



Community Councils and Resilience Teams Information Bulletin and Updates

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Community Councils: Participation pioneers engaging young people in the democratic process: Louise Macdonald, Chief Executive of Young Scot [shares her thoughts](#) on why community councils are pioneers in engaging young people in the democratic process.

New developments and frameworks have begun to support this, including trials of reduction in the minimum age for full members of Community Councils and the production of Scottish Government guidance on how to involve young people in alternative ways through Associate Membership, Youth Committees and Indirect Involvement. There are lots of dynamic ways to draw on the skills and expertise of those working with young people at a local level to support their involvement, as well as exploring connections with existing local participation structures such as youth councils.

Young Scot are keen to work with public bodies and third sector partners locally and nationally to support them in shifting their engagement with young people from more traditional consultation activities to approaches that are based more around the principles of co-production and co-design.

Young people are not citizens of tomorrow – they are citizens today, accessing services and playing their part in the life of our communities. To find out more and details of how you can participate in the discussions please click [HERE](#).

COMMUNITY NEWS

Dumfries and Galloway Council: Waste and Recycling Service: Reminder that if you have not already done so there is still time to register for the following sessions in the Nithsdale and Annandale and Eskdale areas:

Local members and representatives from Community Councils will be invited to online presentations about the new service with an opportunity to ask questions. Local Ward Officers will also attend. The sessions will take place at 10:30hrs on the following dates:

- Nithsdale operational area: Friday 9 April 2021.
- Annandale and Eskdale operational area: Tuesday 27 April 2021.

Following these sessions, the Waste Service will offer virtual presentations and Question & Answer sessions about the new service to local Community Councils.

The Waste and Recycling pages on the Dumgal website are being reviewed and updated to reflect the latest service information.

For further information please click [HERE](#).

Scottish Community Councils website: The Scottish Government Improvement Service have launched a brand-new look for the Scottish Community Councils website.

Following feedback from Scotland's community councils the Improvement Service have been working in partnership with Open University in Scotland and are delighted that they can now provide community councils with access to a suite of free online training courses tailored to suit the training needs of Community Councils.

As well as free training courses, the community council finder map has also had an upgrade. The map has been refreshed with a more simplified look to make it easier for you to find your local community council and you can now search by address too! The map also retains the functionality as before in terms of displaying public information notices and local authority boundaries.

They are keen to hear from you and are always looking for ways to improve, to do things better and your suggestions for anything else that you would like to see on the website: scottishccs@improvementservice.org.uk.

To find out more and how you can feedback please visit **HERE**.

The website includes a News section as a way of sharing information with community councils across Scotland and this month includes an article on the [Crossmichael Community Woodland Project](#). The woodland is under the management and care of Crossmichael & District Community Council and the woodland path is part of a popular circular local walk.

SOURCES OF FUNDING

Scottish Wedding Industry Fund: This new fund aims to provide support to businesses whose main income comes from the wedding and civil partnerships industry, which has been significantly impacted as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The funding is provided by the Scottish Government and administered by Scottish Enterprise, South of Scotland Enterprise and Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

Further information including eligibility and how local businesses can apply please click **HERE**.

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](#)

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>

