

Community News Sheet

Update on community issues

September 2019

Welcome

Welcome to the September 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

Stirling Council Budget 2020/21

A new online [Budget Simulator](#) has been launched giving the public the chance to set their own draft Council budget in line with their own preferences.

The results from completed simulators will be collated and passed to Councillors, giving the people of Stirling a unique opportunity to inform the decisions taken by the 23 Elected Members at next year's Budget Setting meeting in February.

Stirling Council spends around £350m each year delivering the vital services that are so important to the everyday lives of our citizens and communities. This covers education, providing social care, collecting bins and recycling, taking care of our roads and many other services valued by the public.

In February this year, the Council approved a financial plan to safeguard vital services and protect the area's most vulnerable people, which included more than £25.5million of capital investment.

The Council is facing another tough budget challenge next year, however, and potentially for the years to come, as costs go up and funding reduces.

Residents will also have the chance to provide fresh ideas and suggestions for investment and transformation through the simulator, which will be taken into account when submissions are made.

For more information, visit www.stirling.gov.uk/budget2020 where you can access the simulator and read a guide on how it works.

The Budget simulator is available at <https://stirling.budgetsimulator.com/>
The platform will be live until midnight on Sunday 20 October 2019.





Proposal Progress

Successful proposals in the Participatory Budgeting process are going ahead with small Delivery Groups of community members working with officers to bring the proposals to their conclusion.

For more information on any proposals and how they are progressing—visit <https://www.stirling.gov.uk/YSYDprogress> or if you have any questions about a proposal contact us at youdecide@stirling.gov.uk

A Consultation on Scotland's National Transport Strategy



The Scottish Government is consulting on the new draft National Transport Strategy to help determine whether the Strategy's Vision, Priorities and Outcomes are the right ones for Scotland's transport network for the next twenty years. The Scottish Government would like to know if the policies contained in the Strategy are the right ones to help deliver it, and how the Strategy can continue to support what works well and address what does not work so well in the transport system. Your views will be key in helping to shape the kind of transport Scotland wants for the next two decades.

For more information visit - <https://consult.gov.scot/transport-scotland/national-transport-strategy/>
Consultation closes Wednesday 23 October 2019

Out of School Care in Scotland - a draft framework for consultation



The Scottish Government want future policies on Out of School Care to be shaped by the people who would benefit from them. The Scottish Government would like to understand what children, parents and carers, professionals and experts think about the ways in which Out of School Care can give children opportunities to play and access life-enhancing experiences and support parents to work, train or study.

For more information visit - <https://consult.gov.scot/children-and-families/out-of-school-care/>
Consultation closes Friday 6 December 2019

Consultation on The Principles of a Local Discretionary Transient Visitor Levy or Tourist Tax



This consultation seeks to develop the Scottish Government's understanding of the issues and concerns with regard to the introduction of a Transient Visitor Levy and help inform the development of legislation to enable local authorities to apply a visitor levy. In particular, the consultation seeks views to ensure that the legislation:

- supports the continuing success of the tourism industry in Scotland;
- provides the powers that are needed for local authorities to respond to local pressures;
- minimises the administrative and compliance burdens for those affected.

The consultation document builds on the evidence gathered from the National Discussion, setting out considerations relating to particular aspects of establishing a visitor levy alongside questions relevant to each section.

For more information visit - <https://consult.gov.scot/local-government-and-communities/visitor-levy/>
Consultation closes Monday 2 December 2019

Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations - Digital Check-up

Many charities would like to use digital tools to improve their capability, but don't know where to start. SCVO's Digital Check-up will help you to assess your organisation's current digital maturity and how this compares to other organisations of a comparable size. The checkup will help you to identify your strengths and the gaps your organisation is facing in the following areas:

- Leadership, culture and skills
- Tools and equipment
- Content, marketing and data
- Cyber resilience and online threats

Once you have completed the checkup, you can request 1:1 support to explore the resources most relevant to your needs, either through live chat, by booking a phone call or by email.

Find the Digital Check-up at <https://digitalcheckup.org/>



Health Walks

Paths for All support a network of community Health Walk projects that organise free group walks every week, and they are always looking for new walkers.



A Health Walk:

- is led by a trained volunteer on a risk assessed route
- is less than an hour long
- has a short warm up at the start, followed by a brisk walk and then a short cool down at the end
- welcomes new walkers who would benefit from being more active
- is a friendly group walk offered regularly
- is an opportunity to meet new people in your area and explore places you might not have been before

Health Walks are aimed at inactive people who would benefit most from doing more physical activity. This can include people who haven't been active for a while and would like to start again, people recovering from ill health or who are managing a long-term condition and anyone who has been told by a health professional that they would benefit from being more active.

