and how it can benefit children and young people.
- [Supporting children and young people who internalise their distress](#)  
10:30am – 12:00pm on Tuesday 8th March 2022  
This training workshop will explore how to recognise, support and communicate effectively with children who are unable to show their feelings when they need you most.

Find out about the full Children in Scotland event programme [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](#).

### "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](#)

## 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.

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

## Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot

VAO is acting as the funding lead partner for Orkney, working collaboratively with the Orkney Partnership's Community Wellbeing Delivery Group, and the Integration Joint Board (IJB), to effectively distribute the Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund to small, grass roots, community groups and organisations.

A total of £75,197 has been awarded to Orkney to support community-based initiatives that promote and develop good mental health and wellbeing and mitigate and protect against the impact of distress and mental ill health within the adult population.

Our local priorities have been identified in collaboration with statutory and third sector partners and service users, and comprise:

- Social Isolation
- Prevention of suicide
- Unpaid Carers
- Older People
- Rurally/Island Distanced
- Poverty
- Trauma

Organisations will have 12 months to deliver their projects from the point of award.

**Small grant applications (up to £2,500) can be submitted at any time up until 9am on Monday 14th February 2022.**

Find out more [here](#) or email Clare Gee at [clare.gee@vaorkney.org.uk](mailto:clare.gee@vaorkney.org.uk).

## Create: Inclusion Fund

Creative Scotland has launched the latest round of the Create:Inclusion Fund to tackle inequality of opportunity and under-representation across Scotland's culture sector. A total of £350,000 in National Lottery funding is available to increase the diversity of people in the arts & creative industries by supporting a broad range of activities that enable progress, creative and professional development and which supports them to take professional and creative risks. Applications can be made by individual creative practitioners, organisations, groups or networks, with priority given to minority-led groups or organisations or those working with and for minority groups.



**The deadline for applications is midday on the 16th February 2022.**

Find out more [here](#).

## Matthew Good Foundation

The Matthew Good Foundation has launched a Grants for Good Fund to support small charities, not-for-profit groups and social entrepreneurs who are passionate about making a difference to people, their community or the environment.



The Fund will share £10,000 between five shortlisted projects, which will be voted for by John Good Group employees. The project that receives the most votes will receive a grant of £3,500, second place £2,500, third place £2,000 with fourth and fifth place both receiving £1,000.

As well as established projects and charities, the Foundation are keen to hear from people with innovative ideas that need some funding to get their projects up and running.

To be eligible, applicants will have to have had an income of less than £50,000 in the last 12 months.

**Funding is awarded every three months and the deadline for the next funding round is the 15 March 2022.**

Find out more [here](#).

## National Lottery Grants for Heritage (UK)



Not-for-profit organisations and private owners of heritage across the UK can apply for grants of between £3,000 and £5 million from the National Lottery Heritage Fund for projects connecting people and communities to UK heritage. As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic the National Heritage Fund will prioritise heritage projects that promote inclusion and involve a wider range of people; boost the local economy; encourage skills development and job creation; support wellbeing; create better places to live, work and visit; and improve the resilience of organisations working in heritage.

**There are no deadlines for applications for under £250,000.**

**For applications exceeding £250,000 the next closing date is the 24th February 2022.**

Find out more [here](#).

## Greenshoots Foundation Trust



Small grants are available to non-profit organisations for projects that will deliver carbon reductions and economic benefits to minimise environmental impact. Examples include local community energy schemes or more energy efficient buildings.

**Apply online any time.**

Find out more [here](#).

## Digital Xtra Fund



The Digital Xtra Fund, which supports extracurricular projects in Scotland that teach digital technologies skills to young people has announced that it will re-open for applications in the new year. Grants of up to £5,000 will be available for extracurricular projects, that engage with groups of young people who are underrepresented in the digital sector. The aim of the programme is to increase the number of young people from all backgrounds entering highly skilled digital careers. Activities supported will be extracurricular and delivered in a safe, fun and sociable environment. Applicant organisations will be businesses, government bodies, charities, schools and other extracurricular activity providers. Partnership working between different organisations is encouraged.

Further information about the next funding round will be made available in the new year.

Find out more [here](#).

## Parent Employability Support Fund

Orkney Island Council have received Scottish Government Funding through the Parent Employability Support Fund, to support parents within the Orkney community to access information and opportunities available to them and promote education, training and learning which will support them to make future transitions in to fair and sustainable employment.



