

# CD News

News, updates, information, and sharing success in our communities

## My Place Awards

The My Place Awards are the [Scottish Civic Trust's](#) annual celebration of the difference communities can make to their local places. Their aim is to bring proper recognition to community-led regeneration that has transformed a neighbourhood.



They have two categories:

- **Community-led Projects:** recognises recent community-led built environment projects that have transformed their locality. This includes new buildings; historic buildings or monuments that have been reused or refurbished; designed public realm schemes, such as street works and parks; and designed landscapes such as gardens or public green spaces.
- **Community Champions:** celebrates individuals across Scotland who have made a significant contribution to their communities through achieving positive change in the local area, whether through placemaking, built environment projects, improving public spaces or increasing access to spaces and places by communities.



Winners of the Awards are celebrated at a ceremony attended by major stakeholders in the built environment and heritage sectors, as well as representatives from local and national government.

The My Place Awards are a great opportunity to showcase a project's success to the community, stakeholders and funders by receiving much-deserved exposure and media attention, as well as

thank community members for their hard work and dedication to their local place.

### How to enter

Entries to the My Place Awards 2025 can be made via the [My Place Scotland website](#).

**The deadline for entries is 30 April 2025.**

For more information, email Erin Burke, Scottish Civic Trust Communications and Events Officer, at [Erin.Burke@scottishcivictrust.org.uk](mailto:Erin.Burke@scottishcivictrust.org.uk).

### Let's Grow

Reminder that our new What's App growing community is there to help share skills in gardening, community growing or even cooking what you grow.

Come share your tips and skills, learn from others and maybe even visit other projects and initiatives. [Email](#) or scan QR code.

Let' Grow   
 WhatsApp community



## Stirling 900 Finale



The Stirling 900 celebrations will conclude with a special finale weekend.

- Friday, 28th March – Free cultural celebration at Stirling Castle 6pm to 8pm, followed by a live concert. [Tickets available here](#).
- Saturday, 29th March – A spectacular 900 Parade will begin at Stirling Castle, making its way through the city centre before concluding at the Rugby Club.

### Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are needed to support the event in various roles, including assisting with event setup; Acting as runners; welcoming and directing attendees and supporting parade groups

All volunteers will receive a Stirling 900 t-shirt, refreshments, and reimbursement for any out-of-pocket expenses.

To find out more and register visit [the Volunteer Portal](#).

### Inside this issue:

- Community Link Worker Film
  - Mental Health and Distress Calls
  - Funding
  - Wellbeing Writing Workshops
  - Visitors Levy Consultation
  - Business Idea Roadshow
  - No Smoking Day 2025
- and much more

## Framework for Collaboration on Mental Health and Distress Calls

Poor mental health and wellbeing has a significant impact on individuals and on those around them, including the services they often turn to for support. Individuals experiencing distress or crisis, tend to get support from a service that may not be best placed to meet their needs.

The Scottish Government in partnership with their Partnership Delivery Group (PDG) members, have developed a new framework to promote a multi-agency collaborative approach to improving local distress pathways, with the person-centred, trauma-informed and no wrong door principles at the heart of the improvement.



The Framework is seen as being of particular interest to agencies and services supporting the mental health and wellbeing of their local communities, including mental health services, emergency services (such as the ambulance service and policing), and third sector organisations, particularly those working in the early intervention and prevention space.

The aspiration is that services work together across boundaries to connect people with the service(s) that meet their needs, thereby improving the person's care outcome. However, the right service to meet the person's need might not be available at the point of their distress; and there is recognition that current pressures across services mean that the existing services may also be unable to support the person at the time of their presentation. Therefore positive collaborative behaviours, agreed processes, and joint training between agencies and services are important.

For more information and to read the framework, visit the [Scottish Government website](#).



### Community Link Workers - New Film

Voluntary Health Scotland and the Scottish Community Link Worker Network (SCLWN) have launched short films which celebrate and showcase the vital work of community link workers in Scotland.

A community link worker (CLW) is a non-clinical professional who helps people with social issues that impact their health and well-being. CLWs work in GP surgeries and connect people with local services and resources

The 4 films – one each from the perspective of CLW, patients and GPs – and an overview film which explores the current context of community link working in Scotland are [available here](#).

To find out more about CLW in this area visit the [website here](#).

