

# CD News

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

## Gargunnock Memorial Fountain - refurbishment

The Category C Listed fountain sits at the heart of the Gargunnock village's Conservation Area and dates from 1909. It is a memorial drinking fountain, for use both by people, on the side facing the Cross, where there was originally a drinking cup, and for dogs, where there's a low drinking bowl on the side facing the wee park behind it. It was built in loving memory of Jeannie Millar, who was the widow of John Stevenson of Limehill, Dunfermline. The water supply of Gargunnock was given by her son, the Reverend Robert Stevenson, who was minister of the parish and this fountain was erected by her nephews.



The fountain's basin has been badly damaged in the past and the community would like to have it properly repaired, and ideally back in working order, however this will be expensive so it will require fundraising to be done first. Until then, the locals have worked together, obtained agreement from all of the relevant Stirling Council departments for works to clear up and repoint the structure. The photo



(above) is before and lots of moss is evident, especially on the basin, and the photo (left) is an 'after' shots. No Planning or Listed Building Consent for the works were required in this instance as the works were done manually and using agreed traditional materials.

The project is being led by Gargunnock Community Council, with funding provided by the Nadara

Kingsburn Community Fund administered by the Gargunnock Community Trust. The Community Council notes that they are also grateful for the support from the Planning (Conservation) and Estates and Commercial Property teams at Stirling Council for their help and advice with the necessary permissions and licence to undertake the work.

### Stirling Methodist Church Open Day

**Saturday 14 June**

**10am to 3pm**

The Stirling Methodist Church has had a makeover!

Please come and see for yourselves the new community and worship spaces.

**All Welcome**

Queen Street, Stirling FK8 1HL



**Town Break**  
Dementia Support Services

### Information Day

**Thursday 19th June 2025**

**11:00 am - 2:00 pm**

Come along to find out about support and services for those living with Dementia and their carers.

Learn about Town Break and speak to agencies.

**Bellfield Centre, Stirling**

#### Inside this issue:

- SURF Awards
- Farmstrong Scotland
- Summer Reading Challenge
- Local Housing Consultation
- Carron Valley's New Hall
- Walking Football

and much more

# Consultations



## Local Housing Strategy (2026 - 2031)

Stirling Council is developing a new Local Housing Strategy to help address the key housing priorities of local residents and communities. This strategy will outline our vision and objectives for housing and related services over the next five years, along with our plans for how we intend to achieve them.

It will focus on priorities across all housing tenures and types, including how we will:

- Increase the supply of high-quality, affordable housing
- Improve the condition and energy efficiency of homes across Stirling
- Prevent and respond to homelessness
- Meet the housing needs of people with specific requirements to support independent living
- Work with landlords to make Stirling's private rented sector a sustainable housing option

The Council recognises that communities across Stirling Council face a range of housing challenges. To ensure our strategy reflects these differences, focuses on what matters most to our residents, and allows them to direct resources effectively, they need your input.

Your views will help shape the priorities of our Local Housing Strategy and guide how we deliver services and allocate resources.

To take part in the online consultation or find out more about the Drop-in session organised, visit the [Engage Stirling site](#). If you would prefer to submit a physical survey, copies will be available from any library in the Stirling Council area.

**Deadline: 28 July 2025**



## The Scottish Bus Open Data Consultation

The Scottish Government brought in new primary legislation for transport (the Transport (Scotland) Act 2019), which included new provisions to better define bus open data, and to require it be shared for the new purpose of directly informing passengers (or potential passengers) about services. They believe that bus open data is essential to make travel on public transport more accessible, and to increase patronage of public transport in Scotland.

They now intend to introduce new supporting legislation which define what specific information is required to be published, when, and in what format. They are seeking views from all interested parties and are keen to hear both technical views on the data format, and passenger (user) views on which information should be included.

You can access this consultation as a PDF document and find out how to respond via post at [Scottish bus open data | Transport Scotland](#)

**Deadline: 21 June 2025**



Engage Stirling is Stirling Council's Online Engagement & Consultation Platform. Sign up to give your views and get involved. Get analysis or reports from the consultations you took part in [Visit here](#).



## Sustainable Mobility Strategy and Travel Demand Survey

Transport is a key priority within our Climate and Nature Emergency Plan. The Sustainable Mobility Strategy (SMS) sets out bold but realistic proposals to meet our transport emissions reduction targets.

