

Training and Funding Update

January 2024

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Training Opportunities

VAO Social Enterprise and Charitable Organisation 1:1 Sessions



Join our community development workers, Clare Gee and India Whitwell for our monthly 1:1 Social Enterprise and Charity Sessions. Choose a 30 min slot between 10am and 12pm on the first Monday of every month.

If you have an idea, but are not sure how to make it happen, this session is perfect for you. Equally, if you are involved in an organisation that is already established, but you've got some queries or concerns, we can help!

Some things you could ask during your 1:1 session are:

- I have an idea, and I'm not sure if it's a social enterprise or charity.
- I need some advice surrounding my board.
- I need help with identifying funding sources.
- I need help with a funding application.
- I'm not sure how to move my organisation forward.
- I'd like help with my business plan.
- I'd like some advice around getting a building for my organisation.
- I need helping to build a suite of policies and procedures.

During this session, we can explore various topics related to social enterprise and charity, including innovative business models, sustainable practices, and effective fundraising strategies. Our expert community development workers will share their experiences and provide valuable insights to help you navigate the challenges and opportunities in this field.

Whether you are a budding social entrepreneur, a charity enthusiast, or simply curious about making a difference, this event is perfect for you. Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to learn, connect, and be part of the Orkney Social Enterprise and Charity community.

Book your place by visiting the [Eventbrite website](#).

Our development workers will be in touch with your own Teams link ahead of your session. If you've got any questions or further info you'd like to supply, please email them to development@vaorkney.org.uk

Personal Safety Course for Women

This empowerment-focused, trauma-informed Personal Safety course will be delivered in Orkney on 1 and 2 May 2024 (the venue is still to be confirmed)



The training is split into theory and practical sessions:

- The theory side covers the Law regarding Self Defence, Reasonable Use of Force, Warning Signs and Danger Signs (so you can recognise when an attacker is about to attack before it happens), Voice Control, Defensive Stance, the T-Zone (so you know where to effectively strike an attacker), Improvised Weapons, and various scenarios such as what to do if your being followed.
- The practical self-defence side covers breakaway techniques from a wrist grab and clothing grab, escape from a strangle hold, how to defend against a frontal attacker and a back attack, and defence against a ground attack (both a physical assault and, if required, a sexual assault).

Although the day flies by, some groups need a shorter course. A 3hr course is mainly theory with a small amount of self-defense, A 6hr session allows plenty of time for questions and advice, as well as self-defense techniques and theory.

To book onto the course, email Jayne Smith-Savile:

jayne.smith-savile@womesaidorkney.org.uk

'Car Club in a Box' initiative

At the next Scottish Rural and Islands Transport Community (SRITC) Virtual Cafe will be exploring the future of rural transportation with the 'Car Club in a Box' initiative:



- Learn how design thinking can revolutionise transportation
- Explore tailored solutions for electric vehicle car clubs
- Understand how design thinking fosters efficiency and replicable business models
- Promote inclusive mobility within our community

The café is being held from 10:00am until 11:00am on 23 February 2024.

To register your attendance visit the [SRITC website](#).

Free Child Impact Assessment (CIA) toolkit training

The Orkney Community Justice Partnership (OCJP), in conjunction with Families Outside are offering free training sessions to professionals across a broad spectrum of agencies who support children and young people in Orkney. The sessions are independent of each other and usually are charged however the OCJP has secured this on behalf of Orkney at no cost.



The training is taking place on Tuesday 19 March 2024 in the St Magnus Centre Friend's Room, Palace Road, Kirkwall, KW15 1PA.

- Morning Session - 09.30am -12.00pm

Examine the impact of the justice system on families from arrest all the way through to release and will help professionals, across multi disciplines, develop their understanding of contributory factors to consider when supporting families as they navigate this experience.

Afternoon Session - 13.00pm – 15.30pm

Focus on the impact of the justice system on children and young people and how the Child Impact Assessment (CIA) toolkit is a useful tool to help professionals guide a conversation to enable children's rights to be upheld when someone in the child's life is involved in the justice system.

Places are limited to 30 participants and will be allocated on a first come first served basis, however it is intended to achieve an even distribution of this training across the wider partnership of agencies and professionals who support children and young people in Orkney.

To be considered for this training contact: community.justice@orkney.gov.uk. Find out more about Child Impact Assessments by visiting the [Prison Reform Trust website](#).

