



NEWS

Adults at Risk Update

Groups working with Adults at Risk will probably already have come across the changes to the criteria for accessing disclosures for staff and volunteers. This is the most recent information provided by the Central Registered Body in Scotland (CRBS). If you have concerns, contact the CRBS (details below) or either of the K & D Voice and GRA offices (details at the end of the bulletin).

The CRBS, in agreement with Scottish Government and in conjunction with Disclosure Scotland, can now process applications for Basic Disclosures for volunteers working in voluntary organisations.

If your organisation previously accessed Standard or Enhanced Disclosures via CRBS and cannot now meet the criteria below, you will be able to access a Basic Disclosure at no cost through CRBS.

If your group uses the services of K&D Voice or Gordon Rural Action to process disclosures for you, we can now process Basic Disclosures.

Accessing Standard Disclosures for Working with Adults:

The criteria for accessing a standard disclosure, for persons working (paid or unpaid) with adults is as follows:

The position applied for must involve work or employment which is concerned with the provision of a care service. This includes organisations registered with the Care Commission or those organisations who are eligible to register with the Care Commission; or

The position applied for must be of such a kind as to enable the holder (of the position) to have access to persons in receipt of health services in the course of that person's normal duties.

Accessing Enhanced Disclosures for Working with Adults at Risk:

With regard to enhanced disclosures, this level of check is only available for those that meet the criteria of the standard disclosure and the criteria of an "adult at risk" position as defined in section 10 of the Police Act 1997 (Criminal Records) (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (please follow link and scroll down to section 10);

<http://www.opsi.gov.uk/legislation/scotland/ssi2006/20060096.htm>

CRBS can e-mail a "checklist" detailing the relevant criteria to assist you in deciding whether your organisation / clients meet the necessary criteria. Please request the AAR Checklist via info@crbs.org.uk and we will reply to your e-mail within 1 working day.

If the post or activity to which the application relates does not satisfy either test, then a basic disclosure can be accessed.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact CRBS on 01786 849777 or through info@crbs.org.uk.

NEWS

Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme: Check to protect

In 2010, the Scottish Government is introducing a new membership scheme that will replace and improve upon the current disclosure arrangements for people who work with vulnerable groups. The Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme (PVG Scheme) aims to:

- help to ensure that those who have regular contact with children and protected adults through paid and unpaid work do not have a known history of harmful behaviour,
- be quick and easy to use, reducing the need for PVG Scheme members to complete a detailed application form every time a disclosure check is required,
- strike a balance between proportionate protection and robust regulation and make it easier for employers to determine who they should check to protect their client group.

The Government has produced a booklet which aims to provide broad information about the PVG Scheme. It is available in different online formats and in hard copy so that groups and organisations can distribute it easily to their staff, volunteers, members and clients. More detailed information about the PVG Scheme, including frequently asked questions, is available on the Scottish Government website. Website addresses and contact information are on pages 11 and 12. See www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/03/27172859/0.

For details of information events which are to take place in June 2009, please see the 'Events and Training' section of this E-Bulletin.

Fast Track Registration with CRBS (Central Registered Body in Scotland) who process Disclosure applications

CRBS now offers a 'Fast Track' registration procedure. Prospective Collators/Lead Signatories can complete registration with CRBS over the telephone with the assistance of a member of CRBS staff. CRBS can also provide all policies required for registration. These will be returned to the prospective Collator/Lead Signatory along with the CRBS Form 1 Registration Application Form and a Disclosure Application Form, (if working in a childcare and/or adult at risk position) to:

- Check the registration forms for accuracy
- Sign and date the registration forms
- Return the registration forms
- Agree with and return required policies
- Provide organisation structure and funding details.

For more information on how to use the Fast Track registration process please contact CRBS on 01786 849777 or by email at info@crbs.org.uk where a member of staff will be happy to help.

Volunteer Development Scotland and the Central Registered Body in Scotland

Volunteer Development Scotland and the Central Registered Body in Scotland are now both based at Jubilee House, Forthside Way, Stirling, FK8 1QZ.

VDS - tel 01786 479593, fax 01786 849767. Web: www.vds.org.uk. Email: vds@vds.org.uk

CRBS - tel 01786 849777, fax 01786 849767. Web: www.crbs.org.uk. Email: info@crbs.org.uk.

Freedom of Information and the Voluntary Sector

New resources to support the voluntary sector in using Scotland's Freedom of Information (FOI) laws have been launched by the Scottish Information Commissioner. The resources include a web-portal for voluntary sector organisations with advice and guidance on how to make use of the FOI 'right to information', and an enquiry service providing one-to-one support. To find out more, visit <http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/home/SICResources/ResourcesCivil.asp>.

NEWS

Remuneration of Charity Trustees

Article from the OSCR Reporter

We are often asked questions relating to the remuneration of charity trustees and it is important that trustees are aware of the strict restrictions associated with this to ensure that they do not breach legislative requirements.

Sections 67 and 68 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 concern the remuneration of charity trustees. Section 67(1) contains a general prohibition on the remuneration of charity trustees. Remuneration has been prohibited because charities are generally understood to be voluntary organisations to which charity trustees offer their services without payment. Section 67 does not specify the source of the remuneration, and therefore covers remuneration not only by the charity but also by any third party.

What is remuneration?

The Act specifies that it can be any direct or indirect benefit, including a benefit in kind. The remuneration can be for:

- being a charity trustee, under a contract of employment
- for other services to or on behalf of the charity.

A direct benefit would include a payment made directly to a charity trustee, for example where a charity trustee is a solicitor and has provided legal services to the charity. Even if the payment is not made directly to the charity trustee, however, he or she may be considered to benefit if it is made to a person the Act considers to be "connected" to the charity trustee, for example where the charity trustee's spouse has provided legal services to the charity for which they have received payment. A benefit in kind can be anything other than cash which has a monetary value, including goods or free or reduced rate access to services provided by the charity.

Who is considered to be "connected" to a charity trustee?

- Family members of the charity trustee i.e. spouse, civil partner, or person with whom the charity trustee is living, or any child, parent grandchild, grandparent, brother or sister and any spouse of these family members.
- An institution or body corporate can also be considered to be connected to a charity trustee if it is controlled, either directly or through nominees, by the charity trustee or any person with whom the charity trustee is connected, or if the charity trustee or connected person has a substantial interest in it. A person is considered to have "control" of an institution when he or she is able to secure that its affairs are conducted in accordance with his or her wishes. A substantial interest is defined as having one-fifth of the equity share capital or being able to exercise, either directly or through nominees, more than one-fifth of the voting power at any general meeting of a body corporate. Please note that the substantial interest does not have to be held by one person. It could be the combined interest of two or more connected persons. Finally, a Scottish partnership is connected if the charity trustee or a connected person is a partner.

