

# Community News Sheet

Update on community issues

August 2019

## Welcome

Welcome to the August edition of Stirling Council's Community News Sheet. This is a free news sheet from Stirling Council's Community Engagement Team which includes a variety of information gathered from different sources and organisations that we hope groups and communities will find useful. We endeavour to ensure all information is accurate and up-to-date. We can also include information about community activities and topics, please feel free to email us any contributions.

If you have any questions or would like to know more, please contact us: [communityengagement@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:communityengagement@stirling.gov.uk)



## Final Stage Begins

Stage 3 of the Your Stirling: You Decide participatory budgeting is now underway. To take forward the successful proposals, meetings are being set up with relevant stakeholders and those who put forward the initial ideas, to look at the process of delivery, feasibility studies or option development where appropriate.

In all cases, engagement with the wider community on any final options will be part of the process so look out for more information in local community newspapers, local social media or on our website

<https://www.stirling.gov.uk/council-democracy/budget/your-stirling-you-decide/proposal-progress/>

If you have any comments or questions, please email us at [youdecide@Stirling.gov.uk](mailto:youdecide@Stirling.gov.uk)



## Challenge Poverty Week 2019 7-13 October

Challenge Poverty Week is an opportunity for everyone to raise their voice against poverty and show what needs to be done to tackle poverty across Scotland. The main aims of the week are to:

- Show the reality of poverty in Scotland and **challenge stereotypes**
- **Highlight and showcase** the solutions to poverty
- Increase **public support for action** to solve poverty

### So why not?

- Organise an activity
- Hold a themed discussion
- Have an open day for your organisation
- Write a blog, make a video or talk to the media about the solutions to poverty

Get Heard Scotland (GHS) is a programme coordinated by the Poverty Alliance to facilitate discussions about how to address poverty. Groups and individuals can coordinate Get Heard discussions as part of Challenge Poverty Week. Discussion should be focused around the three simple questions:

- What works in your community?
- What doesn't work?
- What needs to change?

The **Get Heard toolkit** is available to help deliver this activity. Find it at [www.povertyalliance.org](http://www.povertyalliance.org).



## Inspire Volunteering Awards Finalists 2019



Stirlingshire Voluntary Enterprise (SVE), in partnership with Stirling Council, were very excited to announce the finalists for this year's Inspire Volunteering Awards after the judging panel met to deliberate who would make this year's shortlist.

The judging panel, consisting of Gerry Davis, Solicitors for Older People Scotland, Fiona Jamieson, The Barracks Conference Centre, Alex Linkston, NHS Forth Valley, chaired by Natalie Masterson Chief Officer SVE, found this year a particularly tough year after the calibre of nominations was incredibly high.

The finalists for 2019 are as follows

### **Volunteering for the Environment & Heritage sponsored by Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park**

- Bannockburn Learning Assistants
- Bannockburn House Volunteers
- Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders Museum Volunteers

### **Volunteering for Sport & Physical Activity**

- Inspire Stirling Youth
- Recovery Ramblers
- Mayfield Centre Recovery Café

### **Volunteering for Children & Families**

- HomeStart Home Visiting Volunteers
- Stirling Champions Board
- Cornton out of School Care Volunteers

### **Volunteering for Strong Organisations sponsored by Go Forth Stirling**

- Forth Valley Welcome
- Forth Valley Student Association Team
- Camphill Blair Drummond Board of Trustees

### **Volunteering for Inclusion & Equality sponsored by Volunteer Scotland**

- Ideas for Ears Community Hearing Hub
- CAB Social Policy Volunteers
- Sexual and Gender Acceptance

### **Volunteering for Community Impact sponsored by The Thistle Centre Stirling**

- IT and Me
- Killin and District Car Share
- RSVP Forth Valley

### **Volunteering for Health & Wellbeing sponsored by NHS Forth Valley**

- Contact the Elderly
- Food Train Stirling
- Braeport Memory Café Volunteers

The evening's most prestigious award, The Inspire Volunteering Award 2019, will be decided by the judges from the nominations for the other categories to ensure the most deserving volunteer team wins.