### Shared Learning Workshops

A series of SURF Award Shared Learning Workshops will take place in May.



SURF is Scotland's regeneration forum whose overall objective is to address poverty in Scotland's most disadvantaged communities. The SURF Awards provide an opportunity for regeneration projects of all sizes to demonstrate value to funders and partners, support team-building and develop a national profile.

At the workshops, attendees will have the opportunity to learn from SURF Award winners and highly commended projects, before opening to a wider policy discussion with national partners. The **4 workshops** are now open for bookings:

[Delivering housing led regeneration projects](#) (1st May, Edinburgh)

[Overcoming barriers to employability](#) (8th May, Glasgow)

[Investing in place-based regeneration](#) (15th May, Glasgow)

[Creativity in regeneration](#) (22nd May, Glasgow)

All of the events are listed on the SURF website [events page](#).



### Annual Poverty Report

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) has published its annual UK Poverty report. The report highlights new analysis showing that under central OBR projections, only Scotland will see child poverty rates fall by 2029, demonstrating the power of social security policy in tackling poverty.

The report highlights more than 1 in 5 people in the UK (21%) were in poverty in 2022/23 – 14.3 million people. Of these, 8.1 million were working-age adults, 4.3 million were children and 1.9 million were pensioners.

To read the full report visit the [Joseph Rowntree Foundation website](#).

## Wellbeing Writing

### Workshop

with Laura Fyfe and  
the Friends of Kings Park

As Spring nears, the Friends of Kings Park will host this two hour wellbeing writing workshop, led by Laura Fyfe.

They welcome people from all walks of life to mindfully engage with the sights, sounds, smells and felt sensations in the Peace of Mind Garden during this time of year, appreciating Spring's renewal. As part of the Stirling 900 celebrations, historical context about the park will also be offered to give a sense of place.

Laura Fyfe is experienced in supporting beginners and seasoned writers through the writing process and in reflecting how writing and nature can support wellbeing.

People should meet at 10am in the Peace of Mind Garden for a mindful stroll, then head over to the Pavilion Café for the workshop.

Refreshments will be on offer after the event. Please bring your preferred writing tools, but notepads and pencils will be available.

Spaces are limited. Please RSVP to this free event by [emailing](#)



## Participants Needed!

Stirling University PhD student is looking for people aged 65-80 with no difficulty walking to take part in a study exploring the effects of dimmed light on walking patterns & obstacle negotiation

Participants will be compensated for their time.

If you would like to participate [email Danishta Kaul](#).

## FUNDING

### Funding Stirling

Funding Stirling is Stirling Council's online funding search tool, provided in partnership with Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations.

You can search for funding opportunities by location, activity and other features and receive regular bulletins. For more information visit [Funding Stirling](#) on the Stirling Council website.

### The Woodward Charitable Trust - Children's Summer Play Scheme Grants

Funding is available for summer play schemes for children between the ages of 5-16 years. Preference is given to small local play schemes, those that involve a large number of children, those catering for children from disadvantaged backgrounds or that have a disability.

**Next deadline: 24th April 2025 at 12 noon.**

Full details at: [The Woodward Charitable Trust](#)



### The Stafford Trust

The Trust was set up in 1991 by the late Mrs Gay Stafford of Sauchie Estate near Stirling and, on her death in 2005, the residue of her estate was bequeathed to the Trust. The Trust makes grants to charities from the income generated from the trust fund.

The Trust will consider applications for grants from charities registered in the United Kingdom, with preference being given to charitable organisations operating in Scotland.

Apply using the application form available on their website. Trustees usually meet twice a year; next meeting will be autumn 2025 and applications must be in before 30 June 2025.

Grants vary but most fall between £500 and £5000.

Full details at: [Apply for a grant – Stafford Trust](#)



### The Mushroom Trust

The Mushroom Trust is a Scottish Charity established in 1983. The primary goal of the Trust is to support the creation and improvement of greenspaces, particularly in urban environments, through an emphasis on horticultural aspects. The Trust helps to fund projects throughout Scotland.

In recent years the Trust has supported a broad variety of proposals for the improvement of public parks, the development of allotments, the commissioning of landscape designs for long term planning, the planting of community gardens and orchards, and the creation of therapeutic garden spaces.

The Trustees also encourage applications for the initial costs for design work in connection with new projects.