Orkney CLD Partnership

Following a training needs analysis, the CLD Partnership Training Subgroup has created a range of training to support the development of skills and professional development opportunities.



- **Dyslexia and Dyscalculia Awareness Training**

This free in person training session aims to provide an improved awareness of what dyslexia and dyscalculia are, the impact on learners, how they are assessed in different contexts and how they can be supported within an inclusive learning environment.

- 13:30 to 15:30pm on Friday 8th March 2024
- Room 3 Kirkwall Community Centre

Email cld@orkney.gov.uk to book.

Spaces are limited booking early is advised to avoid disappointment. You will then receive an email to confirm your place on the course and if it has sufficient enrolments to go ahead.

Free online training from the Scottish Drugs Forum

- **Cocaine and psychostimulants**

This interactive online training aims to increase awareness, knowledge and provides an opportunity to explore current and emerging trends with psychostimulants. Harm reduction and support strategies will be explored.

This session is being held at 9:15 am - 1:30 pm on 1st March 2024 via TEAMS.

- **Drug awareness**

The training aims to increase workers' drug awareness knowledge and provide an opportunity to explore current and emerging trends with substance use.

This session is being held at 9:15 am - 1:30 pm on 8th March 2024 via TEAMS.

- **Trauma and substance use**

This introductory course will support trauma-informed practice when working with

people who are affected by trauma and who use substances.

This session is being held at 9:15 am - 3:30 pm on 18th March 2024 via TEAMS.

- **Everyone Has a Story: Children Affected by Parental Substance Use**

This course will support practitioners in adult and children's services to respond to children affected by parental substance use.

This session is being held at 9:15 am - 1:30 pm on 4th and 5th March 2024 (You must be able to attend both days) via TEAMS.

Find out more and book your place by visiting the booking page on the [Scottish Drugs Forum 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. Each course contains on-demand video classes, activities, and a range of interactive content.

Find out more by visiting the [Policy Hub website](#).

The Skills Network



The Skills Network has partnered with a number of leading awarding organisations to develop innovative distance learning qualifications.

Courses are available online, on paper or paper-based with online assessments.

Gain access to exciting and flexible distance learning content and learn. Their courses are interactive and engaging and will help you develop the skills and knowledge needed to excel.

Find out more by visiting [The Skills Network website](#).

Children in Scotland



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 more by visiting the [Eventbrite website](#).

Funding Opportunities

Small Grants Scheme



Voluntary Action Orkney (VAO) is pleased to be able to offer grants to voluntary and community groups through the Small Grants Scheme.

We are grateful to both Repsol Sinopec and Liam McArthur MSP for their donations which the VAO Board has decided to disburse as grants in order to support the work of small, community groups.

Constituted groups with charitable objectives (excepting party political groups), are eligible to apply for a grant of up to £500 maximum for a project or activity to help their community.

Priority will be given to organisations that have not previously received an award.

Recipients of grants must claim the total sum awarded by 31 March 2025.

The deadline for applications is 5pm on Friday 1 March 2024.

Find out more by visiting [our website](#).

Empower grants programme



Bank of Scotland Foundation recognises the profound impact that the cost of living crisis is having on people across Scotland. To ensure funding can reach those in real need, the Empower grants programme for 2024 will solely focus on helping charities who support vulnerable groups/people.

The Empower programme provides unrestricted funding. Unrestricted funding gives charities much greater scope to cover all essential costs and deal with challenges quickly and effectively. Unrestricted funding can be used towards core costs, delivery costs, project costs and/or general running costs enabling charities to use their funding in the way that helps them best.

To be eligible for this programme:

- your charity must have a minimum of 3 years accounts lodged and checked at OSCR.
- your charity income must be between £150k - £500k per year as stated in your most recent accounts that have been lodged and checked at OSCR.
- your charity must operate in Scotland.

All applications must be submitted online by 12 noon on the closing date of Thursday 15 February 2024.

Find out more by visiting the [Bank of Scotland Foundation website](#).

Self-Management Fund



The Self Management Fund is administered by the ALLIANCE, on behalf of the Scottish Government. It aims to support projects that put people and communities at the heart of prevention and self management, and is inviting applications for work that seeks to:

- Support people living with, or who might be at risk of developing, long term conditions to be better able to self manage and/or reduce risk factors.
- Support people who experience barriers to accessing health and social care support and services, due to geographical, social, or economic factors to feel better able to self manage through direct support or support to access services.
- Support people who are waiting for a specialist health or social care intervention or rehabilitation support through enabling them to develop self management capabilities while awaiting treatment.
- Support disabled young people or young people living with long term conditions or unpaid carers to understand the importance of self management and to develop skills which maximise their health and wellbeing.