Remuneration isn't:

The reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the charity by a charity trustee is not considered remuneration. Charity trustees should have an agreement in place about what constitutes "reasonable" out of pocket expenses and procedures for how these should be claimed and recorded.

When is remuneration allowed?

Despite the general prohibition on remuneration, it may be possible for the charity to remunerate some of its charity trustees for services to the charity provided the strict conditions set out in section 67 are met. These are:

- the maximum amount of the remuneration is set out in a written agreement

(Continued on page 4)

NEWS

(Continued from page 3)

- the maximum amount of the remuneration is reasonable in the circumstances;
- the charity trustees are satisfied, before entering the agreement, that it is in the interest of the charity for that person to provide those services for that amount;
- immediately after entering the agreement, less than half of the total number of charity trustees are directly or indirectly remunerated;
- the constitution of the charity does not expressly prohibit the remuneration of charity trustees.

Charity trustees must decide what "reasonable" remuneration is. Examples of how they may do this would be by obtaining several quotes in order to decide which represents best value, or by contacting a professional association for guidance on fees.

There are some exceptions to meeting the above remuneration conditions. Remuneration is permitted if the charity's constitution contains a specific authorising provision in force on 15 November 2004 (the date the Charities Bill was introduced to the Scottish Parliament). If the constitution is silent, or contains only a general provision authorising remuneration, then the conditions set out in section 67 must be met. Remuneration is also permissible if authorised by an order of the Court of Session or any enactment.

OSCR has prepared an information booklet, "Guidance for charity trustees: acting with care and diligence". You can download a copy from: www.oscr.org.uk

Disclosure in Annual Accounts

The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations require that the remuneration of charity trustees be disclosed in the notes to the accounts (or the information may be included in the Trustees' Annual Report). Many Charity Trustees are under the misunderstanding that these disclosure requirements relate only to remuneration paid to a trustee in respect of holding office of trustee. It should be noted that remuneration paid to *all* charity trustees, or anyone "connected" with a charity trustee requires to be detailed in the annual accounts of the charity. This will include salaries, fees, allowances, etc earned for carrying out any role of a salaried employee of the charity.

The Accounts disclosure requirement for remuneration of charity trustees is covered by paragraphs 226 to 230 of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005), in respect of SORP compliant accounts. Accounts prepared using Receipts & Payments principles should include the information required by Part 2 of Schedule 3 of Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

If no payments are made to those who are charity trustees, a statement to that effect should be made in the notes to the accounts (both bases of preparation).

In respect of expenses reimbursed to charity trustees, the aggregate amount and the number of charity trustees paid should be stated, and if no expenses were paid, a statement of that fact should be made.

OSCR Reporter will keep you informed of the latest developments, news, consultations and forthcoming events. To receive your bimonthly copy of the eNewsletter and email alerts see <http://www.oscr.org.uk/registrationform.aspx>

Abbey Launches Free Guide to PR for Charities

Abbey has launched a free guide to public relations (PR) designed to help charities together with voluntary and community groups get the most out of promoting their work to potential volunteers and funders. The guide has been developed by Abbey's Charitable Trust and PR professionals and offers an introduction to media relations, from interacting with corporate PR teams to hosting journalists at events. See <http://www.abbeynational.com>, look under CSR.

NEWS

Scotland's drinking habit

Industry sales figures suggest Scotland has the eighth highest alcohol consumption level in the world. The country drank nearly 50 million litres of pure alcohol in 2007 - equivalent to 11.8 litres per capita for every person aged over 16. This is considerably higher than England and Wales, which had an average consumption figure of 9.9 litres per capita. The figures are derived from market data analysed by the Nielsen Company for the Scottish Government, which also showed that two-thirds of alcohol in Scotland was bought in off-sales locations such as supermarkets.

Scotland's figure is higher than nearly every other country in Western Europe, including Spain (11.7 litres), France (11.4 litres) and Italy (8.0 litres). It is more than double the consumption level in Scandinavian countries like Sweden (6.0 litres) and Norway (5.5 litres) where the relative price of alcohol is considerably higher and the sale of alcohol is more restricted.

Dr. Laurence Gruer, Director of Public Health Science with NHS Health Scotland, said "These figures put Scotland's alcohol misuse problem in context. Taking these figures alongside Scottish Health Survey estimates suggests that around 50% of men and 30% of women may be drinking above weekly limits. The consequences of this level of consumption are only too apparent in our hospital wards, Emergency Departments and on our streets."

Alcohol misuse is estimated to cost Scotland £2.25 billion per year in extra services across the NHS, police, courts, social services and lost economic productivity. For more information, visit <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2009/02/20161722>

NHS: Have you been involved?

NHS Grampian involves patients and the public in making decisions about their services. The Scottish Health Council's role is to make sure this happens. They would like to know if you are aware of how NHS Grampian currently engages with local communities or if you have been involved in work they have done this year.

Please complete their online survey:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=BtqVqHZwy3sJFESuZp58LA_3d_3d

If you would like to talk to us direct, please contact us at the address below and ask for Natalie Keag or Chris Third.

Scottish Health Council, Tel: 01224 559444; grampian@scottishhealthcouncil.org

New CHP Health and Wellbeing Profiles for Scotland

The ScotPHO team at the Information Services Division (ISD) of NHS National Services Scotland have produced individual profile reports for 30 of the community health partnership (CHP) areas in Scotland. Profiles for the 10 CHP areas in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde have been produced separately by the Glasgow Centre for Population Health.

The profiles comprise 61 indicators of health and wider determinants of health and are designed to: Provide organisations and communities with up-to-date and locally-relevant public health intelligence; Highlight health and social inequalities; Show trends in key indicators; Provide local information for targeting resources and priority-setting; Develop knowledge of the complex nature of health and its determinants. In addition to the individual CHP profile reports, ScotPHO have produced a Scotland overview report (which includes data for NHS boards) and a full technical report. The profiles are at <http://digbig.com/4ypnp>.

New contact details for Voluntary Health Scotland

Voluntary Health Scotland has moved to new office premises in the West End of Edinburgh at 35 Melville Street, Edinburgh EH3 7JF. This relocation has also resulted in new telephone and fax numbers. These are: Tel: 0131 225 7920; Fax: 0131 220 9940.

Shifting the Balance of Care

Voluntary Health Scotland is working with the Scottish Government's Health and Wellbeing Directorate to support Shifting the Balance of Care (SBC) the developing framework for health and care services.

SBC describes changes at different levels across health and social care - all of which are intended to bring about improvements in health and wellbeing and better service outcomes by providing care which is earlier in the course of a disease, a quicker diagnosis and a treatment process tailored more closely to each person's needs and is delivered closer to home.

