

Community Briefing – 04.09.26

Dear Colleagues and Partners,

Welcome to the fortnightly Community Briefing delivered in collaboration with the Highland Community Planning Partnership and Highland Council, containing information about funding, training, support, resources, and news for Highland wide and local communities.

If you have anything you want included in a future Briefing, please e-mail:

communitybriefing@highland.gov.uk ****please note this is a new, dedicated e-mail address****

To join the mailing list, complete this short form: <https://forms.office.com/e/rSS3hXbGTa> or scan the QR Code:



FUNDING	NEWS
<u>The Highland Local Action Group encourages community organisations to apply to small grants pot - Highland Council</u> Priority 1: Community Asset Improvements. This supports projects that make community-run assets stronger, warmer and more sustainable. Priority 2: Tackling Inequality for Children, Young People and Families. This supports short-term, community-led projects that reduce barriers caused by poverty and isolation. Applications up to £10,000. E-mail for	The Highland Council is piloting BeConnected, a new digital platform to support community organisations and groups in accessing funding, in-kind support, and opportunities to collaborate across the region. Click here to view the BeConnected website: <u>BeConnected Highland</u> The Highland Council has just launched its new on-line engagement portal available at <u>Citizen engagement platform The Highland Council</u>. This will supplement but not replace other methods of engagement and allows a much more

further info:

clldsmallgrants@highland.gov.uk

- **Placemaking Support for Island Communities:**

Placemaking and planning support for island communities

Scotland's island communities should have a meaningful say in the future of their places. That's where we can help. The **Island Communities Place Programme** can support your community to understand planning, take part in local decision-making, and help shape the future of your area.

Your Island, Your Support
Visit the [webpage](#) for webinars, mentoring, resources and the [forum](#). [Sign up](#) to the newsletter for updates.

Get support
www.pas.org.uk/island-communities

We can help you to

- Understand how planning can protect and improve your local area
- Develop a Local Place Plan or a Community Action Plan
- Find effective ways to engage with your community
- Explore the processes relating to renewable energy developments and how to have your say

Get in touch
If your community has a planning issue, questions or ideas that are not listed here, please still get in touch (office@pas.org.uk). We are happy to discuss your needs.
The Island Communities Place Programme is funded by the Scottish Government and delivered by Planning Aid Scotland as part of the National Islands Plan.

Planning Aid Scotland
Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

pas.org.uk/island-communities
Registered Company: SC143209 | Registered Charity: SC021337

- **Highland Coastal Communities Funding (HCCF)** allocation across the local area committees. HCCF funding is allocated to Highland Council from the Scottish Government. This year the Council received an allocation of £3,886,450.43. The Highland Council administers HCCF funding as part of the Community Regeneration Fund (CRF), bringing together multiple funding programmes and delivering them via a streamlined process together under one clear, practical approach. [Community groups encouraged to submit project proposals for a share of £3m in Community Regeneration Funding - Highland Council](#)
For the 2026/27 funding allocation, the CRF team will not be issuing an open call for new projects. Instead, BeConnected will be used as the primary starting point for identifying potential projects. The CRF team are piloting BeConnected, an online interactive map that allows community

interactive experience with the facility for creation of ideas, using mapping to drop 'pins', voting etc. One of the most helpful features is that registered users can select the geographic and/or sectoral areas they are interested in and will then receive notifications when there is new activity under these themes or when there are updates. There is no requirement to register on the site, but more functions are available to those who choose to do so.

- **New Highland Local Development Plan:**

Call for ideas

You're invited to share local ideas relating to development or long-term land use in Highland.

Ideas will help to inform the new Highland Local Development Plan.

**Idea submissions are open
7 July - 18 September 2026.**

Scan QR code to share your idea:



Policy idea

Place idea

For more information, visit:
engage.highland.gov.uk/en-GB/projects/call-for-ideas-survey

- **Duke of Edinburgh's Open Award Gold Group – Aban:** Aban are one of the few Open Gold DofE Award Groups in Scotland. Every year they bring together up to 20 young people from all over Inverness & surrounding areas. The best bit? They offer a fully funded scholarship programme for eligible participants which can bring the cost down to zero!

For more information, click [here](#).