The Grant Allocation Panel is particularly interested in hearing from projects which support people with a range of conditions and/or multiple conditions and can demonstrate approaches that see the whole person and their holistic needs. In addition, the panel will be looking for projects with strong potential to generate new learning for self management practices.

Two levels of grant are available - small grants of up to £15,000 for up to one year and large grants of up to £120,000 for up to three years.

The fund is open to all community and third sector organisations in Scotland, working to support disabled people, people living with long term conditions and unpaid carers regardless of their membership of the ALLIANCE.

Applications will be accepted until 12.01am on 5 March 2024.

If you would like to discuss a potential project contact: Fund@alliance-scotland.org. You can also find further guidance including detail on application criteria by visiting the [ALLIANCE website](#).

The Happiness Fund



The Happiness Fund is available to enable and support projects which improve mental health and wellbeing, inclusion, learning and skills development in local communities.

The aim is to build happy, strong, resilient communities by supporting grassroots, not-for-profit projects that enable sustainable outcomes in:

- Mental health Wellbeing & happiness
- Inclusion
- Learning and skills development

The fund is intended to help new groups and activities, to be successful. Applicants will need to indicate how the activity/group can become self-sustaining or able to attract funding from other sources in the longer term.

The fund will award £5,000 twice a year - allowing up to two different projects/charities or CIC's per year to apply. You cannot re-apply if you have won funding from the Happiness fund in the last 24 months.

The next application deadline is 29 February 2024.

Find out more by visiting the [Laughology website](#).

Asda Foundation



- **Empowering Local Communities Grant**

This grant is designed to support a broad range of activities which contribute towards transforming communities and improving lives, as well as funding to strengthen their volunteering.

- **U18 Better Starts Grant**

This grant will help give children the best start in life, tackle poverty, inclusion and wellbeing. There are 4 areas of support: Essentials, Transform/Improve, Connect Together, and Festive Celebration

The next application deadline for both grants is 1 March 2024.

Find out more by visiting the [Asda Foundation website](#).

The Steel Charitable Trust

Applications must be for charitable purposes that fall into one of the five core categories below; applications for purposes outside these categories are only permitted at the direct invitation of a Trustee:



- Arts and Heritage
- Economic or social disadvantage
- Education
- Environment
- Health

There are no focus areas within the categories of Arts and Heritage, Education or Environment.

Applications for the Health category, must have a focus on one of the following:

- programmes and activities that aim to support, maintain and improve mental health in any demographic
- health care for older people

Applications for the Social or Economic Disadvantage category, must have a focus on one of the following:

- disadvantaged children
- housing and homeless people

Applications can be made at any time and are normally considered according to the timescales shown:

- 16 January - 11 April (reviewed mid-June for decisions early July)
- 16 April - 15 July (reviewed mid-September for decisions early October)
- 16 July - 15 October (reviewed mid-December for decisions early January)

Applicants are encouraged to submit applications early in the application period to allow more time for their review.

The next application deadline is 11 Apr 2024

Find out more by visiting [The Steel Charitable Trust website](#).

Community Heat Development Programme



If you want your community to go low carbon, support is available from The Scottish Government's Community Heat Development Programme. Delivered by Local Energy Scotland, it supports communities (including groups of householders and community organisations) to develop their ideas for locally-generated, low and carbon heat projects.

Need some inspiration? Some examples of applications in the pipeline include:

- Twelve neighbours in a block of flats investigating low carbon options to replace the block's ageing gas supply
- Residents in a tenement block are considering installing ground source heat pumps in its shared ground
- A community is looking at the coordinated, collective purchase of air source heat pumps to help make the process smoother for all

Successful applicants will receive technical support to consider the feasibility of their project idea and will give advice on next steps, including any potential routes for further funding.

Submit an expression of interest or find out more by visiting the [Local Energy Scotland website](#).

Pet Rescue Grant Naturewatch Foundation



Naturewatch Foundation funds frontline animal welfare projects in the UK that directly help with the rescue or rehabilitation of dogs, cats and rabbits affected by the illegal pet trade. projects that help with the rescue or rehabilitation of dogs, cats or rabbits who have been affected by the illegal pet trade in the UK.