The overall aim is to improve the health of the people of Scotland by shifting the emphasis towards preventative medicine and more continuous care in the community. Involving the third sector in the changes is seen as essential in taking them forward.

Eight broad complex SBC impact areas have been identified as key to the delivery of national and local outcomes and targets and likely to make the biggest improvements in health and wellbeing. These are:

1. Maximise flexible & responsive care at home with carer support
2. Integrate health & social care and support for people in need and at risk
3. Reduce avoidable unscheduled attendances and admissions to acute hospitals
4. Improve capacity & flow for scheduled care
5. Extend the range of services outside acute hospitals by better use of non-medical practitioner skills
6. Improve access to care for remote and rural populations
7. Improve Palliative & End of Life Care
8. Better joint use of resources

Within each area a number of specific, evidence based improvements have been identified. These take into account the current range of high impact changes that have been developed over the past few years (e. g. Long Term Conditions) - most of which have improvement in the balance of care at their core.

The actual high impact changes can be viewed at

<http://www.shiftingthebalance.scot.nhs.uk/improvement-framework/high-impact-changes/>

Deafblind Scotland Community Planning Involvement Project

The growing emphasis on locality planning has been welcomed by many as a positive move to involve local people in planning for their own communities. However, it is also the case that people at the margins of their communities, such as deafblind people, may be further unintentionally marginalised in the community planning process.

Deafblind Scotland's Community Planning Involvement Project is an innovative 3-year project funded by the Scottish Executive. The aim is to find ways to ensure the needs of deafblind people are represented, taken account of and addressed in the community planning process.

Deafblind people often have difficulties with communication, accessing information and mobility. This can lead to reduced confidence, social isolation and decreasing independence. Deafblind people are simply not able to participate in a meaningful way at a local level through existing community planning avenues.

For further information see www.deafblindscotland.org.uk

NEWS

Community Empowerment Action Plan

The Community Empowerment Action Plan, jointly developed with COSLA and colleagues in the third sector was announced on 23 March 2009, and encourages people in both rural and urban areas to participate in the running of their neighbourhoods.

The action plan provides clarity on what community empowerment is, why it is important and how communities can get involved. A range of best practice examples from across Scotland are set out, providing information and inspiration for people who want to have a say in the decisions affecting their communities.

There is also information on the variety of grants that are accessible to community groups, providing potential investment of around £180 million from a range of government sources.

If you have any questions or comments on the Action Plan and the community empowerment agenda, please contact communityengagement@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

See: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/03/20155113/0>.

Simplifying Health and Safety Regulations

Changes to regulations administered by the Health and Safety Executive from 6th April include:

- a new, easier to read version of the law poster that employers must display (the existing poster and leaflet can be used until 5th April 2014 as long as they are readable and have up-to-date addresses of the enforcing authority and the Employment Medical Advisory Service).
- reducing the number of forms that employers must complete.

Employers will no longer have to register the factories, offices and shops in which their employees work with the relevant health and safety authority,

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/consult/condocs/cd219-notification.htm>

The Cranfield Trust – FREE Management Support

Planning to review your business or strategic plan? Needing help to improve your financial management or HR processes? Or perhaps you are taking a fresh look at marketing approaches or evaluating a new trading opportunity? The Cranfield Trust can help.

The Cranfield Trust offers a broad range of free management support to voluntary organisations looking poverty, disability or social disadvantage. Each project is individually tailored to meet the needs of your organisation. The service is available all year round and due to expansion we have the capacity to take on more projects.

Please visit www.cranfieldtrust.org for further details or contact Jane Whitworth or Iain Ferguson for an initial discussion. Email: admin@cranfieldtrust.org or telephone 0844 800 3390.

The Autism Toolbox: An Autism Resource for Scottish Schools

The Scottish Government has published the autism toolbox, which draws upon a range of practice experience, literature and research to offer guidance for authorities and schools providing for children and young people with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). The toolbox complements the guidance issued on Health and Social Care Services for People with Autism Spectrum Disorders. The intention is to provide a resource to support the inclusion of children and young people with autism spectrum disorder in mainstream education services. The Autism Toolbox is presented in three parts with nine sections overall. Part 1 and Part 2 form the printed version of The Autism Toolbox and are intended to support daily practice. Part 3 is presented on CD Rom. For full details see The Autism Toolbox: An Autism Resource for Scottish Schools which is available from the Scottish Government website at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/03/30104653/0>

NEWS

Help for Disabled Homeowners

A nationwide scheme which helps disabled people carry out essential home adaptations has been enhanced. Changes arising from the implementation of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2006 will trigger a simpler and fairer system of financial help.

For people assessed as needing essential adaptations, local authorities must give a grant of 80% of the cost, or 100% for people on the lowest incomes. There are no longer any arbitrary limits on the amount of grant that can be provided.

Under the previous system, grant was only given towards the first £20,000 of works to provide bathroom and toilet facilities for a disabled person, and there was a means test to assess entitlement beyond the 50% minimum.

Disabled home owners having difficulty getting into or around their home should contact their local council's social work department to arrange an assessment of their needs.

The duty to give grant applies to a wide range of adaptations, including:

- Replacing the bath with a walk in shower
- Constructing a ramp to help someone get into their home
- Fitting lower work surfaces to make the kitchen easier to use

Councils do not have to give a grant for house extensions (for example to provide a ground floor bedroom) but can do this if resources allow. They must provide some form of assistance.

The changes on help with adaptations are part of a wider suite of changes being introduced as part of the implementation of parts of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2006. The changes give local authorities modernised powers to tackle poor private sector housing and to provide non-financial and/or financial assistance to owners.

Social Enterprises Toolkit

The bread maker, a Social Firm in Aberdeen, has developed a toolkit aimed at other new and emerging Social Firms/enterprises that need to develop their business. It is based around their initial development experience and 3 years commercial experience of working with adults with learning disabilities in an artisan bakery and coffee house.

The guide will be useful to those wishing to start a similar business to provide severely disadvantaged people with the opportunity of gaining work experience and paid employment.

Content includes:

- information applicable to the journey of severely disadvantaged individuals looking to gain paid work
- support materials that can be used as templates
- examples of good practice
- the challenges faced and how these were addressed

For more information on the guide and to order your copy (cost - £35) please contact Karen Cruickshank by e-mail at karen.cruickshank@thebreadmaker.org.uk or call (01224) 641520. For more information about the bread maker visit their website at <http://www.thebreadmaker.org.uk>

What can I do at my age?

The Scottish Government has published a booklet to what children can legally do at their age from 0 - 21. This includes examples such as what age a young person can be held responsible for crimes, see certain films, register as an organ donor, join the armed forces, buy a pet or get married. It also includes guidelines on how many hours can be worked at different ages.