**Deadline 31 March 2025.**

Full details at [The Mushroom Trust](#)



# Consultations

**STIRLING**   
**VISITOR LEVY**



In May 2024, the Scottish Parliament passed the Visitor Levy (Scotland) Act. This Act gives local authorities the ability to charge a set percentage on overnight accommodation paid by visitors and tourists.

To make sure the proposals for the scheme meet the needs of Stirling's visitors, residents, and businesses - and make life better for everyone in the region - they are asking for your input. They want to know where you think any funds raised could have the biggest impact; how much you think it would be fair to charge visitors; and what the objectives for tourism in the area should be. They will then host another round of consultation asking what you think of that scheme, and whether Councillors should approve it and implement a levy.

To take part visit the [Engage website](#).

**Survey closes 4 May 2025**



## Adaptation for the Climate and Nature Emergency

As part of our Climate and Nature Emergency Plan, which Stirling Council published in 2021, they set an action to create a Climate Adaptation Strategy.

Now, they'd like to hear what you think about their draft strategy. It sets a vision for '**A well-prepared, climate resilient collaborative Stirling**'.

In practice, that means that the Council will have:

- Understanding and awareness of the impact, risks, opportunities, and actions to adapt to climate change.
- Resilient buildings and infrastructure.
- A protected natural environment.
- Supported communities.

To read the full strategy and to leave comment anywhere in the document, visit [Engage Stirling](#)

**Survey closes 6 April 2025**



## Rural Delivery Plan - consultation

The Scottish Government is committed to publishing a plan setting out how all it is delivering for Scotland's rural communities, by the end of the current Parliament.

The Rural Delivery Plan will act as a framework to consider the full breadth of policy delivery in the rural space; it is an opportunity to bring together often siloed areas of interest and consider what is happening holistically.

The Plan will cover a range of key areas, such as agriculture, marine, land reform, transport, housing, social justice, population, skills, digital connectivity, economic development, and health and social care.

To find out more and take part in the consultation visit the [Scottish Government Website](#).

**Survey closes 17 March 2025.**

## Mitigation of two-child cap

This consultation seeks views on the Scottish Government's proposed approach to mitigate the two-child cap policy applied by the UK Government.

The two-child cap restricts support through Universal Credit (UC) to the first two children in a family except in some limited circumstances. The Scottish Government is proposing to mitigate the cap by making a flat-rate payment equal to the UC child element for each third and subsequent child in Scotland.

To find out more visit [Scottish Government website](#)

**Survey closes**

**18 April 2025**



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## Just Transition Plan for Transport



Between now and 2045, it is recognised that we need to transform how we travel. Currently, transport accounts for the largest share of our greenhouse gas emissions.

As the country makes changes the Scottish Government aim to do so in a way that is fair and just. Therefore, they are consulting on the first draft Just Transition Plan for Transport which identifies the key challenges and opportunities.

To read the consultation paper and give your views visit the [Scottish Government website](#).

**Survey closes 19 May 2025**



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## New Travel Routes



Forth Environment Link (FEL) Scotland is working in collaboration with Stirling Council to gather feedback on new infrastructure developments as part of the *Walk, Cycle, Live Stirling* project. This initiative aims to transform Stirling into a more sustainable, vibrant, and accessible city by enhancing key transport routes for walking and cycling. New infrastructure, including cycle paths and walkways, have been introduced between Stirling Train Station and the University, as well as the City Centre to Forth Valley College.

They want to hear from local communities, businesses, and organisations about their experiences with these new routes. Your insights will help shape future improvements and ensure the infrastructure meets the needs of those who use it.

### How You Can Get Involved

- Complete our [survey here](#)
- Help us spread the word – Please share the survey with your networks.
- Join a focus group – FEL are organising community discussions to explore views in more detail. If you're interested, let them know!

For more information visit the survey or see [FEL website](#) for more information on active travel and to contact FEL.

**Survey closes 24 March 2025**



Have an idea for a business? Community Group exploring opportunities to generate income? Love to work for yourself?

## Come along to the GreenLaunch Roadshow

Stirling University and the Community Development Team are working together to support enterprise in our communities. We are delighted to offer GreenLaunch Roadshows, which aim to educate, empower, and support individuals and organisations that might be interested in starting a business, exploring self-employment, or developing a community/social business with a specific focus on environmental sustainability.