The closing date for applications is 21 February 2024.

Find out more by visiting the [Naturewatch Foundation website](#).

Orkney Local Employability Partnership Innovation Fund (Parental Support)



The innovation fund is available to third sector partners within Orkney that work with parents/families within the NOLB priority groups (Lone parent families, families with a child under one, families where a parent is under 25, households in which a parent or child has a disability, larger families (3 or more children), and minority ethnic families) and support them to develop confidence, skills, networks etc to make positive future steps.

Organisations can apply for up to £10,000 and the deadline for applications is Thursday 29th February 2024.

Find out more by visiting the [Orkney Islands Council website](#).

#AndSheCycles Funding



This fund is open to groups of young women such as guide groups, school groups and youth groups.

The funding is available to help these groups develop and implement plans to help break down the barriers young women face when choosing to cycle.

Up to £2000 per group could be available to help purchase necessary equipment to help support more young women cycling.

Previous applicants have secured funding for:

- bikes
- helmets
- bike pump station
- secure bike storage

Find out more by visiting the [Sustrans website](#).

Business Energy Efficiency Grant



Orkney businesses can apply for grants up to 50% contribution to invest in measures to progress towards net-zero carbon emissions and result in long-term sustained reduction in energy bills. The minimum project spend is £2,000 offering a grant of between £1,000 up to a maximum of £15,000.

- Applicant businesses must be based in, and trading in Orkney for a minimum of 12 months
- Businesses must make a 50% contribution to the costs of their project.
- Charities, social enterprises and third sector organisations carrying out economic activity with employees may also apply.
- Applicant businesses must demonstrate sales income for at least 12 months.
- Operate from commercial premises in Orkney with a legally constituted signed lease, rental or license agreement for more than 5 Years. Obtain written permissions from landlord to make changes and seek permissions from OIC to undertake the work.
- Applicants must be a UK resident with the right to work in the UK.

- Businesses must meet the European definition of an SME in relation to employees, balance sheet and turnover.
- All industry sectors can apply.

Eligible costs:

- Purchase of equipment that would contribute to demonstrable energy saving.
- Improving roof and building insulation, draught-proofing or installing new doors, or double/secondary glazing.
- Renewable energy installations (for example, solar, ground or air source heat pumps. Solar and Air to Water heat pumps) – Work to be carried out by an MCS Installer and systems installed to MCS standard (MCS certificate provided when install is complete).
- Waste management or recycling projects.
- Energy efficient lighting systems.
- Low energy heating.
- Implement new business processes that will help reduce business energy costs.
- Other significant project costs deemed to be acceptable by the Council that aligns with the grant scheme intentions.

Complete an online eligibility checker on the [MyOrkney website](#).

Armed Forces Day



Funding is available to assist with Armed Forces Day festivities. It could be an event for your local community to get-together with family and friends such as a picnic in the park, themed barbeque, street party or fête.

The deadline for applications is 1 March 2024.

Find out more by visiting the [Armed Forces Day website](#).

Delamere Dairy Foundation



Applications are welcome from charities and organisations whose purpose fits with the objects of the Delamere Dairy Foundation for the benefit of the public, which are the:

- advancement of agriculture and of environmental protection
- advancement in life of young people by developing their capabilities so that they may mature as contributory members of society
- relief of financial hardship
- advancement of education
- relief of sickness

Applications are open in Spring and Autumn. The application window for the Spring 2024 Panel closes on 29 February 2024. Decisions will be made in April, and funding granted in May.

Find out more by visiting the [Delamere Dairy Foundation website](#).

Scottish Sea Farms - Heart of the Community Trust



The broad aim of the Heart of the Community Grant Trust is to provide financial grants for community projects that deliver lasting change within the regions in which the Company operates. Those regions are: Shetland, Orkney, Highland and Argyll.

Key areas for support include:

- Creating affordable, family-oriented activities
- Giving younger generations the same opportunities as those in more central areas
- Safeguarding mental wellbeing
- Combating isolation
- Providing lifeline services

Applications can be made at any time.

Find out more by visiting [Scottish Sea Farms website](#).