SVE, in partnership with Stirling Council, are looking forward to hosting the finalists at the Inspire Volunteering Awards Ceremony at Colessio on September 3rd at the start of this year's Festival of Volunteering where the winners will be announced.



## 16 Days of Action Again Violence

The annual campaign 16 Days of Action starts on 25 November 2019. This campaign raises awareness to end violence against women and girls around the world. Locally the Stirling Gender Based Violence Partnership is putting on a variety of events and activities but would also like to support communities to put on awareness raising events across Stirling during this time. Themes this year include coercive control and how the new Domestic Abuse legislation is working; Sexual Harassment; safe dating and how communities can recognise and challenge gender based violence.

Communities can participate in a variety of ways including holding exhibitions, film nights, talks, distributing publicity and awareness information or simply making people aware of the ways to recognise and challenge gender based violence. The Partnership can provide support, advice and possibly speakers. If you would like more information about holding an event, raising awareness or what you can do to support the campaign, contact Ali Ryan on 01786 233862 or [ryana@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:ryana@stirling.gov.uk).



## Connect people to nature through - #LetNatureSing campaign

*Nature is in crisis and one of the biggest threats it faces is our disconnection from it.*



RSPB Scotland recognise the need to connect people to nature, and on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October they will be staging their biggest event yet as part of our **#LetNatureSing** campaign – they will flood public spaces (think travel hubs, museums, office buildings, shopping centres, tourist attractions...) with the sweet sound of birdsong for one day only. That's where you come in...

### What do they need from you?

- A commitment to play birdsong (they will provide the soundtrack) in your venue on 17<sup>th</sup> October for all your customers, commuters, tourists and visitors to enjoy. This can be for all or part of the day, even just an hour over lunchtime would make a huge impact.

A simple 'Yes, count us in!' is all we need just now.

### Why get on board?

- With over half of all species in the UK in decline, our natural world is facing an immediate crisis and the environment is now cited among the top three pressing issues facing the nation.
- Let Nature Sing Day will not only give nature a voice in the urban spaces of our towns & cities, but draw collective attention to how everyone can all help in a small way to stop it's decline.
- The sound of birdsong reminds us all of our deep connection to and love for the natural world – the Scottish people showed how much this meant to them when they bought our charity single of pure birdsong back in May, helping it reach #2 in the Scottish charts, and #18 UK wide.



### What happens next?

In September I'll send you everything you need – a beautiful soundtrack of native birds singing and the images, logos, posters and even a handy 'Top 10 Ways to Help Nature' to help you support the event.

Let Nature Sing Day is set to be covered extensively across the media, and will have the full whack of RSPB Scotland social media, PR and marketing behind it both in the lead up and on the day so they are sure to make a big splash!

For more information email the RSPB team at [rhona.maxwell@rspb.org.uk](mailto:rhona.maxwell@rspb.org.uk) and to listen to an example sound loop, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ge-cYtK8QwI&feature=youtu.be>

## Funding

### European funding for low carbon and active travel



A third round for the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Low Carbon Travel and Transport Challenge Fund is now open and available for applications.

Public, community and third sector organisations can now apply for £13.25 million of available ERDF and Scottish Government support to help deliver innovative active travel and low carbon transport hubs, delivered through Energy Saving Trust. £8.4 million has been provided through ERDF and this investment will continue to help people and communities throughout Scotland to benefit from further sustainable and greener travel options and help further strengthen Scotland's contribution to global efforts to prevent damaging climate change.



While match funding is required, applications can cover 70% or 80% of the total project costs depending on location. Eligibility criteria have also been tailored to broaden the range of applicants and to encourage applications that will benefit rural communities.