- **NHS Highland Stakeholder Briefing:** Please find attached a copy of the latest NHS Highland stakeholder briefing. The briefing focuses on the Home Farm care home.

groups to upload their projects, allowing decision makers to see the grassroots activity happening across Highland. Visit BeConnected [here](#).

- **Funding Support from Highlands and Islands Enterprise:** Please click here for a range of funding support available via HIE. For more information, click [here](#).
- **[Nature Restoration Fund Community Grants Programme:](#)** Applications open on Friday 14 August 2026. Community groups, charities, public sector bodies and other eligible organisations across Highland are being encouraged to apply for funding through the 2026/27 Highland Nature Restoration Fund (NRF) Community Grants Programme.
- **The Highland Children and Young People's Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund 2026/27 will open on Monday 07 September 2026.** This fund will support community-based projects that improve the mental health and wellbeing of children, young people (aged 5–24 or 26 if Care Experienced) and their families across Highland. The fund aims to strengthen prevention, early intervention and accessible support within local communities.

The fund is aligned with the Scottish Government's Children and Young People's Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Supports and Services Framework, which promotes early help, relationship-based practice, whole-family approaches, accessibility, inclusion and strong partnership working.

Applications are encouraged from collaborative partnerships that can demonstrate how their proposals will improve emotional wellbeing, resilience, confidence, social connection and access

- **[BT Digital Voice Monthly Update:](#)**

DIGITAL VOICE MONTHLY UPDATE



How we're helping our customers switch to a digital home phone



Your support is still needed: help customers get ready before January 2027. As the network is scheduled to close in January 2027, it is essential that customers complete their switch to Digital Voice well before this date to avoid any disruption to their service.

We are proactively contacting customers and encouraging them to take the necessary steps now. To help us reach and support as many people as possible, we are asking for your support in reinforcing these key messages to customers within your communities:

Don't delay - act as soon as possible to arrange your switch to Digital Voice.

Confirm your appointment when contacted.

Get in touch promptly if we ask you for additional information or to discuss your options.

Book an appointment if you have not already done so.

- **AA Meetings Timetable:** Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

to support, while helping to reduce isolation and prevent escalation to specialist services. Priority will be given to projects that are community-based, trauma-informed, co-designed with children, young people and families, and that address barriers to participation, particularly for under-represented groups.

The fund seeks to ensure that children, young people and families receive the right support, in the right place, at the right time, through strong collaboration between communities, the third sector and public services.

Small Partnership Grants - <£25,000 over 12 months - opens 7 September (Closes 19 October MIDDAY)

Locality Partnership Grants - <£50,000 over 24 months - opens 7 September (Closes 26 October MIDDAY)

More information can be found at: [Whole Family Wellbeing - Highland Community Planning Partnership](#)

- **SSEN Transmission: Bingally Local Fund Consultation** - SSEN Transmission is launching a consultation on the development of a new community benefit fund for communities near the Bingally 400kV Substation. The £530,000 Bingally Local Fund will provide dedicated community benefit funding to those living in the Strathglass community council area.

SSEN Transmission is committed to ensuring that this funding reflects the priorities of the people who live and work near the project infrastructure. The consultation, launching on Monday 21 September, welcomes thoughts and views of all community members in the area to help shape how the fund is designed and delivered. To find out more, visit the [SSEN](#)

The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. At AA Alcoholics help each other. We will support you. You are not alone. Together, we find strength and hope. You are one step away.

Call Free 0800917 7650 – you will be put in touch with someone local in your area.

Please see the attached document for a full timetable of meetings.

- **Together We Shape Crofting's Future:**



- **The NHS Highland Health Improvement team** are in the process of improving and updating the **Vaping Information booklet for parents and carers**.

We would love to hear from you if this booklet is useful or what you would like to see changed for it to be improved.

Please could you take 2 minutes to complete the short feedback form - we'd greatly appreciate it and it is completely anonymous.

[Parent and Care Vaping Information Booklet](#)

[Transmission Community Benefit website](#) or [contact community.benefit@sse.com](#).

- **Investing in Connections: Highland Council Launches Community Transport Grant Funding for 2027–2030:**

Community groups and organisations across Highland are being invited to apply for funding through The Highland Council's Community Transport Grant Scheme.

The scheme supports community-led transport services that help people access healthcare, employment, education, shopping and social activities. Across the Highlands, community transport plays a vital role in reducing isolation, supporting independence and ensuring residents can reach the services and opportunities that matter most.