Open Grants Programme



The Clothworkers' Foundation award grants to UK registered charities, CICs, and other registered UK not-for-profit organisations (including special schools). Grants are awarded towards capital projects, which they define as:

- Buildings: purchase, construction, renovation or refurbishment.
- Fittings, Fixtures, and Equipment: this includes but is not limited to office equipment/furniture, sports/gym equipment, digital/audio visual equipment, software and websites (more guidance on digital infrastructure can be found here), garden equipment, specialist therapeutic (excluding medical) equipment. It does not include equipment for one-off use, or which will be given to service users for personal use on a permanent basis.
- Vehicles: This includes a minibus, car, caravan, people-carrier, or 4X4. We are unlikely to fund the total cost of a new vehicle and do not provide grants towards vehicle leasing.

Their eligibility criteria for applications has expanded to include digital projects beyond hardware. They will now consider funding one-off costs for some types of digital software and products. The aim is to enable organisations to be more sustainable, engage more people more effectively, and support their staff and volunteers to do their work more efficiently.

They fund both large and small projects. The size of grant awarded depends on a number of factors including the size of the organisation and the cost and scale of the capital project.

To be eligible the projects must fit within one or more of the Foundation's specified programme areas.

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

Find out more but visiting [The Clothworkers' Foundation website](#).

Chances for Children



Individually tailored grants of up to £2,400 for children and young people who have experienced a crisis that has recently had a significant and enduring impact on their wellbeing and educational engagement. Buttle UK fund items and activities to help improve children and young people's wellbeing and increase their capacity to engage in education and learning.

They only accept applications from frontline professionals working for a registered charity, housing association or public sector organisation who:

- are working directly with the children/young person
- have made a full assessment of the child's or young person's needs
- have carried out at least one home visit (optional for schools and colleges)

If successful, the professional will need to manage the funds, upload receipts within 8 weeks of receiving the grant, and complete an evaluation survey.

Children and young people must meet the following criteria:

- Aged from 2 to 18 (including 18 year olds) if living with parent or carer or aged 20 and under if living independently with little or no support from their family
- Accessing education, learning or training
- Living on a low income and experiencing financial hardship
- Have experienced a crisis that has recently had a significant and enduring impact on:
 - their wellbeing
 - their development and education
- The family or young person has recently taken action to improve their situation, are actively engaging with support and are moving on from the crisis.

Find out more by visiting the [Buttle UK website](#).

Orkney Zero Waste Grant Scheme



Are you interested in Reusing, Repurposing and Recycling Orkney's waste?

You can apply for a £200 grant from Orkney Zero Waste for projects associated with:

- Waste Repurposing and Reuse
- Waste Reduction
- Waste Recycling
- Travel within Orkney associated with the aims of the grant scheme
- Training within the aims of the grant
- The scheme has two grant periods each year (spring and autumn). It is open to:

Individuals from age 5 (supported by parent/guardian if under 18 years old):

- Community Organisations
- Schools
- Church Groups
- Charitable Groups

Find out more by visiting the [Orkney Zero Waste site on the Orkney Communities website](#).

Tesco Stronger Starts

Tesco Stronger Starts fund thousands of local community projects across the UK. Priority is given to projects that provide healthy food and/or activities that boost children and young people's mental and physical wellbeing and not just from schools.



The scheme provides grants of up to £1,500 to local projects from across the whole of Scotland. It is open to all local authorities, registered charities and not-for-profit organisations. Applications needed now from youth groups, schools, sports clubs, and more.

Find out more by visiting the [Green Space Scotland website](#).

Historic Environment Grants Programme (HEG)

The programme can support a wide range of projects which clearly relate to and will benefit Scotland's historic environment. To be eligible, all projects will need to:



- clearly relate to a Scottish historic environment asset (tangible or intangible)
- be able to demonstrate how they will contribute to HES Grants Priorities. View the priorities by visiting the [Historic Environment Scotland website](#).
- offer good value for money
- be able to demonstrate that they are deliverable
- have not started (unless discussed and agreed by HES Grants Team)
- not already be funded by a City Heritage Trust or through any of our other funding programmes

Projects should be focused on an aspect of Scotland's historic environment, from the tangible (e.g. historic buildings, ancient monuments and archaeology, designed or cultural landscapes and historic gardens and battlefields) to the intangible (e.g. historic environment skills, stories and traditions).

There are three different funding streams under the Historic Environment Grants (HEG) which are:

- Express Grants (£1,000 to £25,000)
- Small Grants (£25,001 to £100,000)
- Large Grants (£100,001 to £500,000)

Before proceeding to submit an application, you should have submitted and have approved an Expression of Interest on their Grants Portal. To do this visit the [Historic Environment Scotland website](#).