For full details, please see the publication 'What can I do at my age?' which is available from the Scottish Government website at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/268906/0079936.pdf>

NEWS

The Mixed and Sustainable Communities Learning Network

The Mixed and Sustainable Communities Learning Network is a cross-Government initiative that supports people involved in regeneration to improve the way in which mixed communities are created and managed throughout Scotland. The network gives practical advice to organisations and individuals working at a local level, and has been developed by the Scottish Centre for Regeneration. It responds to needs expressed by those in the built and physical environment, those working on housing issues, and others working to tackle poverty, poor health and create better employment opportunities.

Joining and using the learning network's services is free. The website contains a range of resources including:

- research and evidence
- tools such as How to Guides, online learning programmes and skills assessment tools
- good practice case studies from Scotland and abroad
- publications, briefings and learning points setting out lessons learned from previous programmes and events

A dedicated coordinator will work closely with network members to:

- **identify** the problems the learning network should tackle
- **collect** good practice, evidence of what works and details of people and organisations who have experience in tackling these problems
- **share** what has worked, through our website, by organising events that show good practice, and managing interactive online networking
- **support** people to build their capacity through developing tailored programmes examining specific problems
- **commission or develop** new tools, resources and research where members think there is a gap; and
- **measure and improve** the effectiveness of the learning network.

To join the network, please visit:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/regeneration/pir/learningnetworks/mixedcommunities>

Community Energy Toolkit Launched

The Scottish Government has launched a community energy toolkit, produced by Community Energy Scotland. The toolkit was commissioned to help community groups develop renewable energy projects and can be found on the Government's website at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/03/20155542/2>

It is designed to work in three parts, so groups can navigate to the most suitable section for their needs. It also includes case studies and information on funding and finance.

USEFUL WEBSITES

Every Action Counts

<http://www.everyactioncounts.org.uk/> provides advice and support to voluntary and community organisations which are looking to reduce their impact on the environment, tackle climate change and improve their local area. By providing you with free access to information, action planning tools, publications and trained Community Champions, Every Acton Counts will enable your group to take simple and effective actions to: Save Energy, Travel Wisely, Save Our Resources, Shop Ethically and Care For Your Area.

LOCAL NEWS

Aberdeenshire Disability Action announces the launch of new online forum

Aberdeenshire Disability Action has been hard at work developing a new forum for everyone to use on their website at www.aberdeenshiredisabilityaction.org.

The new forum, officially named Aberdeenshire Disability Forum, is being launched to enable and empower disabled people across the shire to have a platform to air their views, concerns and issues.

The forum has been designed to allow any user to post comments, views, concerns and questions in an environment that permits others to post replies, or answers. Various threads can be created, according to topics of interest. There is no limit to the number of topics, nor to the number of replies. All that is necessary is online registration as a new user, then start posting! The launch coincides with the establishment of a Disability Forum which works by having grassroots meetings throughout the shire on various topics of interest or concern to disabled people. However, as with all services provided by Aberdeenshire Disability Action, these forums are open to everyone, including professionals, key workers and the general public.

Aberdeenshire Disability Action aims to promote the availability of a range of good, locally based and integrated services. The organisation also provides information and support for and on behalf of people with a physical or sensory impairment. It also helps people to overcome discrimination. Aberdeenshire Disability Action can act as a voice for disabled people on issues of concern and co-ordinate action on their behalf.

Aberdeenshire Disability Action wishes to create, encourage and foster the interest of the general public by providing links between the organisation and those it serves and the wider community. One way in which it is intended to do this is through the new online Aberdeenshire Disability Forum.

Project to help shape Balmedie's future begins

A project which aims to empower people in Balmedie to have a say on the future of their area is underway. Three local people have been employed as community action researchers, to help give others in the area the chance to determine the village's future. The project aims to re-establish a sense of community and clearly identify Balmedie's needs, aspirations and issues. This will include the identification of key gaps in provision and facilities and the establishment of a sustainable community plan to address local need. And there will be lots of different ways for local people to become involved and have their say.

The community action researchers who form the team are: Becka Gauld, who runs Balmedie's popular café, Tarts & Crafts; Barbara Davies, who has been involved in many community activities with her children; and Fiona Clark, formerly co-ordinator for adult education in the village. Over the next few months the researchers will be meeting with individuals and groups. They hope to engage with families, young people and adults, working as a team to gather information.

They are also available at these weekly drop-in sessions:

Tuesdays 7-9pm, Balmedie Leisure Centre - Barbara

Wednesdays 1-3pm, Tarts & Crafts café - Becka

Thursdays 10am-noon Balmedie Library – Fiona

Alternatively you can contact the team on 07789 654273 or email: balmedie@hotmail.co.uk

The community will be supported in whatever way it identifies as being most appropriate to advance plans resulting from the research by the council's local community learning and development team. This support could include accessing funding streams, expanding the capacity of existing resources, establishing/securing new resources and recruiting staff.

LOCAL NEWS

Huntly Relay for Life

Welcome to the FIRST Relay For Life in Huntly, a friendly community at the heart of Aberdeenshire, which borders with the Moray/Highland Council! Join for a 24-hour day of fun in aid of Cancer Research UK. Teams of 8-15 people will camp around the track for 24 hours, making sure that at least 1 team member is on the track. Live music, kilts, entertainment, games, stalls and catering vans will make this event unforgettable! Take up the challenge! Come and support this health-promoting event. Relay For Life will be staged over a 24-hour period – running from 12 noon, 27 June to 12 noon, 28 June.

http://www.huntly.net/visitors/events/page.php?event_id=29

FUNDING NEWS

Rural Funding Opportunities

Rural Funding Opportunities guide gives information about grant assistance for rural communication from the Scottish Government, its agencies and bodies.

See <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/04/20114132/0>

Esmee Fairbairn Foundation main fund guidance notes

Esmee Fairbairn Foundation has updated its main fund guidance notes with the aim of giving clearer advice about their funding. They have also added information to their website about the kind of work they will fund. You can now apply online to the Main Fund. Alongside the Main Fund they continue to run specialist strands, for more information on these and how to apply see

<http://www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk/funding/funding-strands.html>

Fundraising Healthcheck

The Fundraising Healthcheck, the free, confidential diagnostic tool designed to help charities understand the impact of the recession on their fundraising portfolio, is now open for use. Created by the Institute of Fundraising and THINK Consulting Solutions, the Fundraising Healthcheck was initially available only to members of the Institute of Fundraising. From the beginning of April though it has been made available to other organisations. For more information, please visit the website at www.fundraisinghealthcheck.org

New and improved Awards for All small grants programme

This popular Lottery scheme - now involving the Big Lottery Fund, sportscotland and the Scottish Arts Council - will continue to make awards of between £500 and £10,000 to grass-roots groups in the community and voluntary sector, health bodies, schools and statutory bodies.