For more information and how to apply, click [here](#).

- The [Community Energy Growth Fund](#) is now open for applications until 14 September 2026.

The fund supports eligible Scottish community organisations to develop, build and own renewable energy generation projects, creating long-term local benefits while contributing to Scotland's net zero ambitions.

You may have previously seen information about the Community Energy Generation Growth Fund - that funding round has now closed. We have now launched the [Community Energy Growth Fund](#), and you can find updated guidance and eligibility information on the Local Energy Scotland website.

- **Funding Scotland** - Find funding for your charity, community group or social enterprise using our free online search engine. From small grants to funding for big capital projects, we can help you track down the funding you need to make a

[Parent and Carer Feedback form](#)

- **Citizens Advice Gambling Support Service:** If you are worried about your own or someone else's gambling habits, we can help. Whether you're looking for holistic advice related to debt, housing, employment and relationships, or signposting to focused gambling support, our trained advisers can help.

For more information, including contact details, click [here](#).

- **Armed Forces Covenant: Education Health and Housing:** Highland Council and NHS Highland holistically support our Armed Forces and Veterans community and deliver the Armed Forces Covenant Duty. More information can be found [here](#).
- [Nominations Open to Become a Community Councillor:](#) Nominations are now open for individuals interested in becoming a Community Councillor for Community Councils that have fallen into abeyance or have been successful in submitting a request to re-establish.

This is an opportunity to ensure your community's voice is heard by The Highland Council and other public bodies.

- **Volunteer with Children's Hearings Scotland (CHS) and make a lasting difference in your community:** Children's Hearings Scotland (CHS) is currently recruiting volunteer Panel Members across Scotland, including the Western Isles. Panel Members play a vital role in supporting children and young people by making decisions that are in their best interests during Children's Hearings. We are looking for people aged 18 and over who can demonstrate empathy, compassion and strong listening skills.

Panel Members come from all walks of life and represent communities throughout Scotland. They are dedicated volunteers who uphold the rights and wellbeing of

difference in your community. Click here: [Funding Scotland](#)

- **Funding from Tain and Inverness Tesco Fruit & Veg Grants**

We are looking for schools, youth groups, schools, sports clubs, etc. to be in the Tain and Inverness Tesco's Dec – March customer votes with awards in May '27.

Applications need to be submitted by **end of September** to be considered for their Dec - March customer vote and then in May, after the vote results are counted, awards of £1,500 for first; £1,000 for second and £500 for third place will be offered. Awardees then have 6 months to spend the funds.

This is also a great opportunity for groups to promote the good work that you do.

Applicants must be committed to spend at least 50% of an awarded amount on food related activities and/or food as well as other costs related to your activities with children and/or young people.

Please note that the beneficiary age range is generally up to 18yrs although, groups with those who need additional support are also eligible up to 25yrs.

NOTE that applications that are unsuccessful in this next round, or received after end Sept, will be eligible for future voting rounds ie. April – July with awards in Sept '27

Please do get in touch with Community Enabler tamara@greenspacescotland.org.uk or phone her on 07825 671968 with any queries and for helpful application support.

More info can be found here [Fruit and Veg Grants - Tesco Fundraising | Tesco PLC](#)

infants, children and young people. Working as part of a panel, they listen carefully to those involved in the hearing and make legal decisions that will help shape a child's future. Ensuring that the child or young person remains at the centre of every decision is fundamental to the role, as every outcome can have a significant impact on their life.

CHS provides a comprehensive training programme, supported by an experienced team who will guide you throughout your journey to becoming a Panel Member.

Applications are open from **Wednesday 26 August 2026** and close at **midnight on Wednesday 23 September 2026**.

To find out more about the role, the training provided and the difference you can make, visit www.chscotland.gov.uk Applications can also be submitted through the website.

Online Information Sessions:

CHS will host a series of online Information Sessions via Microsoft Teams for anyone interested in becoming a Panel Member.

Information Session Date:

Thursday 17 September 2026 - 12.30pm to 1.15pm (Microsoft Teams)

To reserve a place at one of the online Information Sessions, please visit www.chscotland.gov.uk

For further information about the recruitment campaign or the Children's Panel in Highland and Moray, please email Ian Craigie (ian.craigie@highland.gov.uk).