The fund is now open with a deadline for applications of 25 October. In order to assist communities interested in applying for support, Energy Saving Trust is hosting a series of events to support organisations through the application process; webinars and surgeries that will take place throughout August and September.

For further detail see <https://www.gov.scot/news/european-funding-for-low-carbon-and-active-travel/>

### The Good Exchange - How can I close my funding gap?

Some of the biggest challenges faced by charities and community groups today are how to find out which organisations are giving grants, donations and match funding to good causes like theirs and managing the multiple application processes. The Good Exchange's proactive matching technology offers the solution.



Any registered charity or other group (Applicant Organisation) that operates for public benefit in the UK can use **The Good Exchange** to apply for funding and fundraise for a recognised charitable purpose, attract donations and raise funds.

Through their personalised dashboard, Organisations can see exactly how many potential Funder matches have been identified, the number of funding shortlists on which their project has been placed, the number of funding offers that the project has received and the total amount of money raised and still to be raised to meet the project's target.

Click on the link for further information on applying see <https://thegoodexchange.com/>

## Training

### FREE Challenge Poverty Week media training



The Poverty Alliance is offering free training sessions on how to talk more effectively about poverty in the media and online.

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation and the Frameworks Institute [have carried out a lot of research](#) into what views people have about poverty, and what messages organisations can use to change them.

The Poverty Alliance wants to help its members and supporters start using these messages to **talk about poverty** in a helpful way, and they are offering free half-day training sessions on how to do this – with a focus on how to engage with your **local media**.

For more information go to [www.challengepoverty.net](http://www.challengepoverty.net) .

### Managing Your Finances! for voluntary organisations & charities



Stirlingshire Voluntary Enterprise

The main aim of the training is to provide guidance around effective accounting records keeping for voluntary organisations, including charities.

The objectives of the course are:

- To understand effective accounting record keeping for managing your organisations finances
- To understand and complete essential processes, including bank reconciliations
- To set up and operate our small accounts spreadsheet for voluntary organisations
- To provide practical free resources for future use by your organisation

Many small charities and voluntary organisations do not have the luxury of having a finance team in place. Most are reliant on committee members, volunteers and staff who have a variety of other duties, as well as managing the finances. It often feels a complex area to tackle and may not be top priority. However, there are some essential finance processes that can be put in place that can help. SVE provides training and practical resources that can assist small charities and voluntary organisations to ensure they practice good financial management.

#### What essential finance processes are needed?

The foundation of good financial management in small charities and voluntary organisations is to keep it simple. Basic accounting records are a must to keep track of funds. SVE's simple spreadsheet can be used to record income, expenditure, as well as unrestricted and restricted funds. The system also generates finance reports that can be used for committee meetings.

What is important however, is that these basic records are kept up to date and to have a good filing or referencing system so any document or information needed can be easily retrieved. In a small organisation, maintaining the books and records will often be the sole responsibility of one person but it is good practice for all committee members or trustees to understand and oversee the processes. It is therefore advisable for more than one person from an organisation to book on this training.

The training covers all of the above. Please book your place here

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/managing-your-finances-for-voluntary-organisations-charities-tickets-63373187911>

Cost: £90 per person

If you are a trustee you may also be interested in follow up courses -

#### **An Introduction to Budgeting for Voluntary Organisations**

How to prepare your Annual Accounts in the Receipts and Payments format.

If so, please contact [leestevenson@sventerprise.org.uk](mailto:leestevenson@sventerprise.org.uk) for further information.

## YouthLink Scotland's Policy Seminar Series 2019

YouthLink Scotland's Policy Seminars are opportunities for youth work practitioners, policy makers, academics and other interested stakeholders to come together.



The Seminars are designed in a way that will facilitate networking, collaboration, as well as creating precious time for critical thinking and reflection. The seminars will be framed within the context of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

### Youth Work's Role in the Youth Justice System - Wednesday 18 September - Edinburgh

This seminar will explore youth work's role in prevention, care, recovery and support for young people in the youth justice system.