Find out more by visiting the [Historic Environment Scotland website](#).

BBC Children in Need Emergency Essentials Programme

The programme supports children and young people who are facing exceptionally difficult circumstances and is delivered by Family Fund Business Services. It 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.



Eligible organisations can apply for a grant on behalf of the children they support. When applying on behalf of a child or young person, referrers must ensure that all possible statutory funding has been explored and exhausted before making an application to the Emergency Essentials Programme.

The programme awards grants for critical household items, typically:

- Cookers
- Fridges, freezers and fridge-freezers
- Washing machines and tumble dryers
- Children's beds and bedding
- Kitchen equipment and small appliances
- Furniture
- Clothing
- Baby equipment

Applications must be completed by a registered referrer who is part of an organisation that is supporting the family or young person and capable of assessing their needs.

Find out more by visiting the [Family Fund website](#).

Urgent Assistance Fund

Aberlour's Urgent Assistance Fund can provide immediate relief to families with children (aged 21 and under) who are suffering extreme hardship. This support is usually via cash grants to assist with a range of needs, such as food, utilities, clothing, bedding, appliance repairs, replacement of appliances that have failed, or other essentials (excluding carpets, floor coverings or electronic devices).



Applications must be endorsed and submitted by a sponsor, acting in their professional capacity.

Available funds are limited and all applications will be evaluated against evidence of a family's financial status. If you receive an award from the Urgent Assistance Fund you cannot re-apply for a period of 1 year or in some instances up to 2 years.

To qualify for cash grants from the Trust:

- There must be a child in the family who is 21 or under.
- That child must be suffering extreme hardship.
- Grants are made at the discretion of the Trust.
- A sponsor must submit a fully completed application via the web application form. If applications are incomplete, they may be rejected.

Find out more by visiting the [Aberlour website](#).

National Lottery Community Fund



The National Lottery Community Fund have shared their new 2023 - 2030 strategy 'It starts with community'. They are focusing efforts where there is greatest need with an ambition to 'create resilient communities that are more inclusive and environmentally sustainable, funding activities and organisations that strengthen society and improve lives across the UK.

Further information about the strategy is available on [The National Lottery website](#).

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.

Scotland:

- **Cost-of-Living Support Scotland:**
Grants from £10,001 to £75,000 to help support individuals, families and communities currently experiencing hardship as a result of the cost-of-living increases.
- Find out more by visiting [The National Lottery website](#).
- **National Lottery Awards for All Scotland:**
A quick way to apply for smaller amounts of funding between £300 and £10,000.
- Find out more by visiting [The National Lottery website](#).
- **Young Start:**
Helping young people aged eight to 24 to become more confident and play an active part in realising their potential.
- Find out more by visiting [The National Lottery website](#).
- **Scottish Land Fund:**
Supporting urban and rural communities to become more resilient and sustainable through the ownership and management of land and land assets.
- Find out more by visiting [The National Lottery website](#).
- **Community Led:**
Funding to support community-led activity and wellbeing.
- Find out more by visiting [The National Lottery website](#).
- **Improving Lives:**
Grants from £10,001 to £20,000 to help people facing challenging circumstances.
- Find out more by visiting [The National Lottery website](#).

The application deadlines are all ongoing.

Information on the funds currently available in Scotland can be found by visiting [The National Lottery website](#).

Community Benefit Fund



WHP Telecoms, the Infrastructure Provider for the Scottish 4G Infill (S4GI) programme, has launched a Community Benefit Fund, committing 5% of all rents received on S4GI infrastructure to support this. The S4GI programme is a £28.75 million investment that is delivering 4G infrastructure and services in up to 55 areas across Scotland where it is not commercially viable to do so.

Non-profit groups and organisations operating in communities neighbouring the S4GI programme masts are encouraged to apply for up to £2,000 in funding towards eligible projects. The fund is especially interested in supporting projects with a digital theme that will allow communities to benefit from mobile coverage provided by S4GI infrastructure.

The Orkney communities with activated S4GI masts are:

- Burray
- Deerness
- Rackwick
- Stronsay

Projects need to be within a 10km radius of the S4GI mast.

Find out more by visiting the [WHP Telecoms Ltd website](#) or emailing: c.cowie@whptelecoms.com.

Wheelchairs for children



Parents, physiotherapists, and occupational therapists of a child or young person under the age of 18 living with a disability or long-term health condition, can now apply for funding to purchase a new wheelchair.