The Local Employability Partnership have agreed that funding can be allocated through small grants, of up to £2,000 to organisations working with identified families to support this work. These are:

- Lone parents
- Families with 3 or more children
- Families with a disabled parent or child
- Families where the youngest child is under 1 year
- Families where the parent is aged under 25
- Families with Minority Ethnic backgrounds

The overarching aims of this funding is to support Scottish Government to eradicate child poverty and meet 2030 child poverty targets through supporting parents that have been identified as being most at risk of poverty to engage with opportunities that promote confidence, skills, knowledge, health and wellbeing with the long term aim to increase household income through employment.

**Applications can be submitted until Monday 28th February 2022.**

Find out more [here](#).

## Investing in Communities Fund



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot

Scottish Government are continuing to develop the Empowering Communities Programme by further progressing the Investing in Communities Fund.

The fund is looking to support vulnerable communities to tackle poverty in whatever way necessary. It highlights four areas for action within the fund priorities:

- Tackling Poverty & Inequality, including Child Poverty
- Developing and Sustaining Place Based Approaches
- Community-led Regeneration
- Ensuring a just transition to Net Zero

**The Fund will open in March 2022**

Find out more [here](#).

## Business Ventilation Fund



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot

The Scottish Government's Business Ventilation Fund will help businesses improve ventilation and air quality on their premises to help reduce the risk of coronavirus transmission. The fund will allow businesses to claim back costs to improve ventilation of up to £2500.

Support will target high-risk settings where people come into close proximity, such as hospitality and leisure sectors.

**Applications will be accepted until Thursday 31 March 2022 or until the fund runs out.**

Find out more [here](#).

## Paths for All – Open Fund



Grants up to £50,000 are available as match funding to public, third and community sector organisations. Eligible projects will support the fund's priorities to cut Scotland's carbon emissions, improve air quality, help reverse the trend towards sedentary lifestyles and tackle health inequalities.

**Apply any time.**

Find out more [here](#).

## Supporting birth parents whose child(ren) have been permanently removed from their care



Corra Foundation is administering a Scottish Government fund, which aims to improve support for birth parents who no longer have care of their children on a permanent basis as a result of child protection processes. Funding of up to £100,000 for one year is currently available.

This fund is focused on community-based organisations with significant experience in supporting parents affected by child protection proceedings and which deliver frontline services which can demonstrate that they take a relational, trauma responsive approach which is unconditional and reflective of the unique and complex needs birth parents may have.

**The closing date for applications is 12:00pm 27<sup>th</sup> January 2022.**

Find out more [here](#) or email: [shaunagh@corra.scot](mailto:shaunagh@corra.scot) for further information.

## Shift Cycling funding



Do you want to help more people in your community to cycle for short everyday journeys? Managed by Cycling UK, Shift provides funding of up to £800 and expert support to run activities that will help people jump on a bike, instead of into their car.

**The application process is open until all the grant funding has been awarded, at the latest this will be 28 February 2022.**

Find out more [here](#).

## The Weir Charitable Trust (Scotland)



The Weir Charitable Trust supports services and projects run by Scottish-based community groups and small charities who are struggling to secure funds through mainstream funders or who have unsuccessfully explored all the statutory sources of funding. Grants of up to £25,000 are awarded for projects that relate to Sport; Health; Culture; Animal Welfare; or Recreational Facilities.

**The next deadline to apply is 5pm on the 25th February 2022.**

Find out more [here](#).

## Volunteering Matters Action Earth



After a difficult year, volunteers have been eager to scale-up or restart safe and structured environmental activities across Scotland. Over half of the 2021 Volunteering Matters Action Earth grants have been awarded in under 2 months.

Thanks to funding from NatureScot, Volunteering Matters are already supporting groups with green space improvements and habitat creation projects. New wildflower meadows, ponds, woodlands and orchards are being planted or created to make space for Nature.

Their grants of up to £250 are available for volunteers to purchase plants, tools and materials. They also have a VERY limited number of grants at a higher level to assist projects where people with disabilities or defined health needs make up at least 50% of the volunteer numbers.

**Grants are awarded on a 'first come' basis.**

Register and find out more [here](#) or email [robert.henderson@volunteeringmatters.org.uk](mailto:robert.henderson@volunteeringmatters.org.uk).