As part of work to develop the SMS, Stirling Council want to know about your journeys in the council area. This will help to improve accessibility to all corners of Stirling.

To provide feedback on the SMS, and to take part in our Travel Demand survey, please visit the [Engage Stirling site](#).

**Deadline: 30 July 2025**



## Waste Consultation

The Scottish Government is launching the Changes to Waste Management Consultation and the Call for Evidence (CfE) on the potential extension of the upcoming ban on landfilling biodegradable municipal waste.

The first of these consultation topics is a review of the **rural food waste exemption** and the second consultation topic will consider the **approach to collection of textiles in Scotland**.

To find out more and take part visit the [Scottish Government website here](#).

**Deadline 17 June 2025**

## Nature Connections



### New Campaign to Restore Nature, Together

The Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park have launched their new Nature Connections campaign – an invitation for everyone to build deeper, more personal connections with nature in Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park.

As we all face the effects of the global climate and nature crises, Nature Connections offers hope – showing how simple, everyday moments in nature can boost our wellbeing and support nature's recovery.

Simon Jones, the Director of Environment and Visitor Services, said, "Our Nature Connections campaign recognises that although the global climate and nature crises can feel overwhelming, simple, everyday interactions with nature can enhance our wellbeing while also contributing to environmental restoration.

Central to this campaign is the 'Nature Needs Heroes' initiative, celebrating extraordinary individuals whose passion and dedication demonstrate the powerful impact of local, personal action.

At the heart of the campaign is the [Nature Hub](#) – a free online resource packed with: Family-friendly guides & outdoor activities; Ranger-led walks & events; Real-life stories from inspiring local people making a difference; Easy actions & activities you can take – whether you have 5 minutes or 5 hours.

Nature Heroes and nominations can be found on [their website](#) with more on exploring how you can get involved.



Farmstrong Scotland is a small team using the Five Ways to Wellbeing to help farmers and crofters share, learn and support their wellbeing.

Many challenges faced in farming are hard to predict or control from climate events like drought and flood to fluctuations in commodity prices, changing government legislation and new technology. Along with these external factors, come the demands of running any business. These pressures aren't going to disappear so Farmstrong Scotland believe it's vital that farmers develop the skills and resilience to cope.

Research shows many farmers and crofters are great at looking after their equipment and livestock, but, like many others, they can neglect their own wellbeing. Farmstrong Scotland is a peer-to-peer led programme, driven by scientific information and real-life stories, to help farmers, crofters and their families to cope with the ups and downs of farming and crofting by sharing things they can do to look after themselves and the people in their business.

To find out more about their work and fantastic resources in the Wellbeing Hub visit the [Farmstrong Website](#).

### Scottish Mental Health First Aid (SMHFA)



17th and 18th June 2025—9.30am – 4.30pm

SMHFA is a free, face to face onsite learning course that is run over two days. SMHFA does NOT teach people to be therapists but is designed to provide participants with the knowledge and skills to identify, understand, and respond effectively to persons in distress.

The event is for anyone living or working in Clackmannanshire or Stirling Council areas.

At the end of the sessions, participants will be able to respond if they believe someone is at risk of suicide, give immediate help until appropriate or professional help is available, know what to do in a crisis situation, know the importance of good listening skills, understand recovery from mental health problems, learn about common mental health problems and understand the connection between mental health problems and stigma and discrimination.

#### [CLICK HERE TO APPLY](#)

This expression of interest call for this event closes on **10 Jun 2025**.

### Parkinson's Walking Football



Tuesdays 11am - 1pm

Forthbank 3G Pitch, Forthbank Stirling FK7 7UJ

**Parkinson's walking Football is a slower version of football specifically designed for people with Parkinson's disease. Focuses on health, fitness, and social interaction in a safe, non-competitive environment.**

These sessions are for all ages and abilities even if you have no prior experience in football. There is no cost but please sign up or find out more information by contacting Active Stirling by phone or email on: **07874 914033** or [email](#) .



# SURF AWARDS 2025



**NOW OPEN**

The prestigious national 2025 SURF Awards for Best Practice in Community Regeneration have just been launched.

The SURF Awards are delivered each year by SURF, a regeneration forum with over 300 cross-sector member organisations across Scotland, in partnership with the Scottish Government. The purpose is to **highlight, celebrate and share** the achievements of initiatives that address physical, social and economic challenges in communities across Scotland.