They are looking forward to welcoming the CYCJ, No Knives Better Lives and The Moira Anderson Foundation who will be providing valuable contributions on the day. Other speakers to be announced!

Each seminar will run from 10am to 4pm. Prices range from £67.50 to £75.00 plus VAT.

To book visit

<https://www.youthlinkscotland.org/events/september-2019/youth-works-role-in-the-youth-justice-system-youthlink-scotland-policy-seminar/>

## Free CPD Workshop on Impact Evaluation for Youth Work

As Scottish youth work faces an ongoing funding crunch, organisations are under increasing pressure to demonstrate results in ways that align with national government and education priorities. YouthLink Scotland is offering free open CPD sessions on evaluating the impact of youth work offerings, focused specifically on helping you demonstrate the contribution your work makes to achieving the goals of the Scottish Attainment Challenge.



These sessions will cover:

- Establishing clear outcomes of your work that fit with both local needs and national frameworks.
- Finding the right indicators to measure how you are achieving those outcomes.
- Choosing data-gathering methods that work for your context and minimise additional burdens on youth workers, young people, and your organisation's time.
- Formulating the right questions to ask to get the information you need.
- How to use the data you collect for a variety of purposes – for example, funding applications, growing local partnerships, and internal improvement efforts.

The majority of the sessions will be a collaborative workshop offering attendees the chance to walk away with a fully realised plan for documenting one or two specific impacts of your youth work offerings and ideas for effectively using the evidence you gather.

Because different perspectives are important in establishing what your most important outcomes are and what the constraints on measurement strategies might be, it is recommended that each organisation send two attendees to the workshop – one youth worker or volunteer and one member of the organisation's leadership team.

A pre-activity for gathering useful input from young people who participate in your programmes will also be distributed 2-3 weeks in advance of the workshop.

The first sessions will be held in Linlithgow on 26 September. To book this session visit

<https://www.youthlinkscotland.org/events/september-2019/cpd-workshop-on-impact-evaluation-for-youth-work/>

Two further sessions are being planned for Glasgow and Highland in October – more information will be available soon.

## Under Pressure Training

Zero Tolerance have revised their Under Pressure training and are relaunching the program this September, in partnership with YouthLink Scotland.



This training aims to equip professionals with the skills and knowledge necessary to support young people to have healthy and happy relationships. It helps to support young people in navigating some of the pressures they face around sex and relationships; such as: pornography, social media, grooming and gendered expectations.

They offer two types of delivery:

- Train the trainer: aimed at trainers who work with professionals working with young people.
- Training: direct to Youth Workers and professionals working with young people.

Zero Tolerance are looking for organisations and Violence against Women Partnerships to partner with to deliver this training. Please get in touch if you'd like to know more - [jo.zawadzka@zerotolerance.org.uk](mailto:jo.zawadzka@zerotolerance.org.uk)

## National Youth Work Conference 2019 - Save the date...

YouthLink Scotland's 2019 National Youth Work Conference will take place on 27 November in Glasgow and is entitled Excellence and Equity: Youth Work and the Learner Journey.



This conference will focus on youth work's role in closing the attainment gap – within and beyond school; ensuring every child and young person has the same opportunity to succeed and fulfil their potential.

The National Conference will provide the opportunity to:

- Consider ways to build collaborative practice to improve outcomes for young people.
- Identify and discuss approaches to providing breadth and choice within the learner journey.
- Reflect on a range of youth work interventions and approaches that are helping to close the poverty related attainment gap.

This event is aimed at:

- The youth work sector.
- Head teachers, deputy heads and other teachers.
- Other related professionals interested in young people's learning and development.
- Integrated authorities and community planning partnerships.

More information and online booking will be available soon. In the meantime, save the date!

