

Community Resilience Briefing – 18 November 2022

Dear Community Resilience Group/Community Council/Colleagues,

Welcome to The Highland Council's fortnightly briefing for groups with an interest in local community resilience.

Winter Vaccination Programme

- Public Health Scotland colleagues have recently translated information on the Covid and Flu vaccinations being offered as part of the Winter Vaccination Programme. This includes 36 community languages and British Sign Language versions, accessible here: [Other languages - winter vaccines | NHS inform](#)

Covid related information

- [Scottish Government Covid-19 Guidance](#)
- [NHS Inform Covid data](#)
- [NHS Inform Covid information and guidance](#)
- [NHS Highland local vaccination information](#) – this includes information on the winter Coronavirus (COVID-19) and Flu vaccination programme which is now underway.

Funding

[SCVO](#) is a key source of funding information for the third sector. Funds that may be of interest include:

- [Music for All - Community Project Funding](#)
Supports projects and initiatives bringing music to their communities become truly sustainable programmes. Next deadline 25 November 2022.
- [Essentia Foundation](#)
Provides financial support to charities and community groups improving health, social welfare, and opportunities for training/learning/upskilling of young people up to age 25. Next deadline 30 November 2022.
- [The Tree Council - Branching Out Fund](#)
Assists schools and community groups undertaking well-planned tree planting projects during National Tree Week. Next deadline 4 December 2022.
- [Corra Foundation - The Household Hardship Fund](#)
This fund opens on 22 November to provide grants to charities and community groups with strong local relationships who can pass the funding on directly to families and individuals on low incomes.

- [Family Fund: Helping disabled children](#)
Family Fund grants are available for families on a low income, raising a child or young person aged 17 or under with a long-term disability, disabling condition or life-limiting illness. Grants depend on available funding.
- [Highland Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund](#) (Phase 2)
HTSI have announced that Phase Two of Expressions of Interest for the Highland Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund is now open. The deadline for submissions is Monday 28 November.
- [Reaching New Scots Fund](#)
The Reaching New Scots Fund will award grants to groups and organisations across Scotland that are run by New Scots or offer support to refugees and people seeking asylum. The application deadline is Sunday 18 December 2022.

Welfare, poverty reduction and resilience

- [SSEN Distribution Stakeholder Surgeries](#) – Thursday 24th November 11:30 to 13:00 SSEN are hosting an online event on Teams aimed at building resilience this winter. At the session, you will hear from in-house experts on the processes involved, the importance of winter preparedness, and ways to support homes and businesses this winter.

Participants will also have the opportunity to speak to the Head of Distribution Control and Director of Corporate Affairs and Stakeholder Engagement who will talk you through the communications strategy and mapping system.

See the attached document for more information and event details.

- [HTSI Winter Service Provision Survey](#) – HTSI are collating information to identify the extent of Third Sector service provision throughout the winter months across Highland. The information will be collated and provided to the NHS for signposting and referrals and published through the HTSI website for the public and other service providers. This will help ensure that those who need services are aware of where to go to access them and to help understand where there are gaps in provision and support.
- **AbilityNet: ConnectingU**
AbilityNet have completed phase 1 of ConnectingU, a scheme providing a device (tablet, smartphone, or laptop) and training to anyone digitally excluded who is either age 50+ or anyone with a disability of any age. They are now looking at Phase 2. Are you an organisation whose members could benefit from this type of support? Please contact Chris Grant chris.grant@abilitynet.org.uk to find out more.
- [CyberScotland Bulletin November 2022](#) – topics this month include – the annual review outlining cyber challenges and responses over the previous year, the latest NCSC Threat Report, and Scottish organisations urged to test their resilience.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

- [NHS Highland Mental Wellbeing](#) – a collection of resources and signposts to help people of all ages to look after their own mental wellbeing.
- [Cost of living crisis and your mental health](#)
_Many people are feeling the strain as the cost of living continues to increase. This [resource](#) provides information on how you can maintain your mental wellbeing at this time, alongside information on how to manage your money as bills rise.

Emergency Planning

- Met Office Weather Warnings - <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/warnings-and-advice/uk-warnings#?date=2022-11-04>
- Met Office Weather Ready <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/warnings-and-advice/weatherready>
- Floodline Scotland <https://floodlinescotland.org.uk/>
- Ready Scotland – preparing for emergencies <https://ready.scot/>