Variety will fund bespoke wheelchairs for any purpose, including manual, powered and sports wheelchairs that are not available through local authority wheelchair services in England, Wales & Scotland.

Applicants, who can include the child themselves, will need to provide a letter of support for the item required from a relevant healthcare professional.

Applications can be made at any time and will be considered by the Wheelchair Committee which meets six times per year.

Find out more by visiting the [Variety website](#).

John Ellerman Foundation

**John Ellerman
Foundation**

The trust seeks to fund a range of projects in the areas of social action, environment and the arts. They are looking for work that is genuinely distinctive, has a high impact and achieves positive change or long-lasting benefits.

They have an open rolling programme of applications.

Find out more by visiting the [John Ellerman Foundation website](#).

Pounds for Purpose Grants



Grants of up to £500 are available to individuals in Scotland aged 16-26 looking to make a positive change to the issues that matter to them. The funding can be used by individuals to get their idea up and running and will help cover some of those costs. In addition, business support is available for those who decide to turn their idea into a business. To be eligible the idea must primarily be for the benefit of people or communities within Scotland.

Applications can be submitted at any time.

Find out more by visiting the [First Port website](#).

Let's Do Net Zero Community Buildings Fund



The new Let's Do Net Zero Community Buildings Fund from CARES will help community organisations reduce their building energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions. Grant funding is available for up to 80% of eligible costs, up to a maximum of £80,000. It is available for many types of self-managed community buildings, including:

- village halls
- community centres
- community hubs
- sports facilities
- faith buildings

The fund is now open and is planned to run until the end of March 2025, subject to funding availability.

Find out more by visiting the [Local Energy Scotland website](#).

Faith in Community Scotland



'Greener Spaces, Fairer Places' - grants up to £500 are available for all local faith groups or related organisations working primarily in a small, specific geographic communities to tackle poverty and climate change. Applications should focus around the following themes:

- Community mobilising (eg events in your community bringing people together on climate action; outdoor installations & recycling; banner/ poster-making to raise awareness)
- More effective use of community land (eg using land to grow food, create a community garden)
- Respecting the environment (eg organising a local clean up, using buildings in a more eco-friendly way)
- Local action on reducing fuel consumption (eg supporting sustainable energy use)

Top up grants are available for mentoring support.

Apply any time.

Find out more by visiting the [Faith in Community Scotland website](#).

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. 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 out more by visiting the [Victim Support Scotland website](#).

Smarter Choices, Smarter Places: Open Fund



The fund is available to support public, third and community sector organisations. It aims to help cut Scotland's carbon emissions and improve our air quality will also help reverse the trend towards sedentary lifestyles and will tackle health inequalities.

Grants available are between £5,000 and £100,000 and need to be match funded.

The deadline for applications is 31 March 2024 or until the investment is fully allocated.

Find out more by visiting the [Paths for all website](#).

The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) (): Chestnut Fund



The Chestnut Fund is part of TCV's commitment to support Community Network members. The fund makes grants available to encourage and enable community groups to carry out conservation activities. The applications are considered and administered by TCV Chestnut Fund Committee.

The grants fall into two categories:

- **Start-up grants:** These are for groups who have little or no money when they are first set up and are available to groups in their first year of existence. The grant will enable them to begin practical work and will cover administrative expenses, e.g. postage, publicity, hire of meeting rooms, telephone bills and/or insurance fees.

The maximum grant is £160.

- **Support grants:** These are for groups who have little or no money for tools, equipment and training. This grant is available to all groups, regardless of how long they have been constituted. Groups within their first year can apply for both the start-up grant and the support grant.

The maximum grant will be £350.

Apply any time. They are keen to support the application process and advise you contact their Community Network Coordinator with any questions: local-groups@tcv.org.uk.

Find out more by visiting [The Conservation Volunteers website](#).

Motability's Research Grant Programme



UK charities and not-for-profit organisations can apply to a new funding programme to undertake research into the problems that disabled people face in the transport system and how they can be solved. Grants of between £50,000 and £1 million are available over three years to help organisations produce free, accessible data and findings to help make transport more inclusive. This could include, for example, looking at independent journeys taken by people with sight loss, research to help understand the end-to-end experience of disabled people travelling by taxi, or looking at the challenges and solutions of disabled people in rural communities.

The fund is open to applications until March 2025.

