

## Community Resilience Briefing - 20 May 2022

Welcome to The Highland Council's regular briefing for groups with an interest in local community resilience. As Covid restrictions have been removed, and in response to feedback from groups, we will continue the briefing on a fortnightly basis incorporating key information in an email.

### Covid related information

- [Scottish Government Covid-19 Guidance](#)
- [NHS Inform Covid data](#)
- [NHS Inform Covid information and guidance](#)
- [NHS Highland local vaccination information](#)

### Funding

SCVO is a key source of funding information for the third sector <https://scvo.scot/funding>. Funds that may be of interest include:

- [Energy Saving Trust - Energy Redress Scheme](#)  
Provides grants to charities and community energy groups that support households most at risk from cold homes and high energy bills. Next deadline 6 Jun 2022.
- [Paths for All - Walking for Health Fund](#)  
Health Walk Grants provide funding for projects to improve wellbeing and reduce ill-health in Scotland through walking programmes. Projects can apply for the cost of initiatives that encourage people to walk more. Next deadline 24 Jun 2022.
- [The Gordon & Ena Baxter Foundation](#)  
Supports projects with clear benefit to communities in Moray and the Highlands and Islands. They will fund a huge variety of capital projects. Next deadline 27 May 2022.

Other funds include:

- [Highland Green Health Small Grant Fund 2022](#)  
A small grant fund to help connect people with nature for their improved physical and mental wellbeing. Applications are invited from community groups in the Highland Council area for projects up to the value of £1500. The fund closes 13 June 2022.
- [Co-op Local Community Fund](#)  
Co-op support projects that make communities fairer for everyone. Application by midnight on 29 May 2022 You can apply if your project:
  - brings people together to access food
  - helps improve people's mental wellbeing
  - creates opportunities for young people to be heard and make a difference
  - helps people protect local biodiversity or tackle climate change by reducing carbon emissions

### Welfare, poverty reduction and resilience

- [Voluntary Health Scotland Survey](#)  
This survey is about the extent to which the COVID-19 vaccine rollout in Scotland sought to reduce inequalities and foster collaboration with the third sector. The survey is open until Friday 27th of May.
- [Trading Standards Scotland – call blocking sim cards](#)  
Following an increase in the number of scam calls being received on mobile phones, we are launching the roll out of free call blocking SIM cards to vulnerable individuals who are most at risk from scammers and rogue traders. Find out more and apply at the link.

- [Ending the need for foodbanks - Make your voice heard](#) – The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Ending the Need for Food Banks is undertaking an inquiry into *Cash or Food? Exploring effective responses to destitution*. Although this is a Westminster initiative, as Universal Credit and other benefits are reserved matters, the group are interested in hearing views from across the UK. You can find details on how to submit a response by Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July [here](#). The accompanying guidance documents offer suggested questions for both individuals and organisations. Any queries can be directed to - [public.affairs@trusselltrust.org](mailto:public.affairs@trusselltrust.org)
- [Highland Council Welfare Team – benefits advice](#)

### **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

- [Highland Self-Management Forum - Health, Nature & Wellbeing](#), 9 June 2022, 2pm-4pm online. The June Highland Self-Management Forum meeting organised by [Let's Get On With It Together \(LGOWIT\)](#) has a focus on health and wellbeing benefits of nature and how our health system can protect nature in return.
- [NHS Highland Mental Wellbeing](#) – a collection of resources and signposts to help people of all ages to look after their own mental wellbeing

### **Emergency Planning**

- Met Office Weather Warnings <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/warnings-and-advice/uk-warnings#?date=2022-05-20>
- 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/>

### **Other**

- **Army Engagement Team visits**  
Events in Portree and Fort William providing information on what the Army is doing in Scotland, including grant funding opportunities for a range of initiatives to promote community integration. This may be of interest to Employers, Educational and Social groups and organisations working on youth development. Use links to book through Eventbrite.
  - 24 May, [Portree](#)
  - 25 May, [Fort William](#)
  - 26 May, [Oban](#)
- [Highland Council Elections: Joint Coalition Administration to be ratified by Council](#)
- [Highland Council Roads and Transport information](#)