



## Community Councils and Resilience Teams Information Bulletin and Updates

### **CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT FORTHCOMING ONLINE TRAINING EVENTS**

#### **'The importance of effective and meaningful Community Engagement and Consultation'**

#### **REVISED DATES AND PROGRAMME FORMAT!**

The following programme has been developed by the Consultation Institute and will be delivered by Davy Jones, Consultation Institute. The sessions will be delivered via **Microsoft Teams** online platform and are being offered to all Community Councillors and are free of charge.

The programme is designed to give Community Councils more confidence in designing and delivering local consultations and in responding to consultations, developing a range of skills and competences within the community council and in enhancing consistency and the reputation of Community Councils as listening and engaging organisations in their local communities.

To book your place for the following revised session dates, times and format as detailed below please [click here](#):

- 23 February 2021: 7.30pm to 8.30pm: Course Introduction and Overview
- 4 March 2021 **or** 11 March 2021: 7.00pm to 9.00pm: Your Role as a Consultee and Consultor
- 24 March 2021: 7.30pm to 8.30pm: Evaluation and Feedback

Meantime, if you require further information please email [Community.Councils@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:Community.Councils@dumgal.gov.uk)

### **National Planning Framework 4**

#### **ADDITIONAL DATES ARE NOW AVAILABLE!**

The Scottish Government is currently reviewing national planning policies and is developing Scotland's fourth National Planning Framework (NPF4). Planning Aid Scotland (PAS) have been running a series of online events to enable Community Councils across Scotland to take part in discussions on the Government's current thinking set out in the [Position Statement](#). Further information can be found [here](#).

Due to the initial events being oversubscribed, new dates are now being offered to those Community Councils who were unable to secure a place previously as follows:

Tuesday, 16 February 2021      12.30pm to 2.00pm

Tuesday, 16 February 2021      6.30pm to 8.00pm

Please [click here](#) to reserve your place.

## **Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Awareness Session**

### **REMINDER THERE ARE STILL SPACES AVAILABLE FOR THE FOLLOWING SESSION**

The session developed by Public Health Scotland and NHS Education Scotland will be delivered via MS Teams and is being offered to Community Resilience Team Volunteers. The session will support individuals to:

*“Develop their knowledge and skills in recognising and responding to people they come into contact with who may be in distress and require additional support; and develop an understanding of the wider factors that impact on mental health”*

[from NES workshop guide]

The Session will be hosted via the online platform Microsoft Teams on **Tuesday, 23 February 2020 from 9.30am to 12.30pm.**

Each session can accommodate 8 people. In the event that this session is over-subscribed, we will offer places on a first come basis. Thereafter, and if required, we will work with you to identify and accommodate additional sessions for individual groups and/or organisations. To find out more and to book your space please email [Supportdg@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:Supportdg@dumgal.gov.uk).

## **COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PLANNING**

**Community Resilience Teams in action:** Community Councils and Community Resilience Teams continue to provide valuable lifeline services within our communities. We would love to hear from you about any resilience activities that have been happening in your community.

Please email us at [SupportDG@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:SupportDG@dumgal.gov.uk) with your stories and copies of any photographs that you would be happy for us to share in our Community Newsletter.

**Community Resilience Teams:** Further information including information on starting your own local community resilience team can be found [here](#).

**SupportDG website:** Please [click here](#) to find out the latest up to date Covid-19 guidance and information on:

- Support for Communities including community resilience and the emergency food helpline.
- Schools and Childcare including delivering remote learning and top tips for parents.
- Support for Local Businesses including grants and funding for businesses and business rates relief.
- Support for Employment including employment support for parents and carers, support for secondary pupils and school leavers and support to develop skills and find work.
- The latest information available on Facebook and Twitter in relation to all of the above.

## **SOURCES OF FUNDING FOR ORGANISATIONS**

### **The Voluntary Sector – TSDG Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway**

A detailed website providing regular updates on Funding Opportunities. Subscription to their funding newsletter is free and provides a great deal of useful information on the various funds that are available to community groups and organisations. Please click [here](#) to find out more.

### **The Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO)**

For further information of the funds available right now as well as information on previously funded projects please see the following pages:

- [The Community & Third Sector Recovery Programme](#) aims to support charities, community groups, social enterprises and voluntary organisations that are supporting people and communities through the shift from lockdown to recovery. As well as providing ongoing crisis support, they will be planning and implementing changes to adapt and thrive in a very different social and economic climate.
- [Adapt & Thrive Programme](#) supports organisations to change and recover.
- [Communities Recovery Fund](#) supports the delivery of services in communities that were suspended or reduced because of Covid-19, or the creation of new services that tackle new challenges presented.

## **OTHER SOURCES OF SUPPORT FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES**

**Launch of Period Dignity Project:** To support our citizens during COVID-19, our Council is providing access to free sanitary products. This is an expansion of provision of free sanitary products that were provided within schools and youth centres.

To find out more including how these products can be ordered please [click here](#).

**Community Care Grants:** This fund is designed to support people to live independently, or continue to live independently, preventing the need for institutional care and is there to help individuals who are in receipt of a low income. Further information including how to find out if you/your family might be eligible for support can be found [here](#).

**Crisis Grants:** This fund is designed to support people who are in receipt of low income or benefits and that do not have access to any other appropriate source of financial help. Crisis Grants are intended to meet one-off needs but do not provide an alternative source of regular income. A crisis grant may help if you are facing a disaster (such as a fire or flood); you are facing an emergency such as a one-off expense that you have not budgeted for or if you need help with costs that have arisen as a result of a disaster or emergency. Further information including how to find out if you/your family might be eligible for support can be found [here](#).

## **LOCAL AREA DATA**

Details of the most up to date information on the number of cases in your local area as well as trends for Local Authorities and NHS Boards can be found on Public Health Scotland's [interactive dashboard](#). In addition, you can access data for your community by accessing the '[Cases by neighbourhood](#)' tab that you may want to share this information with your contacts and across your local community.

## **KEEP INFORMED**

As Community Councils, Resilience Teams and Local Volunteers continue in their response Partners remain ready to assist and support you in whatever way we can.

Key Partner contact details and further information can be found as follows:

- Dumfries and Galloway Council <https://supportdg.dumgal.gov.uk/>
- Third Sector D&G <http://thirdsectordumgal.org.uk/>
- Scottish Government <https://www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/>
- NHS <https://www.nhsinform.scot>