Find out more by visiting the [Mobility Foundation website](#).

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 by visiting the [Children's Aid website](#).

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 by visiting the [Garfield Weston Foundation website](#).

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 by visiting the [Foundation Scotland website](#).

The 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

Foyle Foundation Small Grants Scheme



The Foyle Foundation's focus is to make one-year grants only, to cover core costs, projects, essential equipment or building projects.

Their priority will be to support local charities still active in their communities which are currently delivering services to the young, vulnerable, elderly, disadvantaged or the general community who can demonstrate a clear (usually local) need for their services and financial viability.

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.

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.

Find out more by visiting the [Foyle 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.



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.
 - Find out more by visiting [The Robertson Trust website](#).
- **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
 - Find out more by visiting [The Robertson Trust website](#).
- **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
 - Find out more by visiting [The Robertson Trust website](#).
- **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
 - Find out more by visiting [The Robertson Trust website](#).

Find out more by visiting [The Robertson Trust website](#).

Opportunities for Enterprise

Make it happen days

These workshops are aimed at previous entrants of the business competition as well as students and members of the island communities who are interested in taking the next step to start up their business or want to get their business back on track.



This 1-day fully funded and informative workshop is taking place from 10am until 4pm on 27 February in Kirkwall. Lunch is included.

Guest speakers will guide you on how to move your idea forward by covering:

- advice on effectively marketing your business including social media
- how to stay in control of your finances and tax
- business banking
- legal and regulatory requirements

You will also get a chance to network and take part in activities delivered by the CREATE team that will help you complete an action plan to develop and/or grow your business. Find out more by visiting the [CREATE website](#).

If you are interested in taking part, please email create.ic@uhi.ac.uk to book a place detailing your name, your business and which workshop you would like to attend.

Participants will also have the opportunity to take part in short virtual check-ins where they will access support, have questions answered and be assisted to address any challenges they are experiencing. These short sessions will be bookable via email at create.ic@uhi.ac.uk.

Social Enterprise Academy

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 visit the [Social Enterprise Academy website](#).

Start It

Up to £5,000 for individuals looking to start a social enterprise.



A Start It award is designed to help new social entrepreneurs pay for start-up costs. These costs can vary, but typical examples include:

- Legal fees for incorporation and/or registration as a charity or Community Interest Company
- Rent (if premises have been identified)
- Website, branding, logo design and marketing materials
- Insurance and accountancy services
- Equipment

Find out more by visiting the [Firstport website](#).

Governance

Growing Climate Confidence

Growing Climate Confidence

Climate Confident Scotland is delivered by a SCVO, on behalf of the Third Sector Net Zero Steering Group and Scottish Funders Forum.

Growing Climate Confidence supports charities, social enterprises and community groups across Scotland to take action on the climate emergency, support nature and biodiversity and ensure a just transition to a low carbon future for our communities.

Reducing the emissions of your organisation is an important part of the journey towards a more sustainable future. Use their scorecard and template environmental policy to show what you have done already, and what you plan to do next.

- **Access the Net-zero scorecard by visiting the [Climate Confident Scotland website](#).**

Find out more about the support they provide organisations to help them to start to reduce their carbon emissions and embed sustainability within their work by visiting the [Climate Confident Scotland website](#).

Consultations

How does water affect your community?

Does your community or area have issues with too much or too little water?

What challenges do you face when planning for, responding to and recovering from significant water-related events?

The National Centre for Resilience are looking to gather your input and knowledge of the water-related issues facing Communities across Scotland.

With the collected information they are then looking to invite respondents to an event in March which will bring together community members, practitioners and academics to discuss potential projects or gaps in knowledge that we could support with joint research bids.

The survey closes on the 22 February 2024.

Complete their survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/25KWWMG>



Domestic Abuse with Older Women

Women's Aid Orkney have been looking at various different topics through their Institutional Advocacy work and recently started to explore domestic abuse with women over 60.



They have created a short anonymous survey to collect information on the current situation for support with older women and domestic abuse. The survey consists of seven questions and shouldn't take more than a minute to complete.

Take part by online by completing the survey using the [Survey Monkey website](#).

VAO can help with your training and funding needs – contact Clare or India in our Community Development Team and they will be pleased to talk to you!

- Email: development@vaorkney.org.uk
- Call: 01856 872897

To sign up to receive a copy of the Training and Funding Update or our monthly Newsletter:

- Email: enquiries@vaorkney.org.uk