To coincide with its relaunch a new application form is available, which can, for the first time, be download electronically and emailed direct to Awards for All Scotland. Groups should be aware that Awards for All will no longer accept the old application materials.

There are four new outcomes for Awards for All, which each project should contribute towards. These are:

- * People have better chances in life
- * Communities are safer, stronger and more able to work together to tackle inequalities
- * People have better and more sustainable services and environments
- * People and Communities are healthier

To find out more about the new programme, including case studies, new priorities as well as the new guidance and applications materials, please visit the new Awards for All at

<http://www.awardsforall.org.uk/index-scotland.html>

FUNDING NEWS

Over £400,000 of LEADER funding awarded to rural projects in Aberdeenshire

The Rural Aberdeenshire Local Action Group (LAG) has approved over £400,000 of funding for 11 new projects from paths to theatre groups and new homes for red squirrels.

Projects across Aberdeenshire will benefit from LEADER funding and mark a busy first quarter in 2009 for the programme which aims to stimulate the rural economy of Aberdeenshire. 35 projects have been approved since the launch of the programme in June 2008 and over one million pounds has now been committed towards total project costs of £4,748,017.

Projects that have received a share of over £400,000 include:

- Restoration of the historic Sandend harbour on the Banff coast
- A comprehensive programme of path networks including a series of structured Health Walks to be undertaken in Deeside and Donside with links to a joint initiative within the Cairngorms National Park
- The re-development and expansion of an arts venue in Lumsden, including a comprehensive programme of cultural arts activities.
- A cultural and visual arts research project which will focus on the history of a community woodland at Huntly while engaging local people in theatre performances and film making techniques.

The Rural Aberdeenshire Local Action Group has received many positive comments from successful applicants who have appreciated the support they have received for their projects.

Details of all approved projects to date can be found on the Rural Aberdeenshire LEADER website: www.aberdeenshireleader.org which also gives advice about the programme including the application process and scheme guidance.

There will be three further funding rounds in 2009, the timetable for which is accessible on the Rural Aberdeenshire LEADER website: www.aberdeenshireleader.org

Helping Social Entrepreneurs

Disadvantaged young people will be given the chance to undertake work placements under one of the first projects to be supported by the Scottish Government's £1 million Social Entrepreneurs Fund. The new fund was launched to get new social enterprises off the ground, enabling them to help get people into work and keep Scotland's economy moving.

The Social Entrepreneurs Fund is delivered by Firstport, a charity working to help start up social entrepreneurs and social enterprises throughout Scotland. Executive Director Naomi Johnson said "We are excited to see award winners starting to come through the new programme. In a time where economic reports often paint a negative picture, we are pleased that individuals are still keen to develop their own enterprises which will have an impact not only on them but also the clients they work with and Scotland as a whole."

The fund opened in March and will run until the end of March 2011. A total of £500,000 will be invested each year. It is anticipated that around 200 awards will be made. Awards will potentially vary between £500 and £20,000.

Individuals located in Scotland will be able to apply if they have:

- A business idea with clear social benefit
- Thought about how such a business would be run
- Some evidence of need and sustainability for the business
- The drive and vision to take their idea forward

Anyone interested in applying for support can contact Firstport on (0131) 220 0511 or visit their website at www.firstport.org.uk

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

BT Community Connections

BT Community Connections is an award scheme which enables community and charitable organisations to get online and make use of information and communications technology (ICT). Organisations, working in any field of community benefit, located throughout the UK or ROI can apply for a laptop and a year's free broadband connection. There are more than 1,000 award packages available to groups who can demonstrate how an award will benefit their work and the local community.

Key Dates

Round One:

- Postal applications must be received by 9th June 2009
- Online applications must be submitted by 11th June 2009
- Winners will be announced the week commencing 10th August 2009

Round Two:

- Applications will be accepted from 17th September 2009
- Postal applications must be received by 5th January 2010
- Online applications must be submitted by 7th January 2010
- Winners will be announced the week commencing 8th March 2010

For more information, please visit <http://www.btcommunityconnections.com>

Third Sector Enterprise Fund

The Scottish Government's new Third Sector Enterprise Fund opened for applications in late January 2009. Funding of between £25,000 and £100,000 is available to organisations wishing to build their capacity and financial sustainability.

This Fund is not for Project work but for work associated with the development and long term sustainability of an organisation, which has to have a Legal Persona (or in the case of a Partnership/ Consortium, a lead member to have a Legal Persona) So, it is for trading as well as non-trading social organisations (seeking to trade or to develop long term sustainability). Up to £100000 is available but any business development activity over £70,000 requires a business plan.

For more info, visit <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/15300/funding/enterprising-skills-fund>

Peter Harrison Foundation: Opportunities Through Sport

This programme, open to registered charities in the UK, supports sporting activities or projects that provide opportunities for people who are disabled or otherwise disadvantaged to fulfil their potential and to develop other personal and life skills. Grants will often be one-off grants for capital projects, however revenue funding for a new project or funding for the continuing success or survival of an established project will also be considered.

The following types of project proposals will be welcomed:

- Projects that provide a focus for skills development and confidence building through the medium of sport;
- Projects that have a strong training and/or educational theme within the sporting activity;
- Projects that provide sporting equipment or facilities for disabled or disadvantaged people;
- Projects with a high degree of community involvement;

Projects that help to engage children or young people at risk of crime, truancy or addiction.

For more information, visit <http://www.peterharrisonfoundation.org/index.htm>

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Youth funding package for training and healthy eating activity

If you are working with or know someone who is working with young people aged 12 to 25, Community Food and Health Scotland (CFHS) have a new youth funding package for training and healthy eating activity.

The package comes in 2 parts:

- Part one will provide money (up to £1000) towards the cost of members of staff, volunteers or peer educators to complete the Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland (REHIS) Elementary Food and Health course.
- Part two will pay towards the costs of developing healthy eating activities with young people.

Healthy eating activities could include: trying out healthier options in youth cafes / snack bars; buying equipment to produce healthier food in cafes / snack bars; buying equipment and food to run healthy cookery courses; or developing gardening activities.

More information about the food and health course is available from www.rehis.org

In addition CFHS opened its small grant scheme on 21st April. Groups and agencies can apply for between £500 and a new higher limit of £4000 to develop healthy eating activities with or within low-income groups based in Scotland.

For more information on these funding opportunities contact CFHS on (0141) 226 5261 or visit www.communityfoodandhealth.org.uk

Ofcom—Community Radio Fund

The Office of Communications (Ofcom) has launched the latest bidding round under its Community Radio Fund. The Fund has been established to help fund the core costs of running a community radio station. These not-for-profit radio stations have a social purpose, and work to involve their target community in running the service. These core costs can include, management; administration, financial management & reporting, fundraising to support the station (grants and commercial funding), community outreach and volunteer organisation and support. There is no upper limit of grant that can be applied for.