- **Draft Local Fire and Rescue Plan:** the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) invites you to share your views on the draft Local Fire and Rescue Plan for your local authority area.

You can share your views [here](#).

- **Corra Foundation** – Corra is a Scottish grant-making charity that works to strengthen and amplify people’s voices and their power to make change. Click here for further info: [Home - Corra Foundation](#)
- **The National Lottery** is investing an extra £2.2 million to help communities across Scotland deliver Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games-inspired activities. Through Awards for All Scotland, groups can apply for up to £10,000 to boost participation in arts and sport, strengthen communities, support wellbeing, celebrate diversity, and create a lasting local legacy. To find out more, click [here](#).
- **National Lottery Awards for All Scotland:** The National Lottery funds projects that bring people together and help communities across Scotland thrive. Social connections and community activities are at the heart of healthier, happier lives, that’s why they support community-led projects. For more information, including application guidance, please click [here](#).
- **[The National Lottery Community Fund \(Scotland\) - Strengthening Organisations](#):** This funding is for organisations in Scotland, that we currently fund. We want to support organisations to try out new ideas and ways of working. Or to develop their organisation and improve their current work. Deadline: Ongoing
- **[Service Pupil Support programme](#):** The Service Pupil Support programme sits with MOD’s dedicated Armed Forces Families Fund. The MOD has partnered with the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust to administer the AF3 Fund. Under this programme, the Trust will award grants for projects which support service children along their educational pathway. Closing date: 30 September 2026

- **Help Shape the Future of Social Prescribing in Scotland**

Have your say!

The Scottish Government is developing a **National Social Prescribing Framework** and wants to hear from people across Scotland about their experiences, views and ideas.

Social prescribing helps connect people with local support that can improve health and wellbeing, including:

Community groups and activities
Volunteering opportunities
Welfare, housing and money advice
Physical activity and cultural programmes
Support to reduce loneliness and social isolation

Whether you've used social prescribing before or have never heard of it, your views matter and will help shape future support and services across Scotland.

They are particularly keen to hear from people living in **rural and island communities**, as well as disabled people, older adults, parents and carers, young people, and those facing social or economic challenges.

The consultation is open until 24 September.

Take part here:

<https://comhairle.scot/conversations/until-ed-2026-07-22-4-16-10pm>

- **Directories:** The Highland Community Planning Partnership website now has a page dedicated to Directories, here you will find links to ALISS, Highland Directory of Services and Highland Mental Wellbeing. Click [here](#) to find out more.
- **[Highland Senior Citizens Network](#):** A website with recent news including the health benefits of social connection, local activities including creative sessions, games, rewilding, veterans’ advocacy, youth mentoring, intergenerational events, and community lunch clubs. Updates on

- **Warmer Homes Scotland:**
Need help to make your home warmer?
If you need help to reduce your heating bills and make your home cosier, you could receive support worth £10,000 or more from the Scottish Government. You could be eligible for energy-saving home improvements like heating and insulation to help make your home warmer, cosier and cheaper to heat.
- **CARES funding** is now open for applications for the 2026/27 funding year. CARES supports a wide range of community energy projects - from community ownership of renewable technologies to installing renewable systems in community buildings, as well as community benefits and shared ownership opportunities. Applications are now open, and we encourage you to apply as soon as possible. We will process, assess and queue applications. However, due to the Scottish Election in May, we cannot issue grant offers or confirm overall scheme funding until a new Government is in place and approves new awards. Read on to find out more about these funds and if they could support your community energy project.
- **Robertson Trust Offer for Small Grant Holders:** The Supporting Resilience Fund offers £2,000–£10,000 to Small Grant Holders to invest in work that strengthens their organisation from the inside.

This funding is for organisational and staff resilience rather than programme delivery. It is intended to support internal development, creating space to address pressures that are often difficult to fund but are essential for long-term sustainability.

What could the fund support?

The fund can support a wide range of activity aimed at strengthening your organisation's foundations, including:

Leadership, governance and strategic planning

carers' research, dementia support, fire safety visits, vitamin D guidance, flu vaccination, energy-saving tips and more.

- **Have your say on the future of Highland's greenspaces**

From parks and play areas to community greenspaces and natural spaces, we want to hear your views on how these valuable places should be managed and developed for the future.