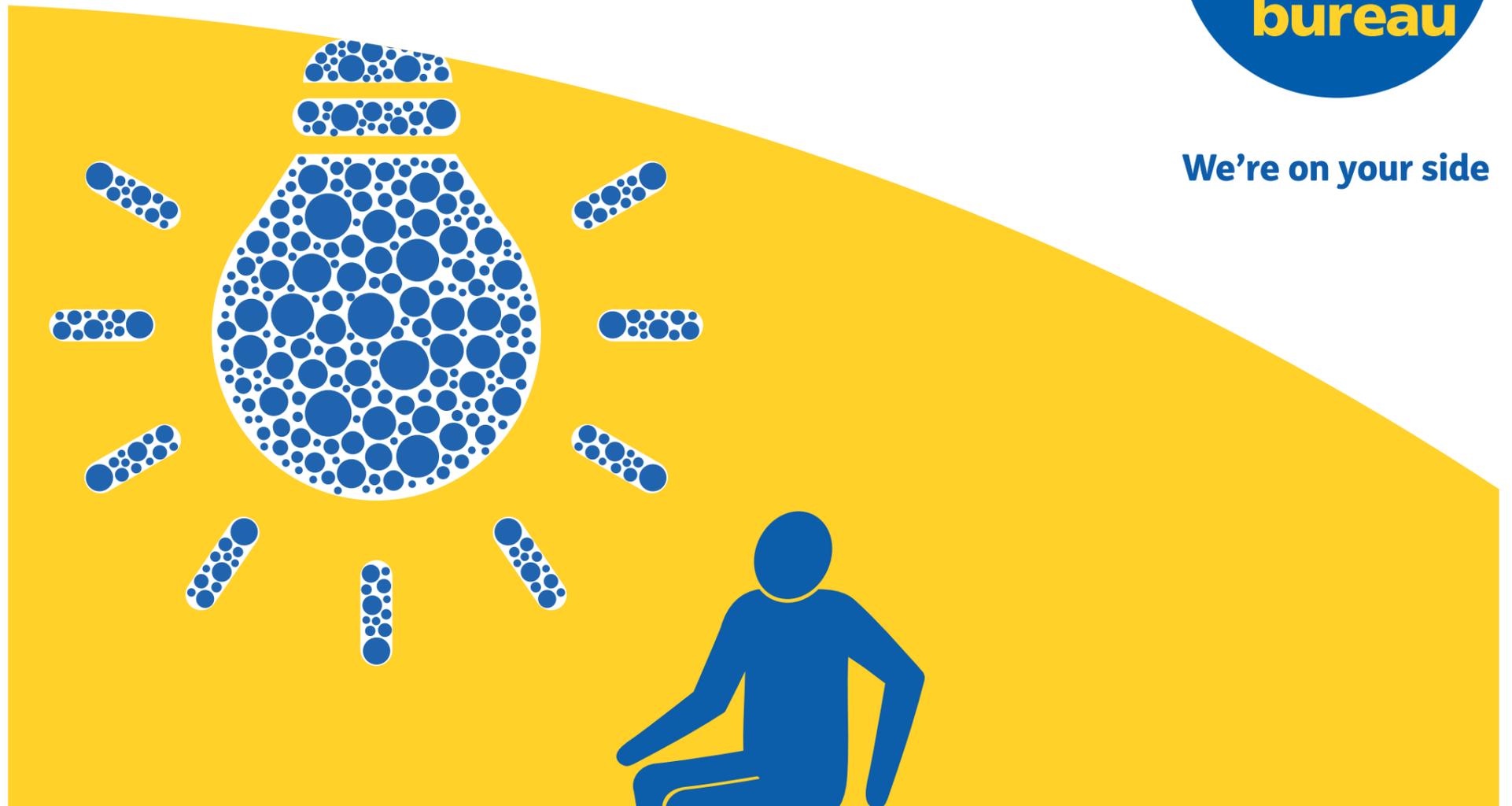
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