During the last bidding round 35 Community Radio Stations received grants ranging from £5,000 to £17,000. The closing date for applications is 5 pm on the 12th May 2009.

For more information, please visit:

http://www2.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/commun_radio/Communityfund/

Community Foundation launches Express Grants Scheme

The Scottish Community Foundation has launched a new grants scheme aimed at community groups based in Scotland looking for funding. The new Express Grant scheme replaces the small grants scheme and offers grants of up to £2,000 to groups where small amounts of funding to make big differences in their communities. As the name suggests, Express Grants have a straightforward application process, and a short turnaround time, meaning that within six weeks, applicants will know if they've been successful. Applications can be submitted at any time.

For more information, visit <http://www.scottishcf.org>

Laptop and broadband for community groups

The latest round of the BT Community Connections award scheme has opened. Organisations working in any field of community benefit from anywhere in the UK (or Republic of Ireland) can apply for a laptop and a year's worth of broadband connection. The closing date for online applications is **Thursday 11 June** (2 days earlier for postal). For more information, visit <http://www.btcommunityconnections.com/>.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Community Food and Health's Small Grants Fund

Community Food and Health has announced that their small grants scheme will be open for applications from the 21st April 2009.

The small grants scheme makes available grants of between £500 and £3,000 to groups and agencies in Scotland working within low-income communities to improve access to, and take up of a healthy, varied and balanced diet.

All applications must tackle one or more of the barriers to healthy eating, these are: Availability; affordability; skills; and culture. Previously supported projects include: Age Concern Broomlands & Bourtreehill, for crockery, cutlery and kitchen utensils for an elderly lunch club; and Ayrshire Initiatives, a healthy eating initiative aimed at homeless people over the age of 16.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.communityfoodandhealth.org.uk/funding/smallgrants.php>

Cash for Your Group—Community Chest

The Voluntary Action Fund (VAF) is pleased to announce that the Community Chest has re-opened for new applications.

The Community Chest, a grant aimed at smaller community groups and voluntary organisations across Scotland, will provide grants of up to £1,000 and free training to groups with an annual income under £25,000.

Groups can apply for funding for a wide range of activities or operational costs.

However, they are particularly keen to fund activities that will help build and develop strong organisations, for example; training for committee members and volunteers; visits to other organisations and conferences or professional support and consultancy.

Applications for the Community Chest programme are welcome throughout the year with deadlines on **31st March, 30th June, 30th September and 31st December**.

Groups wishing to apply for a Community Chest grant can download the application form and guidance notes from the VAF website at www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk.

Alternatively contact Patricia or Chris at the Voluntary Action Fund, either by telephone on (01383) 620780 or by e-mail at Patricia.McKibben@voluntaryactionfund.org.uk.

The Philip Green Memorial Trust

The Philip Green Memorial Trust is a charitable organisation which helps sick and disabled children all over the UK and overseas.

It supports the following priorities: welfare; medical; education; individual children and young people. The Trust supports a range of larger projects, small organisations and individuals, but all with the aim of enabling children and young people to lead normal lives.

For more information, please visit <http://www.pgmt.org>

New Communities Programme - 'Get Yourself Ahead'

This is a great opportunity to apply for funding up to £5,000 to run community based learning activities at your local learning centre. The target group of learners would like you to aim your activities towards are the following: Boys and Men; People living in rural isolation; Migrant workers; Minority ethnic groups; People with disabilities and people with health difficulties; Men / Women entering non traditional areas of work.

Please complete the application form (link below) and submit them to Fiona Hawthorne by e-mail to F.hawthorne@abdn.ac.uk or at the following address by 5pm on Thursday 14th May 2009:

<http://www.aberdeencn.info/uploadedfiles/GetYourselfHeard.pdf>

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Nationwide Foundation Grants Programme

The Nationwide Foundation, a registered charity set up and funded by the Nationwide Building Society, has announced that its Investor Programme is now open for applications. Through the Investors Programme grants of up to £300,000 over three years are available to charities with an income not exceeding £10 million a year.

The type of issues that the Foundation seeks to address include financial exclusion; housing issues and homelessness amongst vulnerable groups; and supporting families and helping prevent family breakdowns. The Foundation provides grants for; Research; New projects, pilot projects and existing work (based on previous evidence of need / research); and Awareness raising / campaigning to promote change. Priority will be given to applications for work which encompass two or three of these. The Foundation are also able to fund core costs and to contribute towards the salaries of finance staff for the charity.

The closing date for applications through the Investor Programme is **Sunday 31 May 2009**. In addition, the Foundation also offers grants of up to £5,000 through its Small Grants Programme to charities with incomes of under £500,000. Applications to the Small Grants Programme can be made at any time. For more information, visit <http://www.nationwidefoundation.org.uk/grants.asp#a2>.

Volant Charitable Trust

Registered charities whose purpose is to alleviate poverty and social deprivation with particular emphasis on children's and women's issues have the opportunity to apply for funding through the Volant Charitable Trust. The Trust which was set up by the author J K Rowling also supports research into the causes, treatment and possible cures of Multiple Sclerosis. However this funding stream is currently fully committed and is not considering further applications for funding in this area at the present time. In addition the Trustees will as and when appropriate, support disaster appeals. The Trust will support both capital and revenue funding. Applications for funding requests of £10,000 or less, for those projects based in Scotland only, are dealt with by the Trust's appointed agents, the Scottish Community Foundation.

The closing date for applications is the 28th August 2009.
For more information, please visit <http://www.volanttrust.com>

The People's Millions 2009

This is the fifth year that the Big Lottery Fund has teamed up with ITV, giving viewers the chance to vote on projects that provide opportunities for people to enjoy their local area, whether indoors or out, and improve local facilities for all to enjoy.

The People's Millions has funded a wide range of projects over the past few years including wildlife gardens, play areas, community halls and even an outdoor gym. This year, a total budget of £3.5m is available across the UK with 14 grants of up to **£50,000 including VAT** available in Scotland. To find out more about visit http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_peoples_millions

The closing date for applications is **12 noon on Friday 15 May 2009**

Apply to Marr Area Partnership's Initiative Grant Scheme

This grant scheme is available for community groups within the Marr Area. If you have a project and need advice and support please email us for a copy of the application form and the criteria. We not only provide grants but we can advise you on how to make the best use of resources within your community. E-mail Mike Powell at mapsrlrp@hotmail.com.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Cash for Your Group—Community Chest

The Voluntary Action Fund (VAF) is pleased to announce that the Community Chest has re-opened for new applications.