This year's five thematic categories include;

**Removing Barriers to Employability, Creative Regeneration** sponsored by Creative Scotland,

**Community Led Regeneration** sponsored jointly by Highlands and Islands Enterprise and South of Scotland Enterprise,

**Improving Scotland's Places** sponsored by Scotland's Towns Partnership, and finally an award for

**Housing and Regeneration** sponsored by the Scottish Procurement Alliance.

The winners of the 2025 Awards will be announced by a leading Scottish Government Minister at a celebratory

dinner event **on the 4 December**.

The timescale for the 2025 SURF Awards is as follows:

- **Thursday 5 June** – launch of Awards
- **Monday 1 September** – close of application period
- **Mid-Sept** – Shortlisting by 20 independent judges
- **Late Sept-Oct** – Visits and assessment period by judges
- **Thursday 4 December** – SURF Awards Presentation Dinner

To find out more about the 2025 SURF Awards and to download the materials, please [visit their website](#).

## Peer Support Workshop

Peer Support is about people who have experiences of similar issues, or have similar interests, supporting one another. Scottish Recovery Network has organised an introductory session with Q&A, exploring the foundations of peer support. Emma Jackson, Founder of [Keep The Heid](#), will share her experiences of setting up and facilitating successful peer support groups.

With practical tips, free resources, and examples of Peer Support in Action to help you get started on your peer support journey!

Growing peer support. This Peer Connects event is for grassroots groups, small organisations, and individuals who are interested in starting a peer support group or learning more about peer support.

To book visit [the website here](#).



## HeatHack Workshop

**17 June from 9.30am – 12pm**  
**Mayfield Centre, Stirling.**



In partnership with Forth Environment Link, SVE will be facilitating a HeatHack workshop. This is a free programme of four small group sessions based on games and activities that community organisations with premises can use to understand how to save energy, both immediately and with future changes to the building and how it is heated.

It aims to help you understand what you need to know to choose the right actions for your building and gives you the concepts you need to get the best service from the professionals.

The sessions are designed to lead to a high level plan that covers everything from checking the heating controls are fit for purpose to undertaking a full building retrofit and includes ensuring the spaces suit local community needs. All materials are freely available on line for you to use in whatever way makes most sense for you.

In this workshop, HeatHack's founder, Jean Carletta, will explain the programme's key learning points and answer any questions you have about what they mean for you.

For more information: see <https://guide.heathack.org/>

They will also be joined by Forth Valley Climate Action Hub with FEL Scotland who will be introducing people to their new Community Energy Empowerment Programme (CEEP)



# 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.

## W G Edwards Charitable Foundation

This Foundation is interested in supporting a diverse range of charities which support older people, from large institutions to small community-run registered charities. Around 100 organisations each year are successful in obtaining grants usually between £1000 to £1500.

In order to apply, 90% of your beneficiaries must be over the age of 65. Projects must have been established at least one year before application, pilot projects will not be supported.

**Grants are loosely divided into Health and Community categories:**

### Health and welfare

The Foundation gives grants for refurbishment of residential care housing for the elderly and for building projects which are nearing completion. Trustees also consider the provision of equipment and furniture to enhance care and improve quality of life.

### Community and innovation

The Foundation supports community initiatives which improve the quality of life for the over-65s such as exercise classes and horticultural projects. Trustees consider arts projects such as musical therapy and theatre groups in addition to specific projects including the creation of memory boxes.

**Deadline: Quarterly meetings are held to consider applications.**

For details on how to apply please visit: [W.G.Edwards Charitable Foundation » How to Apply](#)

The W.G. Edwards  
Charitable  
Foundation

## Climate Action Fund

The Climate Action Fund supports communities to be environmentally sustainable. They only fund projects developed in a formal partnership with other organisations and are looking for partnership projects that reach more people by either:

- **linking climate action to the everyday lives and interests of local communities.**, and inspiring them to take action.
- **influencing communities at a regional or national level.** Like linking up groups across locations. Or a campaign that inspires change across one country, or the whole UK.
- **You do not have to be a climate or environment focused organisation to apply**

They are particularly interested in projects that involve people, places and communities experiencing poverty, discrimination and disadvantage.

For details visit the [website](#).



## The Scottish Forestry Community Fund

This fund supports groups and organisations that encourage people to use woods more.