## Vodafone



Vodafone are providing free mobile connectivity to support charities in the UK tackle digital exclusion. If you are a charity that needs support for digital inclusion programmes, you can apply for free Vodafone SIMs, each loaded with 20GB data plus unlimited calls and texts to be used over 6 months. You can use these however you like - for example, to help stay in touch with service users, or deliver training to people in need.

**SIMs are available until the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022, or until supplies last.**

Find out more [here](#).

## Community Ownership Fund



The £150 million Community Ownership Fund is for communities across the United Kingdom. It has been set up to help communities take ownership of assets and amenities at risk of closure. It will run for 4 years.

Voluntary and community organisations can bid for match funding. The legal structures of organisations across the United Kingdom we might expect to apply include the following:

- a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO)
- Scottish charitable incorporated organisation (SCIO)
- co-operatives including Community Benefit Societies
- community Interest Company (CiC)
- not-for-profit company limited by guarantee
- Funding may support the purchase and/or renovation costs of community assets and amenities, subject to the full eligibility criteria outlined in this prospectus.

The fund will support a range of community ownership proposals. For example, projects may include:

- sporting and leisure facilities, cinemas and theatres, music venues, museums, galleries, parks, pubs, post office buildings or shops

Proposals will need to prove the value of the asset to local people and that the asset can run sustainably for the long-term benefit of the community.

All applicants must also show how their project will help deliver one or more of the following outcomes for their place:

- increase feelings of pride and improve perceptions of the local area as a place to live
- improve social trust, cohesion and sense of belonging
- increase local participation in community life, arts and culture and/or sport
- create additional local economic outcomes – including creating jobs, volunteering opportunities and improving employability and skills levels in the local community
- create additional social and wellbeing outcomes – including delivering positive impact in physical and/or mental health and reducing loneliness and social isolation

**The updated guidance and application form for round 2 will launch in spring 2022.**

Find out more [here](#) and [here](#).

## COVID-19 Response Fund



NATIONAL HERITAGE  
MEMORIAL FUND

Charities (UK), not-for-profit and public sector organisations can apply for funding to help save nationally important heritage assets at risk of loss due to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

**This funding is available until the end of April 2023.**

Find out more [here](#).

## The Clothworkers Foundation



Grants are available to charities and other not for profit organisations (including special schools) to support capital projects that support disadvantaged sections of the community. This can include the purchase or renovation of buildings and the purchase of equipment and vehicles.

To be eligible the projects must fit within one or more of the Foundation's specified programme areas. This includes alcohol & substance misuse; disadvantaged minority communities; disadvantaged young people; domestic & sexual abuse; homelessness; domestic & sexual abuse; and older people.

**There are no application deadlines and you can submit an application at any time.**

Find out more [here](#).

## Craighnish Trust



The Craighnish Trust focuses on environmental and human rights issues as well as the particular special interests of the Trustees. Previous awards have included grants to organisations working in conservation, refugees, youth, and music. The fund has a Scottish bias but is not exclusive to Scotland.

- Type of cost - Capital, Revenue
- Grants range from £1000 to £10,000
- Only charities can apply
- Running costs are not supported
- Grants are not made to large, national charities

Apply in writing to Geoghegans & Co 6 St Colme Street, Edinburgh, EH3 6AD

**There are no deadlines, applications can be submitted at any time.**

Find out more by emailing: [mail@geoghegans.co.uk](mailto:mail@geoghegans.co.uk) or calling 0131 225 4681

## BBC Children in Need



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 [here](#).

## Mary Janet King Fund



The fund supports piano scholarships at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in Glasgow but also welcomes applications from community groups working with young people in arts and music. They are particularly interested in projects which are helping young people to take up music. Priority will be given to grassroots organisations.

Find out more [here](#).

## Children's Aid



Children's Aid donates money to registered children's charities and deserving causes. The conditions for obtaining a donation can be found in the application section of their website. They do not fund wages, running or training costs and prefer applications for specific items.

**They are always open to new applications for funding from charities and deserving causes.**

Find out more [here](#).

## The Tudor Trust



The Tudor Trust is an independent charitable trust which supports work which tries to meet the many different needs of people at the margins of our society. They have updated their funding guidelines - no major changes but more clarity and the online application process is now open.

**There are no deadlines and grants are awarded on a rolling basis.**

Find out more [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.**

Find out more [here](#).