The Community Chest, a grant aimed at smaller community groups and voluntary organisations across Scotland, will provide grants of up to £1,000 and free training to groups with an annual income under £25,000.

Groups can apply for funding for a wide range of activities or operational costs.

However, they are particularly keen to fund activities that will help build and develop strong organisations, for example; training for committee members and volunteers; visits to other organisations and conferences or professional support and consultancy.

Applications for the Community Chest programme are welcome throughout the year with deadlines on **31st March, 30th June, 30th September and 31st December**.

Groups wishing to apply for a Community Chest grant can download the application form and guidance notes from the VAF website at www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk.

Alternatively contact Patricia or Chris at the Voluntary Action Fund, either by telephone on (01383) 620780 or by e-mail at Patricia.McKibben@voluntaryactionfund.org.uk.

Help reduce your community's carbon footprint and save money!

Are you interested in bringing your community together to help improve the quality of life for present and future generations?

The Scottish Government's Climate Challenge Fund helps communities to put into action their own projects for significant reduction of carbon emissions, also bringing environmental, social and economic benefit.

Rural Partnerships in Aberdeenshire - including Marr Area Partnership - are looking for communities who could commit to being part of an Aberdeenshire-wide joint project which will also involve SCARF (Save Cash and Reduce Fuel) and the Macaulay Institute. One of the main benefits of participating in a joint application is that communities will have the potential to learn from each other and to share expertise.

If you feel this is something your community would like to be involved in or if you just want to find out a bit more about the proposed Aberdeenshire application, please contact Mike Powell on 0845 6028817 or at mapslrp@hotmail.com

Self Management Fund for Scotland

The Long Term Conditions Alliance Scotland (LTCAS) Self Management Fund for Scotland is now open for applications. The Self Management Fund is available to voluntary organisations and community groups throughout Scotland to support work to encourage people living with long term conditions to learn more about the management of their condition, and to become active partners in their own care. The fund is set at £2 million per year, over the next two years.

The Self Management Fund will encourage good practice to be shared and innovative approaches to be developed. LTCAS will work with those organisations who will receive funding to capture learning gained through the projects and share this widely across Scotland.

Full details including guidance notes, eligibility and criteria for the fund can be found at the LTCAS website www.ltcas.org.uk where an application pack can also be downloaded. funding of £2 million a year in each of the next two financial years.

CONSULTATIONS

Preparing for a Changing Climate: Second Consultation to inform Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Framework

Views are being sought on the proposals for a strategic centrally co-ordinated plan for adapting to climate change. The proposed aim is to increase the resilience of Scotland's people and the natural and economic systems on which we depend, to the impacts of climate change.

Deadline: Monday, July 20, 2009

Better Diabetes Care

This consultation aims to develop a revised 3 year action plan for diabetes care. The first Diabetes Action Plan, published in June 2006, set out an ambitious agenda for the period up to 2009. Its priorities were developed in response to the progress made on implementation of the Scottish Diabetes Framework (2002). Better Diabetes Care aims to build on the successes of these past strategies, by identifying those areas of diabetes care which have improved and those which need to improve further. Deadline: Thursday, July 30, 2009

The Contribution of the Social Work Profession to Delivering Better Outcomes for Scotland

This Guidance will highlight the contribution of the social work profession to delivering better outcomes for Scotland and set out those social work functions which only registered social workers should be accountable for. Deadline: Friday, July 24, 2009

Cycling Action Plan for Scotland (CAPS)

"By 2020, 10% of all journeys taken in Scotland will be by bike." The statement above is the overall vision for cycling in Scotland. The actions in this draft Cycling Action Plan for Scotland (CAPS) can deliver this vision and bring benefits for all. You now have a further opportunity to comment and tell us if we have the right actions and agencies in place, working for you in delivering and promoting cycling as a realistic travel choice. This Action Plan, if endorsed by you, can achieve sustainable economic growth for the whole country and reduce harmful carbon emissions in protecting our environment. It can contribute to the Scottish Government's longer term climate change goal of 80% reduction in emissions by 2050. Deadline: Friday, July 31, 2009

draft Housing (Scotland) Bill 2009

The consultation paper outlines the Government's proposals for a Bill that would safeguard social housing for the future, by reforming the law on Right to Buy, and would improve the value that tenants and taxpayers receive from social housing, by modernising how social housing is regulated. It includes a draft Bill which illustrates how the Government might implement its proposals. In light of responses to the consultation paper, the Government will revise the draft Bill and finalise it for introduction in the Scottish Parliament in 2010.

Deadline: Friday, August 14, 2009

Proposals for minor amendments to the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006

Proposals for minor amendments to the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 Deadline: Monday, July 27, 2009

All the above consultations can be found on the Scottish Government's website, at <https://www.scotland.gov.uk/Consultations/Current>

CONSULTATIONS

Scottish Ambulance Service – Consultation

As the frontline of the NHS in Scotland, the Scottish Ambulance Service provides an emergency ambulance service to more than 5 million people across mainland Scotland and its island communities. Last year, this Accident and Emergency team responded to 580 thousand calls. The Patient Transport Service undertakes more than 1.6 million journeys a year while the air ambulance service is called upon more than 3 thousand times annually.

Now, the Scottish Ambulance Service is in the middle of a major 3 month consultation programme which will influence their strategy and vision for the next five years. The key areas of focus are:

- Their role in ensuring you get the response and the care you need in an emergency
- Their role in getting the right service to you at the right time
- How they work with other healthcare providers to provide round the clock care
- Helping people access healthcare in remote and rural areas
- Their role in transporting patients to hospital or healthcare in non-emergency situations

Over the next three months, the Scottish Ambulance Service will be travelling the country speaking to staff, stakeholders, politicians and members of the public to find out exactly what they want from their ambulance service. To find out more about events in your area, or to request a full briefing on the consultation, email ourfuturestrategy@nhs.net.

EVENTS AND TRAINING

SPECIALIST HELP FOR LOCAL GROUPS LOOKING TO LAND LOTTERY CASH

Aberdeen Tuesday 12 May 2009

Dedicated workshops from the BIG Lottery Fund are to take place at five locations across Scotland to mark the re-launch of Awards For All.

Awards for All Scotland aims to help people become actively involved in projects that bring about change in their local communities and is run by the Big Lottery Fund, sportscotland and the Scottish Arts Council, three of the organisations that distribute money raised by the National Lottery for good causes.

The two-hour sessions will be run by Awards for All staff and are available by booking only. They will explain the recent changes to the programme that was re-launched on April 1st. The Aberdeen session will be held on Tuesday 12 May between 1pm and 3pm at the Summerhill Centre on Stronsay Drive.