During the workshop, participants will explore how to build a responsible business (social and environmental), map out their ideas, identify and reach customers, and fund their business, whilst also learning key communication skills for business including pitching.

We have three sessions available

**Wednesday 19 March**, 1.00- 4.00pm  
Raploch Community Campus

**Wednesday 26 March**, 4.00 – 8.00pm  
Cowie Community Hub

**Tuesday 1 April**, 1.00 – 4.00pm  
Killin Sports & Social Hub

All sessions are free and snacks refreshments will be provided.

If you would like more information, please contact -

To book onto a session, please fill in the [short form here](#).



## Café Opportunity

The tender for running the new café at the [Bellfield Centre](#) is now open. Local community groups, social enterprises, community interest companies, and organisations with social aims are encouraged to apply, as well as local businesses interested in developing a social enterprise model.

To take part, registration as a supplier on the [Public Contracts Scotland](#) website is required.

Full details and the application can be found here: [Public Contracts Scotland – Bellfield Café](#).

**The deadline for submissions is 7th April 2025.**

For further information please contact [david.logie@nhs.scot](mailto:david.logie@nhs.scot) or [karen.mckay@nhs.scot](mailto:karen.mckay@nhs.scot).



## Howdy, from Wee Country

Wee Country is a Country and Western duo playing and singing to raise money for Charities and good causes in the Forth Valley. They are relatively new and have been playing for a year in Care Homes, at community gatherings and special events.

They have two key objectives: firstly, to raise money for deserving causes and secondly, and very importantly, is to support wellbeing in the local community through music. They love when audiences join in by singing along or dancing or both. A good time had by all. The group have a varied repertoire which can adapt to suit audiences from old Country favourites everyone knows to some of the more recent Country sounds.



If you are planning a Charity Fund Raising Event for your organisation or a named Charity, why not have a Country and Western themed event. Grab your cowboy hats and saddle up for a good ole time. We'll be kicking up dust with some toe tapping tunes and having a hootin' and hollering' good time.

To get in touch email: [weecountry0@gmail.com](mailto:weecountry0@gmail.com) or phone: 07966 689217 or 07827 317915.



## Strathcarron Donations



**Did you know that Strathcarron Hospice can pick up your good quality bulky goods for donation to their shops?**

Your local hospice is incredibly grateful for good quality donations of furniture and electrical items, that can be resold to help raise vital funds for Strathcarron.

Their logistics partner Boxmove can pick-up your larger items of furniture e.g. sofa's, beds and cupboards. You can arrange a collection [online](#), on the phone or by visiting a store. For all other items, please contact your local Strathcarron Charity Shop directly.

Strathcarron Hospice has 12 charity shops across Forth Valley, Cumbernauld and Kilsyth that are vital in fundraising. With only one third of Strathcarron Hospice funded by the Government, the rest is from people donations. Over the last year the local community has helped raise approximately £500,000 (including Gift Aid). The Hospice needs to raise over £16,637 every single day and this figure will continue to rise as costs increase.

To find out more visit the [Strathcarron Hospice website](#).

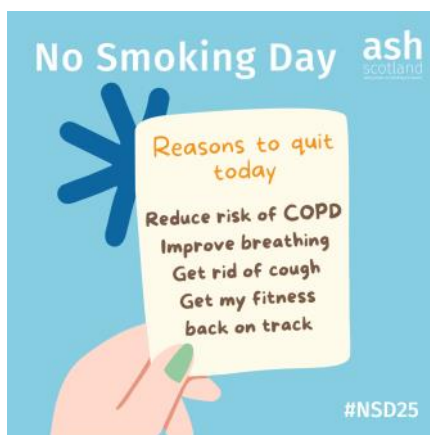
## Quit and Win

No Smoking Day is taking place on Wednesday 12 March 2025 and Ash Scotland are asking people to join in their campaign highlighting the benefits that can be gained by quitting smoking.

The theme is 'Quit and Win' and they are encouraging people who smoke to quit and win with their physical health, mental wellbeing and personal finances when they leave tobacco behind.

ASH Scotland are a charity working to bring about a healthier Scotland, free from the harms of tobacco and related products.

For more resources and to find out the support available if you want to quit [visit their website](#).



### Contact

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