Your feedback will help shape a new Greenspace Biodiversity Management Strategy for Highland. Consultation closes 4 October 2026

[Find out more and take part here](#)

- **Highland Repair Directory:** The Highlands and Islands Climate Hub are pleased to welcome the Highland Repair Directory to their list of projects supporting communities in Highland. The Repair Directory is an online resource which makes it easier for people to share or repair items, instead of sending them to landfill and replacing with new. For more information, click [here](#).
- **[Highland Council Opens Third Round of Reuse and Repair Fund - Highland Council](#):** The Highland Council is encouraging community organisations across the region to apply for the latest round of its successful Reuse and Repair Fund, which supports projects that help keep valuable materials and products in use for longer.

Grants of between £2,000 and £50,000 are available to support a range of community-led initiatives that will help people repair, reuse and upcycle materials - reducing waste and supporting a stronger circular economy.

The third round of funding is now open to applications from community groups, charities, development trusts, public

Financial planning, systems and infrastructure

Organisational development and sustainability planning

1 Staff and volunteer wellbeing, particularly in high-pressure or trauma-informed environments.

For more information, including how to apply for the fund, click [here](#).

- **HTSI** produce a monthly Funding Bulletin for their [members](#), which details current funding opportunities in Highland. They can provide workshops for staff or volunteers in Highland's third sector, to address some of the challenges they're aware of when it comes to applying for funds. They also distribute funds to third sector organisations on behalf of agencies in the public sector, find out more information here: [HTSI Funding](#).
- Scottish Communities Alliance have now reopened their Community Learning Exchange funding. I know a couple of you had be awaiting the reopening of this funding! Groups can do either a virtual or in person exchange, with up to £200 available for a virtual exchange, and up to £1,000 for an in-person exchange. Applicants must be endorsed by a Scottish Communities Alliance member to apply. You can find out more information here: [Community Learning Exchange - Scottish Community Alliance](#)
- The National Lottery has launched a **new** fund called Small Eco Awards. Groups can apply at any time, and a decision will be made within 12 weeks on receipt of application. Funding available is between **£300 to £20,000** and successful applicants with have up to **24 months** after award to spend. More information is here: [Small Eco Awards | The National Lottery Community Fund](#).

sector organisations and community ownership initiatives looking to deliver reuse and repair activities across the Highlands. Applications will close at 12 noon on Friday 16 October.

- **Rescued and Ready Project:**



- **Free Period Products** are available in Highland to everyone who needs them. They can be accessed at community locations, through a home delivery service and are also available to pupils in schools. For more information and how to access products, click [here](#).

• S4GI Community Benefit Fund: S4GI partner Cellnex UK has grants of up to £2,000 available to support initiatives focused on digital projects, community wellbeing, learning & development and more. The fund will prioritise projects located near any of the 55 S4GI mobile masts. Communities and organisations interested in applying can find further information about eligibility criteria and a link to the application process on Cellnex's website. • Highlands and Islands Climate Hub's Climate Action Fund has reopened for a second round, welcoming applications of up to £1,000. Our funding is a small grant which is designed to either kickstart a climate action project in your community or carry out community engagement around climate change. More information here: Climate Action Hub Funding — Highlands & Islands Climate Hub	
TRAINING/EVENTS	EMPLOYABILITY/VOLUNTEERING
• Join us for a special in-person event celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Highland Substance Awareness Toolkit (H-SAT). Over the past decade, H-SAT has supported parents, carers, professionals and young people across Highland with information, guidance and practical resources on alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. Please feel free to share this invite with colleagues or organisations who you think would like to attend. The event will feature presentations from key partners, reflections on the impact of prevention and early intervention work, networking opportunities, and a conversation café exploring the future of the toolkit (Please see the attached Agenda for more details). Date: 14 September 2026	• Highland Thrive CIC - Advice and advocacy - Community development and regeneration - consultancy and support - Education and training - Employability and employment - Information Highland Thrive is a community focused social enterprise working across the Highlands of Scotland to design and deliver practical, locally responsive solutions that strengthen people, organisations and communities. Phone number: 07376488197 Email address: info@highlandthrive.org Website: Highland Thrive CIC – Unlocking potential across the Highlands.

Time: Meet from 12:30pm for a 1:00pm start, finishing at 4:00pm

Venue: WASPS Inverness Creative Academy - The Gym Hall (**in person**)

Register your place [here](#).