## National Lottery Community Fund



The National Lottery Community Fund distributes over £600m a year to communities across the UK, raised by players of The National Lottery.

They are open to all applications which meet their criteria, including supporting people and communities most adversely impacted by the pandemic.

- [National Lottery Awards for All Scotland](#): A quick way to apply for smaller amounts of funding between £300 and £10,000.

- [Community Led](#): Funding to support community-led activity and wellbeing.
- [Improving Lives](#): Grants from £10,001 to £200,000 to help people facing challenging circumstances.
- [Young Start](#): Helping young people aged eight to 24 to become more confident and play an active part in realising their potential.
- [Scottish Land Fund](#): Supporting urban and rural communities to become more resilient and sustainable through the ownership and management of land and land assets.

Information on the funds currently available in Scotland can be found [here](#).

## Tesco Community Grants



Tesco Community Grants will award funding to charities and community organisations for local projects that focus on supporting children and families. Projects that tackle food poverty are also invited to apply.

Funding pots of £500, up to £1000 and up to £1500 will be available for projects and Tesco customers will be able to choose which project receives the most funding by voting in store every time they shop. The scheme is open to registered charities and not-for-profit organisations, via an on-line application form.

Greenspace Scotland's team of friendly Community Enablers can support you to apply or answer any questions.

**Every three months, three local good causes are selected to be in the blue token customer vote in Tesco stores throughout the UK.**

Find out more [here](#).

## 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
- [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](#).

## 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.

**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 the portal, please contact Michael Cromby by calling 0788 110 9002 or email: [michael.cromby@hi.homeenergyscotland.org](mailto:michael.cromby@hi.homeenergyscotland.org) and request to be added. It does not 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.

**Applications are accepted all year round and they have no deadlines.**

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

## 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.

Find out more [here](#).

- **Carers Allowance Supplement:** Carer's Allowance Supplement is an extra payment for people in Scotland who get Carer's Allowance on a particular date. It is paid twice a year and from April 2021 the rate will be £231.40 per payment.

Find out more [here](#).

- **Young Carers Grant:** Young Carer Grant is a yearly payment of £308.15 for young carers in Scotland. To be able to get Young Carer Grant, you must be 16, 17 or 18 years old and have been caring for 1, 2 or 3 people for an average of 16 hours a week for at least the last 3 months. If you care for more than one person, you can combine the hours of the people you care for to average 16 hours a week. You can get Young Carer Grant once a year, up until you turn 19. You'll need to fill in a new form or call us each year you want to apply.

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.

**People are not able to make an application on their own behalf, but need to go through an organisation, agency or Victim Support Scotland directly.**

Find our more [here](#).

# OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENTERPRISE

## Social Enterprise Academy

Learning is now online:



Alongside business support infrastructure, finance and networks, the Academy offers a powerful style of learning and development. Learners build the knowledge and skills, clarity and confidence to respond to their current challenges and seize opportunities.

Using peer learning techniques based on strengths, safe facilitation, peer support and space for reflection, we provide learning and development that goes beyond training.

To view the programme, click [here](#).

# GOVERNANCE

## OSCR Guidance



### COVID-19 Guidance for Charities:

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

Find out more [here](#).

### Restarting Fundraising:

One of the key impacts of COVID-19 on charities has been on the way in which it has affected certain types of fundraising activity. In OSCR's most recent surveys, over 50% of charities reported that their fundraising had been negatively affected by COVID-19 and the associated restrictions. As restrictions begin to ease in Scotland, it will be a priority for many charities to look at how they can restart these fundraising activities.

Find out more [here](#).

# CONSULTATIONS

## Women's Aid Orkney

women's aid

until women & children are safe

Women's Aid Orkney are running a short survey, aimed at women. They would like to hear your thoughts and views on what is available locally for safe spaces for women.

**The survey is anonymous and will be live until 28th January 2022.**

Take part [here](#).

## Scottish Government - Bail and Release from Custody Arrangements in Scotland



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot

The consultation seeks views on proposed reforms relating to the law governing the use of bail and remand for those accused of criminal offences and the release from custody of those serving sentences following conviction. This is the first stage in a longer-term consideration of how custody is used in Scotland.

- The full consultation document can be viewed and downloaded [here](#).
- Respond to online using the Citizen Space hub [here](#).