Health walkers can enjoy a whole range of benefits including increased fitness, improved mood and increased social interactions with local people and the local area. Walking requires no special equipment or expense and is the ideal way for most people to become more active.

Interested? Visit <https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/walking-for-health/health-walks> and discover a Health Walk near you. You're guaranteed a warm welcome and a walk at a pace and length that suits you, whatever your ability.

Co-production Week Scotland 2019: The Big Questions

18- 22 November 2019

Now in its 4th year, Scottish Co-production Network's Co-pro Week Scotland is about bringing people together from across the country to share ideas, learning and stories about how co-production puts people and communities at the heart of the support and services they're a part of.

But co-production isn't always smooth sailing – it can be tricky to define, hard to measure and sometimes it's not clear whether you're doing co-production or something else entirely.

During **#CoProWeekScot** this year the network are going to be asking the **Big Questions for Co-production**, exploring what makes co-production so transformative... and why it's not always so easy.

For more information on the week and how to be involved visit <https://coproweek.coproductionscotland.org.uk/>



Challenge Poverty Week

7-13 October 2019

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

The **key messages** of Challenge Poverty Week are:

Challenge Poverty? Aye we can!

- Too many people in Scotland are trapped in the grip of poverty
- By boosting people's incomes and reducing the cost of living we can solve poverty
- Solving poverty is about ensuring we can all participate in a just and compassionate society

For more information, visit <https://www.challengepoverty.net/>



Grab a Grant -

Volunteering Matters Action Earth Grants 2019

Any group of volunteers can apply for **Volunteering Matters Action Earth** grants of between £50-£250 to run environmental activities in Scotland's green spaces. This includes enhancing local biodiversity by creating or improving community gardens, wildflower meadows, ponds, woodlands or urban greenspaces.



50% of the grants are for areas where there is substantial social or economic deprivation. Applications are prioritised from volunteer groups who do any of the following:

- Improve and develop the health and wellbeing of their local community
- Involve disabled people, vulnerable people or those at risk of exclusion
- Encourage and involve people under 26 in practical outdoor conservation
- Arrange mass participation volunteering events to get the community involved

This year Volunteer Matters also have a very limited number of enhanced grants of up to £500 for environmental projects which can demonstrate a significant health impact through working with people who have defined health or social needs. Check their website for eligibility and availability of these enhanced grants.

Projects should conclude before January 2020. Grants are allocated on a first-come basis so don't delay – register today at volunteeringmatters.org.uk/actionearth

Volunteering Matters Action Earth grant funding is provided by Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH).

For more information contact: E: robert.henderson@volunteeringmatters.org.uk T: 07808 860356



Lunch Club Campaign

This year **Eat Well Age Well** are encouraging lunch clubs across Scotland to host a special themed event during UK Malnutrition Awareness Week, 14 - 20 October 2019.



The Food Train who bring you this initiative, know that it is often the people on the front line, whether they are working, volunteering or caring for older people, that understand the issues that affect older people the most, and lunch clubs are the perfect setting to have conversations around food, eating and appetite.

The Eat Well Age Well Lunch Club Pack can equip you to feel confident and comfortable to promote the value of good nutrition and hydration in later life and avoid the risk of malnutrition.

Find out more at <https://www.eatwellagewell.org.uk/lunchclub>

Complexity of Community Cafes

Question: when is a café not a café? Answer: when it's a community café.

The basics of coffee, tea and cakes for sale may be as standard in cafes of all shapes and sizes but community cafes go much further. A while back, Sencot commissioned some research into what it takes to run a successful community café and the response was such that they've now produced a short briefing paper identifying a whole range of factors for any group to consider if they are thinking of setting one up.



To read the briefing visit

<https://sencot.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Social-Enterprise-and-Community-Cafe-Activity.pdf>

This paper will be followed by a series of shorter publications with a focus on peer-to-peer learning around the running of a community cafe. Each publication will focus on a specific scenario, such as setting up a community café from scratch, building a kitchen or bringing in an external caterer to run a community café on your existing premises.

Social Enterprise Census

The latest social enterprise census was launched this week at the CEIS (Community Enterprise in Scotland) Social Enterprise Policy & Practice Conference.

Unveiled by Communities and Local Government Minister Aileen Campbell MSP, Social Enterprise in Scotland 2019 indicates that there are now over 6000 social enterprises operating in Scotland, generating over £3bn of annual income.

The figures confirmed that social enterprise in Scotland continues to be made up primarily of small, locally-focused enterprises, with 26% of Social Enterprises operating within a single neighbourhood or community and 57% operating within a single local authority area. To read the full report, please visit

<https://sencot.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Social-Enterprise-Census-2019-Full-Report.pdf>

Introduction to Social Enterprise

Wondering what's so great about social enterprise?

Heard the phrase but not absolutely sure what it means?