- **People's Emergency Briefing screening** - implications for business in Nairn. Invitation to attend a local screening of the People's Emergency Briefing film on the risks to our country from ongoing damage to nature and to our climate. The film features footage from last November's National Emergency Briefing, which brought together leading UK experts in climate science, food security, health, economics, national security and nature.

CINEMA NAIRN | **The Highland Weigh** | **THE ECONOMY IS SUPPORTED BY The Pebble Trust** | **National Emergency Briefing**

People's Emergency Briefing 16+

On the climate and nature crisis

Friday 25th September 2026 7.30pm

Nairn Community & Arts Centre

Brought to you by Cinema Nairn and The Highland Weigh's Climate Café. After the film, enjoy a facilitated discussion along with complimentary coffee and cake.

FREE TO ATTEND
Donations welcome (suggested £3 per person).
Booking is recommended.
To get your tickets: Scan the QR code, online at nairncc.co.uk, call 01667 453476, or visit Reception.
Door entry available if spaces remain.

More information: www.nebriefing.org

- The NHS Highland Health Improvement team and Planet Youth are delighted to inform you that we are running a new block of **Speakeasy sessions for parents and carers**.

What are Speakeasy Sessions?

Does the thought of speaking to your child or adolescent about growing up, their health, risk-taking behaviours, relationships or sexual health worry or confuse you? If so, Speakeasy sessions can help. All sessions last 90 minutes and are run **online** in small group sessions.

• Venture Forward!

Work.Life.Highland | **aban** | **Obair.Beacha. Gaidhealtachd**

Venture Forward

Step Outside. Build Skills. Move Forward.

An outdoor based employability programme for 16 – 24-year-olds

Practical outdoor activities to build confidence, teamwork and leadership skills, gain an SQA award, explore career options, and make great memories along the way

Where? Based at **The Place, Ainess**

When? **Starts 22 September | Wednesdays & Thursdays** for 8 weeks.

Interested in taking part or to find out more?
Please get in touch:
email to employ.ability@highland.gov.uk
or Call Free on 0300 303 1570

www.worklifehighland.co.uk

Funded by Scottish Government (Programme no 7-1006 gov.scot)

united infrastructure

• Work and Wellbeing Event – Portree:

WORK & Wellbeing

A day of support and connection

WEDNESDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER | **PORTREE COMMUNITY CENTRE** | **09:30AM - 2:30PM**

JOB OPPORTUNITIES | **INFORMATION & ADVICE** | **CONNECT & CHAT** | **MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT** | **HOT DRINKS AND FOOD AVAILABLE**

A quiet space is available throughout the day

For more information call 0300 303 1570 or email employ.ability@highland.gov.uk

www.worklifehighland.co.uk

Visit our website or scan the QR code to learn more about Work Life Highland

Take time for you, your wellbeing, your future everyone welcome | pop in anytime

These groups are kept small to allow for conversation, are relaxed, informal and allow for sharing thoughts and ideas. You can become as involved as you like or just sit and listen, your choice entirely.

Thursday 17th September 6:30PM-8PM

[Supporting your child to have a better sleep routine.](#)

Thursday 24th September 6:30PM-8PM

[How to discuss puberty, periods and sexual health with your child.](#)

Thursday 1st October 6:30PM-8PM

[The adolescent brain and risk-taking behaviour](#)

Thursday 8th October 6:30PM-8PM

[Healthy relationships, consent and the law](#)

If you would prefer - you can email Katia or Vicki and they will be happy to book you onto a session: : katia.narzisi@nhs.scot and victoria.clark5@nhs.scot

• **Community Pop Up Hubs:**

COMMUNITY LED SUPPORT HERE FOR
COMMUNITY POP UP HUBS

GET ADVICE FIND SUPPORT STAY CONNECTED

Community Pop Up Hub - Come along to find out what community services are available in your area. Find out all about our frailty services and how some simple chair based exercises can make all the difference to making you feel better. Learn about small aids and adaptations, and lots of other tips to help promote independence in the home.

Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, cake and a chat!

