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Training Opportunities



My World of Work



My World of Work is an online career information and advice service provided by Skills Development Scotland. It offers links to learning opportunities and funding by the Scottish Government to help with finding and applying for jobs, reskilling or changing career path. You need to be living in Scotland and usually aged 25 or over but some options are open to younger adults.

- [LinkedIn Learning](#) offers unlimited access to over 15,000 expert-led courses until 31 July 2022 to help you upskill for your current job or reskill for a new role.
- [FutureLearn](#) is a way to study courses online led by universities and organisations, earning a Certificate of Achievement to show employers for each course completed. Topics include study skills, history, business management, language, teaching, IT & computer science and nature.
- The [National Transition Training Fund](#) offers industry-recognised qualifications and training in growing employment sector. Courses are accredited and the training opportunities provided can help you develop your career no matter what your skills and experience. This route can help those facing unemployment or redundancy to reskill. Individuals can apply direct for many of our training opportunities, while employers are encouraged to apply on behalf of their team.

Follow the links above or find out more [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.

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

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.

Policy Hub Scotland

Policy Hub Scotland provide training opportunities and learning spaces for those who work in, or alongside, the Scottish public sector to explore new ideas and inform existing practice and help professionals innovate their way from challenge to opportunity.



They develop flexible and accessible training throughout Scotland to help inform practice and exchange ideas. By providing a range of online learning courses they provide the opportunity to share ideas, learning and knowledge – anytime, anywhere. Each course contains on-demand video classes, activities, and a range of interactive content.

Find out more and view their courses [here](#).

Funding Opportunities

Shared Prosperity Fund



Scottish charities are being urged to apply for a share of a £2.5bn post-brexit fund of which £212m is up for grabs in Scotland.

The UK government's Shared Prosperity Fund is intended to replace funding lost when the UK left the European Union.

The money will be made available to local authorities which will then lead local partnership groups working with groups including “prominent local community and faith organisations” and “voluntary, social sector enterprise and civil society organisations”, the guidance says.

Local areas in Scotland will see £212 million made available under the fund.

Find out more [here](#) or view the full article [here](#).

Local Support Fund



Small and medium sized non-profit organisations working with people at risk of drug harm, looking to increase capacity or extend services for people who use drugs and their families can apply for Scottish Government Funding to:

- Maintain existing services
- Create new services
- Cover running costs
- Access and receive training
- Provide equipment

There are two funds currently open:

- **Local Support Fund – Micro Grants:** If you have an annual income of up to £50,000, you can request between £1000 and £10,000 per year for up to four years.
- **Local Support Fund:** If you have an annual income of up to £500,000, you can request up to £50,000 per year for up to four years.

Contact localsupportfund@sdf.org.uk or 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 15th September 2022.

Find out more [here](#).

National Lottery Grants for Heritage (UK)



Grants for Heritage funds projects that connect people and communities to the national, regional, and local heritage of the UK.

For 2022 - 2023, they are prioritising heritage projects that will meet six of their outcomes:

- A wider range of people will be involved in heritage (this is a mandatory outcome. Every project we fund must achieve this mandatory outcome as a minimum)
- The funded organisation will be more resilient

- People will have greater wellbeing
- People will have developed skills
- The local area will be a better place to live, work or visit
- The local economy will be boosted

All projects must demonstrate that they are building long-term environmental sustainability and inclusion into their plans.

This is a rolling programme so there are no deadlines.

Find out more [here](#).

Self Management Fund: Resilience, Recovery and Development



ALLIANCE

This is the second round of the Self Management Fund: Resilience, Recovery and Development. Third sector and community organisations in Scotland can apply for a grant of up to £60,000 for up to two years to support people living with long term conditions, people living with disabilities and unpaid carers to self manage.

This round of the fund will make £1 million available to support projects that learn from the experience of people and:

- Build on the resilience demonstrated by the third sector since 2020
- Contribute to the recovery of health and social care services in the wake of the pandemic
- Create opportunities to develop responsive services for the future.

The Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE) administers the Self Management Fund on behalf of the Scottish Government to third sector and community-based organisations across Scotland to develop self management activities. Since 2009, The ALLIANCE has granted over £22 million and has funded 374 projects across Scotland.

Following the publication of the Scottish Government's [NHS Recovery Plan](#), the ALLIANCE's response [Putting People at the Centre of NHS Scotland Recovery](#), and our programme of supporting adaptations to Self Management Fund projects throughout periods of lockdown and beyond; we have identified the following priorities for investment in this round of the Self Management Fund.

Projects which:

- Provide support to people experiencing multiple forms of marginalisation, including people with sensory loss; ethnic minority communities; disabled children and young people; people with learning and intellectual disabilities; people experiencing economic deprivation; and unpaid carers
- Focus on a hybrid way of working and supporting digital inclusion for those who have been excluded from the move to digital services.

The deadline for application is Monday 27th June 2022.

Find out more [here](#).

Baillie Gifford Multi-Year Awards



Up to £15K, over three years, is available to community groups in Scotland who will deliver projects that support the most vulnerable in our society. The fund's priorities include reducing isolation, supporting people financially through food and work poverty initiatives, and tackling homelessness in communities.

The deadline for applications is Thursday 28th April 2022.

Find out more [here](#).

The Screwfix Foundation



Need funds to repair, maintain or improve your community building? The Screwfix Foundation offers charities and community groups funding of up to £5,000 to support projects that will fix, repair, maintain and improve community facilities that will help those in need.

The deadline for applications is Tuesday 10th May 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](#).

Investing in Communities Fund



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 is expected to open in May 2022

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](#).

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](#).

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 1st 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 3 will launch in spring 2022 and is expected to open in May 2022.

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

Applications can be submitted at any time and decisions take approximately 10 weeks from receipt of your application.

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 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](#).

Tesco Community Grants



Tesco Community Grants is looking for applications from the Orkney area for community food security projects.

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.

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](#).

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](#).

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.

Funds with an ongoing application process:

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

Funds with an application deadline of midday 30th September 2022:

- [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.

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

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](#).

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.
- **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 2 times a year.
- **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.

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



Ukraine: What should charities do in response to the war? Public bodies and businesses have been asked to review operations for links and connections to Russia following the invasion in Ukraine. OSCR have been active in monitoring the situation and providing regular updates to guidance for the Charity sector.

Find out more [here](#).

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

Orkney Coastal and Marine Recreation Survey



The purpose of the survey is to collect information about where and when coastal and marine recreational activities are taking place in Orkney and the facilities that are used for these purposes e.g. car parks, slip ways, piers, public toilets, footpaths etc.

The information collected will be used to ensure that the interests of recreational users are taken into account in decision making on future coastal and marine development and activities in Orkney.

The survey will close on the 17th June 2022.

Take part [here](#).

Scottish Mental Health Law Review



The review is now in Phase 3 and SMHLR want to know what you think about some of their ideas and proposals for changes to mental health and incapacity law. These have been developed in partnership with people with lived experience, unpaid carers, mental health practitioners and other people interested in this area.

The proposals could lead to a fundamental change to our mental health legislation and bring it in line with the ambitions of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Your views will help to refine, change or add to their ideas and allow them to pull together a final set of recommendations for the Scottish Government later this year.

The consultation is open until the 27th May 2022.

Find out more and take part [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.

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 and second wave are available [here](#). Organisations were asked to reflect on the challenges of continuing to provide services and planned work during the Covid-19 pandemic. The findings highlight just how disruptive the pandemic has been for third sector organisations in Scotland.

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

Guidance

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.

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

VAO can help with your training and funding needs and our Development Team will be pleased to talk to you!

please email:

clare.gee@vaorkney.org.uk

anthea.hume@vaorkney.org.uk

david.campbell@vaorkney.org.uk

or call:

01856 872897

To sign up to our monthly newsletter or contribute an article, please email:

cecily.cromby@vaorkney.org.uk