The Social Enterprise Hub in the Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park has just the event for you. You are invited to a two day **Introduction to Social Enterprise** being held in the beautiful Maid of the Loch on the shores of Loch Lomond on 28 and 29 October. The programme is open to anyone who is interested in finding out more about social enterprise and how the model is being adopted across the National Park. No previous knowledge is required and the programme is fully funded.

Find out how social enterprises are structured, how they are financed and learn how to navigate the maze of support services available if you are thinking about starting one. The two days are about networking and learning from others already involved in social enterprise. Find the time to learn something new and start to think about how social enterprise might work in your own organisation or community.

To book a place, please contact Fiona at Fiona.Paul@lochlomond-trossachs.org.uk or call 01389 727 762 or visit: <https://www.socialenterprise.academy/scot/whats-on/introduction-to-social-enterprise-667>



The Rise of the Community-Owned Pub

Black Bull Hub & Pub Gartmore

The Black Bull Hotel has been serving the interests of Gartmore and the surrounding areas for 300 years and to ensure its continued survival, the community took matters into their own hands and took ownership of its newest venture, the Black Bull Hub & Pub on 2nd September 2019.

This could not have been achieved without the coming together of more than 250 members raising over £70,000. This provided the starting costs and balance needed to secure a grant of £217,500, awarded by the Scottish Land Fund, to buy the Black Bull Hotel and transform it into a Hub & Pub to meet the needs of villagers, neighbours, friends and visitors.

Dating from the 1700s, the pub was used by cattle drovers bringing their cattle from field to market. It seems only fitting that the pub should be called the Black Bull in recognition of its role in providing the wearisome drovers with a brief respite on their long journey south.

Shares are still available and if you would like to buy shares and become a member of Black Bull Gartmore Hub & Pub, full information is provided in the Community Share Offer document and should be read in conjunction with the Rules of the Society.

For more information, please visit <https://blackbullgartmore.com/become-member/>



If you are receiving this News Sheet you are part of the Community Engagement Team's mailing list. We collect, use and store your information in order to support the community development needs of you and your organisation.

Your information will be kept secure and not shared with other Council services or Partners. You have various rights with respect to your personal data, including the right to access a copy of what we hold about you; have it changed or removed. If you no longer wish to receive this information, please contact the Community Engagement Team on 01786 233076 or email communityengagement@stirling.gov.uk



The Concept

While business support exists for organisations with a record of successful trading and with the potential for growth, many community organisations struggle to qualify for this support within the existing framework. For those organisations at an earlier stage in their enterprise 'journey', business support has been less easy to access.

The Aim

To assist community organisations that are currently dependent on grants or service level agreements to become more sustainable enterprises.

For more information, please contact

Amanda Cornish
07843 481790
amanda@scottishcommunityalliance.net

Victoria Pearce
Community Enterprise
01506 862 227
Victoria@communityenterprise.co.uk

www.scottishcommunityalliance.org.uk/accelerate



A free programme of support for community groups seeking new ways to generate income

Accelerate is a partnership project between Scottish Community Alliance and Community Enterprise.

Accelerate is funded by the Scottish Government.



Accelerate offers support on two levels:

To qualify for Accelerate support

your community group **must**:

- have a constitution and bank account
- not be currently trading
- have (or be happy to build) a relationship with one of Scotland's community based networks. We can help with this.

To access Accelerate support

Complete a simple Expression of Interest form.

Form available from:

www.scottishcommunityalliance.net/accelerate

Level One

Organisational health check & action planning

During this stage, we will spend some time getting to know you and your organisation. We will help you to identify where your strengths lie and to be clear about the aspirations you have for your organisation. We will also help you to understand some of the challenges you face.

Level Two

Enterprise support

Level 2 will involve a short input of more intensive, specialised support.

The nature of this support, which is free, will depend entirely on what has been agreed with you during Level 1. For instance, it could be to help scope out an idea that you have, or to undertake some market research or to seek technical advice on a particular aspect of your plans.



Wester Loch Ewe Trust

"Although we are a geographically isolated organisation we felt avenues of communication were easy and prompt. We felt well supported and listened to throughout. The Business Plan produced reflects the needs and wishes of the community"

Kingdom off Road

"The support for our organisation really helped in terms of marketing our product and working towards becoming more sustainable and less grant dependent. Community Enterprise has given us confidence going forward"



>STIRLING>STRIDERS

JogScotland Group

A GREAT WAY TO
GET FIT & KEEP FIT

FREE

Monday Evenings
at Stirling Health and
Care Village @ 5.30

(Area next to RVS Cafe in Outpatients Wing)

All welcome from
beginners upwards

For further information contact
stirlingstriders@outlook.com



stirling striders

jogscotland



NHS
Forth Valley



ActiveStirling