DATE	TIMES	LOCATION	VENUE
Thursday 18th June	11am - 2pm	Tongue	Kyle Centre
Thursday 25th June	10:30am - 2pm	Wick	Library
Tuesday 1st September	10:30am - 2pm	Kinlochbervie	Ceilidh House
Saturday 12th September	10am - 1pm	Thurso	Library

SUPPORTED BY

Family Engagement Event – Lochcarron Centre:



- **Connecting Carers:** A Highland based Charity that provides support to unpaid carers (Carers) – people who look after a loved one, friend, or neighbour due to illness, disability, mental health conditions, or age-related needs. Please see attached flyer and poster for further information.
- **Ewen's Room** is currently looking to recruit four new members of staff for our growing team:
 - 2 x Locality Education Practitioner
 - Income & Enterprise Manager
 - Services & Deliver Manager

Full application packs can be downloaded from their website:

<https://ewensroom.com/jobs/>.

The deadline for applications is the 13th of September 2026.

- **Highland Adult Learning Development Group** have published their first bulletin. Use this link to access the bulletin: [HALDG Newsletter](#) or scan the QR code:

- **[Consultation on Community Transport in Rural and Remote Areas:](#)** We are inviting disabled people living in rural and remote areas of Scotland to take part in an online consultation about community transport. This session is being delivered with Transport Scotland as part of the engagement work to hear lived experience and gather views for the development of the Accessible Travel Framework successor.

The session will be online and guided by a series of discussion questions focused on the challenges and barriers people face when using community transport in rural and remote communities.

Please sign up and let us know about any accessibility requirements by 19 August. If you sign up after this date, we may not be able to fully support accessibility needs.

- **What's On Guide August – South Highland:** A wide range of activities such as Willow Craft, feel good fitness with Highlife Highland and Ciao Belli – a chance to learn a bit of Italian and talk about Italian history and culture. For the full list of activities please see the document attached.
- **Alcohol Brief Interventions:** This course is for anyone who might benefit from being able to discuss alcohol with service users, to help them make an informed choice about their alcohol use. Before attending, please complete the Drugs and alcohol : alcohol brief intervention eLearning [module](#). The aim is to support the embedding and ongoing delivery of Alcohol Brief Interventions (ABIs). Places for the online training are available on 26th of August - [Drugs and alcohol : alcohol brief interventions \(ABI\) | Turas | Learn](#)



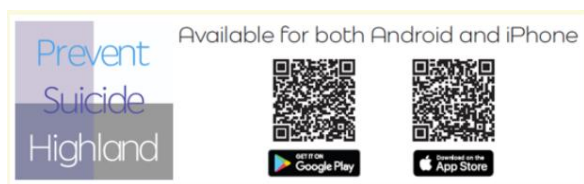
- **Volunteer Academy:** The Highland Volunteering Academy is dedicated to sparking and nurturing a movement of engagement through volunteering, tailored to the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century with our evolving and diverse communities. Find out what volunteering opportunities are available [here](#).
- **[Make a Difference in Your Community – Volunteer with Skye & Lochalsh Citizens Advice Bureau:](#)**



- **MyJobScotland:** for public and third sector [vacancies](#).
- **totaljobs:** for private sector [vacancies](#).
- **HTSI Fellowship Programme:** Designed to advance volunteer practices through targeted learning and collaboration, through grants to undertake study and learning visits. HTSI now f/our live Fellowships open for application. Full details and application instructions can be found on the Volunteer Academy [website](#).

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING	COMMUNITY SAFETY & RESILIENCE
• Highland Mental Wellbeing – this website is a list of services, information and training around the subject of mental health and wellbeing. It also provides information about training and resources for community/service volunteers or paid staff, in a ‘helping’ or supporting role. The Highland Mental Wellbeing website is accessible on desktop and laptop computers, mobile devices and wherever an internet browser is available. www.highlandmentalwellbeing.scot.nhs.uk 	• New Ready Scotland Website Launched: The new Ready Scotland website is now live, with a host of great information ranging from how to create an emergency plan, how to stay safe in storms, as well as a plethora of learning material. You can access the new website in full here. • Home Energy Scotland: Home Energy Scotland’s advisors are true energy saving heroes. They can help you discover practical solutions to reduce your energy consumption, save money, and create a

- **Prevent Suicide Highland App** - This easy-to-use app helps should you ever find yourself in distress, feeling hopeless or suicidal in the future. The app is available on Google Play for Android devices and the Apple App Store for iPhone and iPad.