**The consultation will close on the 7th February 2022.**

*If you would like any further information or to discuss the consultation, please contact [futureofcustody@gov.scot](mailto:futureofcustody@gov.scot)*

## Ending the Need for Foodbanks - A National Plan



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
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The draft national plan sets out what the Scottish Government are currently doing and what more they intend to do, alongside others, to end the need for food banks as a primary response to food insecurity. The consultation questions will help them to identify further practical action that can be taken at all levels to deliver this vision.

**The consultation closes on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022.**

Take part [here](#).

## What you think about the public procurement system in Scotland



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The purpose of the research is to gain an understanding of the experiences of third sector organisations and new private businesses (defined as businesses set up fewer than five years ago) of public procurement in Scotland. The research will inform future development of public procurement processes, ensuring that it is as inclusive as possible.

Blake Stevenson will undertake this research in two ways – through interviews with third sector organisations and private businesses, and through a survey of third sector organisations and private businesses.

**If you would like to take part in the research, or if you require any more information, please contact Lena at Blake Stevenson by emailing: [lena@blakestevenson.co.uk](mailto:lena@blakestevenson.co.uk) or calling: 0131 667 2919.**

Find out more [here](#).

## Life in Scotland for LGBT young people survey



Launched by LGBT Youth Scotland the aim is to gather the views and experiences of LGBT young people aged 13-25 about Life in Scotland today.

The survey aims to provide a snapshot of life across a whole range of areas, including education, the NHS, mental health, coming out, safety, work, home life, representation and the media. It takes about 20-30 minutes to complete. The research is used to inform service provision across the country.

Take part [here](#).

## The Orkney Partnership



The Orkney Partnership is asking for the views of families with experience of hardship and disadvantage. Some families were just about managing before the pandemic but have since found themselves short of money, perhaps for the first time. For others, getting by is a daily struggle.

The Orkney Partnership recognise the impact money problems have on people, especially those responsible for children – as parents, caregivers, grandparents or in some other way. Answers to this survey will help the Orkney Partnership develop a strategy to tackle child poverty in Orkney and enable all of our children to get the best start in life.

Take part in the survey [here](#).

## Third Sector Tracker

The Scottish Third Sector Tracker is a community of third sector organisations based in Scotland. This large and inclusive community of organisations share their experiences and challenges in a quarterly survey.

SCOTTISH THIRD  
SECTOR TRACKER  
*Sharing today. Thriving tomorrow.*

The information gathered from the community informs and directs the way the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) and partner organisations, such as the Scottish Government, provide support to the sector.

The Tracker is run by independent research company DJS Research and funded by the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations; the Scottish Government; the National Lottery Community Fund and the William Grant Foundation.

The findings from the first, baseline wave are available [here](#). In this wave, organisations were asked to reflect on the challenges of continuing to provide services and planned work during the early stages of the Covid-19 pandemic. The findings highlight just how disruptive the pandemic has been for third sector organisations in Scotland. Many could not deliver fully on their work plan across the previous year. However, the sector has responded by adapting and creating new services to meet increased demand and emerging needs.

**The Scottish Third Sector Tracker will run until November 2022.**

*If your organisation is interested in joining the panel, there are still opportunities to do so, please contact us at [STSTracker@djsresearch.com](mailto:STSTracker@djsresearch.com)*

## GUIDANCE

### **Families Affected by Drug and Alcohol Use in Scotland: A Framework for Holistic Whole Family Approaches and Family Inclusive Practice**



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The Whole Families Approach framework, 'Families Affected by Drug and Alcohol Use in Scotland: A Framework for Holistic Whole Family Approaches and Family Inclusive Practice' has now been launched. This framework will ensure that family members receive support in their own right, and collectively as a family, to recover from the harms caused by alcohol and drug use.

*Find out more [here](#).*

## Health and Safety Services:



Following the launch of their new National Lottery Community Fund funded Health & Safety subscription service, the GCVS People and Safety Services Team have introduced a new free fortnightly Health & Safety Update to provide the latest information to third sector organisations across Scotland. Their updates will provide you with the most up to date COVID and lockdown details, news and advice on health and safety matters and the free upcoming training course schedule.

**View the latest issue [here](#).**

*Sign up to receive future Health and Safety Updates [here](#).*

**VAO can help with your training and funding needs!**

Please contact

**[enquiries@vaorkney.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@vaorkney.org.uk)**

to explore possibilities or to sign up to our monthly newsletter