Places can be booked by contacting Chris MacInnes on 0141 242 1483 or emailing christopher.macinnes@biglotteryfund.org.uk

FREE GOLF LESSONS AND TUITION!

Wellsgreen Golf Academy Standingstane Road Windygates Fife KY8 5RU

Saturday 16 May 2009

The Scottish Disability Golf Partnership invites anyone with a disability, serious health problem or mobility issue to come along for FREE GOLF LESSONS AND TUITION! The free lessons and tuition begins at 10:00 and will run until 15:00. There is a Restaurant and a par-3, six hole golf course available at Wellsgreen for participants.

To enter, please contact 01334 650 963 or j.gales@btopenworld.com . **Entries will not be accepted after Saturday 9 May.** Free places are limited, so it will be first-come, first-served.

EVENTS AND TRAINING

A One Day Training Course in Professional Event Management

This course aims to equip participants with the skills, knowledge and confidence necessary to organise successful events

Who Should Attend

Aimed at people **across all sectors**, who are required to organise conferences and events as part of their job or in addition to their main responsibilities:

- Administrators
- Personal Assistants
- Information Officers working in public/health sectors
- Business development Officers
- Marketing/PR professionals
- Anyone whose role includes managing a conference or event

Course Fee

£120 per participant. A maximum of 20 persons will participate on the day.

Date: Tuesday 2nd June 2009

Location: Carronvale House, Larbert, Stirlingshire, FK5 3LH

Contact Eloise Roser at emrevents@live.co.uk

For further information please contact Eloise by email or on 07951 227905.

PVG Information Sessions

The Protecting Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007 introduces a new membership scheme for people who work with children and protected adults. This will replace current disclosure arrangements for people whose post requires an enhanced disclosure. The Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme (PVG Scheme) is expected to be introduced in 2010 (an exact date is still to be determined). This means that the way you interact with Disclosure Scotland will change.

In June 2009, the Scottish Government will host a series of six free information events that aim to bring organisations up to speed with implementation activities and provide an opportunity to consider and discuss aspects of the PVG Scheme.

They will take place on:

- Tuesday 2 June in Edinburgh
- Wednesday 10 June in Glasgow
- Tuesday 16 June in Aberdeen
- Wednesday 17 June in Dundee
- Wednesday 24 June in Inverness
- Thursday 25 June in Perth

They will include:

- An update on PVG Scheme implementation activities and next steps.
- Discussion on the scope of regulated work in the children's and protected adults' sector.
- An update on how the referrals and considerations process will be structured and managed.
- An insight into how the PVG Scheme guidance will be structured and presented.
- Round table discussions to enable delegates to feed back views on the proposed scope of regulated work and the structure of the guidance.

The events will run from 9.30am until 1.30pm and lunch will be provided.

These events are free to attend, however places are limited. To request a place please register on line at <http://www.protectingvulnerablegroups.com>

EVENTS AND TRAINING

Volunteers' Week 2009 - Join in the fun

Monday 1 to Sunday 7 June 2009, Across the UK

Volunteers' Week is the UK's annual celebration of volunteers and volunteering and this year is celebrating its 25th anniversary. During the week, events are held across the UK to recognise, reward and recruit volunteers. The Volunteers' Week website provides a range of tools and resources to help you celebrate the contribution that your volunteers make.

To find out more and get involved, visit www.volunteersweek.org.uk.

St. Ternan's Fair Charities Village - Sunday 14th June

As part of the St. Ternan's Fair, there will be part of the field set aside for any local organisations, societies and charities to take part in the Charities Village. The opportunity is there to promote, inform or fundraise for your group. There will be no fee for taking part, all we ask is that you provide your own table/s, awning and seats and that you let us know that you would like to be part of St Ternan's Fair by contacting St Ternan Fair Committee as soon as you can at Jannelamb@aol.com so we can work out who goes where!

****Please note that this Charities Village will not be hosted this year by K&D Voice and that no marquee will be provided.****

CVS Training Initiative Programme

Please get in touch if you would like to book a place, require further information or to discuss your training needs, tel: 01358 722205; admin@cvstraininginitiative.org.uk

APPOINTED PERSONS FIRST AID

A full day session designed to instruct individuals who wish to become a designated appointed person and take responsibility for managing first aid arrangements within low risk areas. A valid three-year certificate will be awarded after completion to the required standard of competency.

Date: Tuesday 19th May 2009
Venue: Bettridge Centre, Newtonhill
Time: 9.30am – 4.30pm
Cost: £40 per person
Trainer: Caroline Hay-Crawford

ELEMENTARY FOOD HYGIENE

This full-day REHIS registered event is designed for anyone newly involved with food handling or preparation or looking to refresh their knowledge and update their certificate. This nationally recognised certificate requires the successful completion of a short examination.

Date: Thursday 4th June 2009
Venue: Resource Centre, Maud
Time: 9.30am – 5.00pm
Cost: £60 per person
Trainer: Audrey Blair – Sante Food Safety Training

EVENTS AND TRAINING

(Continued from page 21)

ADULT SUPPORT & PROTECTION ACT 2007 – BASIC AWARENESS

This half-day session will help anyone involved in working with adults at risk become more aware of their responsibilities to the people in their care. You will learn what is meant by the terms “adult at risk” & “harm”. How to recognise different types of harm, situations that could put the person at risk, how to respond to suspicions or disclosure of abuse and your responsibilities under ASP.

Date: Tuesday 9th June 2009
Venue: The Kirk Centre, Ellon
Time: 10.00am – 1.00pm
Cost: £20 per person
Trainer: Diane Miller - CVS

STAFF TRAINING – DEVELOPMENT PLANS & CPDs

This half-day session will show you how to develop your workforce, (employees or volunteers) to meet your business or organisation’s objectives. We will show you how to implement development plans to get the best out of your workforce allowing them to develop and fulfil their potential.

Date: Thursday 17th June 2009
Venue: Dalvenie Gardens Resource Centre, Banchory
Time: 10.00am – 1.00pm
Cost: £10 per person
Trainer: Keith Spalding – Learn Direct Scotland

NEXT ISSUE

The next e-bulletin will come out on Thursday 25 June 2009. If you would like to include any information, please send it to Alison Melville by the morning of Tuesday 23 June 2009. Email: Alison.Melville@gordonrural.org.uk

The K&D Voice/GRA Newsletter will be sent out at the end of May. Please contact mail@kdvoice.org.uk if you would like to have information included.

If you would like to be removed from this mailing list, please contact Alison Melville at the address above.

Gordon Rural Action is a Scottish Charity, number SC004883, and a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, Registered in Scotland number 154075.

Registered Office: Huntly Business Centre, Gordon Street, Huntly AB54 8ES

K&D Voice is a Scottish Charity, number SC014223, and a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, Registered in Scotland number 137343.