- **Think Health Think Nature** - Taking time to enjoy local outdoor green space could bring you huge health benefits – getting outdoors is good for your physical, mental, and social well-being. Regardless of age and ability, there really is something for everyone.
- **Summer Mental Health and Wellbeing Newsletter:** Welcome to our Summer Mental Health Delivery Group newsletter. We are already in the swing of Summer and with warmer weather and longer daylight hours, we are provided with more opportunities to spend time outdoors. Summer can bring welcome opportunities to pause, reconnect and look after us and one another. For some people, however, this time of year can also bring changes in routine, financial pressures, caring responsibilities, loneliness or worries that affect wellbeing.
- **Being with Babies Outdoors Toolkit:** **Babies Outdoors** launched their free toolkit in March 2026 via an online webinar which is now available to view on [YouTube](#). Partnering with the Open University the toolkit will support you to explore the benefits to babies and more. Click [HERE](#) for more information.
- **Screen time guidance for under 5s:** Juggling family life and raising children in a digital world can be challenging. Find out more about how to support healthy screen habits for children under 5 by clicking [here](#).
- **Suicide Intervention and Prevention Programme:** This course is available to

warmer, more comfortable home this year. Whether it's through energy efficiency tips, grants, or tailored support, their advisors are dedicated to helping you to take control of your energy costs.

Don't let rising bills catch you off guard. Reach out to Home Energy Scotland today for expert advice that puts you and your home first. Call Home Energy Scotland's free helpline at 0808 808 2282 or visit homeenergyscotland.org

- **Cairngorms Fire Recovery Fund:** Small businesses affected by the recent forest fire in the Cairngorms area are invited to apply to the Cairngorms Fire Recovery Fund.
- On 6 August 2026, The Scottish Government announced a £3 million fund to support businesses affected by the Cairngorms wildfire which is now being administered by The Highland Council.
- Eligible businesses impacted by the fire by a loss of income by more than 20% are invited to apply to the fund for financial assistance to help the business recover, stabilise operations and resume trading as quickly as possible.
- **Firefighters complete work at Cairngorms wildfire but public safety advice remains in place:** Scottish Fire and Rescue Service crews have now completed their operational response to the major Cairngorms wildfire, which affected around 25 square kilometres of land and required the efforts of more than 500 firefighters over several weeks. While the incident has been handed back to land managers, including the RSPB, members of the public are being urged to follow all safety signage and avoid affected areas where unstable ground and fire-damaged trees continue to pose risks. Recovery work remains ongoing, and some routes and visitor areas are still closed.
 - **Community Beats Newsletter:** Please find attached a copy of the latest Community Beats Newsletter, produced by

those who work within the Highland area only. Various dates available.

Who this is for: staff who have patient, client, service user, or public contact and who have had no previous suicide awareness training or last training was more than three years ago.

Course delivery: Please note this course is delivered over two separate 2 hour sessions and you are required to attend both to complete the course. The sessions are usually run a week apart so please check the calendar below to make sure you can attend both Week 1 and Week 2 before booking your place.

Bookable course: [Turas | My Turas | Home](#)

- **Mental health and wellbeing: self-harm awareness - understanding and supporting people who self-harm** (various dates available).

Who this course is for: This session is aimed at anyone who works with or provides support to people who self-harm or at risk of self-harm. 3hr online session

Bookable course: [Turas | My Turas | Home](#)

Police Scotland. You will find information on events, road safety, partnership working and much more.

- **Home fire safety visits:** Find out what is a Home Fire Safety Visit, who can get one, and how to arrange a visit. Click [here](#) to find out more.
- **ALlenergy:** Support people who live in the Highlands from all tenures who are struggling with fuel poverty with Energy Advice and support. They can help clients with: Energy bills: how you pay for your energy, how much you pay and how often; Advise on changes to the way you deal with your energy payments that may result in saving you money; Advise on heating controls and the way you use your heating to ensure you are using it efficiently and cost effectively; Fuel vouchers for people who have a PPM and have no funds to top up. In some cases, if eligible, they can apply to funded schemes to help with paying for your energy, replacement of white goods, alleviation of fuel debt. (subject to funds being available). Further information is available on their website: [ALlenergy](#).
- **Met Office Weather Warnings:** Information from the Met Office on weather related matters.