Eligible activities include those associated with woodland-based:

- school care clubs and play schemes
- schemes that promote physical activity such as walking, safe routes to school, natural play and adventure play
- volunteer group establishment and the induction of volunteers
- volunteering facilitation focused on skills training, health improvement and community development
- projects promoting Gaelic

They also include activities such as:

- providing resources to involve communities in the decision making process of managing their local woodland
- costs incurred by community bodies (such as valuation costs) when developing Community Asset Transfer Scheme applications – funding will not normally cover legal fees
- developing materials (in appropriate languages e.g. English, Scots, Gaelic, Polish, Urdu etc) that promote the health and well-being benefits of using woodlands

The fund is currently open to new applications with full details at:

[Scottish Forestry - Community Fund](#)



## Stirling Council's Community Grants Programme

This fund is a flexible small grants programme that will support a wide range of project costs across Stirling area, with grants up to £800. There are several rounds throughout the year.

For full details and deadlines visit the [Council website](#).



## Tesco Community Champion

A Community Champion is one of the links between the store and the community it serves. They are store colleagues who care passionately about their community.

With expert knowledge of programmes such as Tesco's Food Collections and Community Grants scheme, Community Champions help people to understand how to benefit from them. They assist with filling in grant application forms, or give contact information about charity partners and share other useful tools.

**Community Champions also manage a small community donation budget that can be used for financial support for community groups or events.**

They are also the point of contact for charities and community groups wishing to visit the store for awareness days or to fundraise.

Find out more at the [Tesco website](#).



## SafeDeposits Scotland Community Fund

The aim of this Fund is to contribute to initiatives that will benefit people across Scotland, including their landlord, letting agent and tenant customers and their wider communities.

This year the SafeDeposits Fund will award grants up to £5,000 to organisations who deliver a project that meets at least one of five criteria:

- Sustainability and the environment
- Employability and career skills
- Social inclusion
- Technology and digital inclusion
- Improving the local community

**Deadlines:** Interested parties are invited to submit an application by the following dates, to be considered for the subsequent funding round:

**Friday 29th August 2025**

**Friday 28th November 2025**

**Friday 27th February 2026**

Full details are on [the website](#).

## Grow Your Imagination with the Story Garden Summer Reading Challenge!

This summer, Stirling Libraries invite children to step into the magical world of Story Garden, the theme for this year's Summer Reading Challenge. With stunning artwork by illustrator Dapo Adeola, children can uncover stories that celebrate the great outdoors and the power of imagination. Available for free in Stirling Public Libraries children can discover new books, earn rewards, and enjoy nature-inspired events and activities.

Sign up at your local library from Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June to begin your adventure. Read your six books before the challenge ends on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August and get a medal, certificate, and a free entry to one of our partner activities (terms and conditions apply). Our local partners this year include Blair Drummond Safari and Adventure Park, The Peak, The National Wallace Monument, McLaren Leisure and Bellrock.



### About the Summer Reading Challenge

The Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge has been running across the UK since 2000 and inspires a passion for reading outside the classroom. With the help of local libraries, the Summer Reading Challenge is accessible to all and provides a fun, free activity for children to stay engaged with reading during the school summer holidays.

Have a look at the information [video here](#).



## King's Park Health Walk

**Thursday 11am-12pm**  
**Meeting point: Tennis Court Kings Park, Stirling**

Increase your steps with our FREE weekly Health Walk. Join us each week as we take a short, gentle, and friendly volunteer led walk of up to two miles in your local community.

This walk is open to everyone, especially adults living with dementia, their families, and carers – offering a welcoming, relaxed environment to enjoy fresh air, gentle exercise, and social interaction.

After the walk, participants are invited to the nearby King's Park Pavilion Café for a friendly cuppa and chat.

01786 273555  
[walking@activestirling.org.uk](mailto:walking@activestirling.org.uk)  
[activestirling.org.uk](http://activestirling.org.uk)

Active Stirling working in partnership with Stirling Council



IDEAL FOR BEGINNERS

## Highlighting Community Halls and Centres: Carron Valley

A long-awaited vision for the Carron Valley community is finally coming to life, as construction is now underway on the brand-new Carron Valley Community Hall, located beside the stunning Carron Valley Reservoir. The hall, designed to be a hub for social gatherings, events, and local initiatives, marks a significant milestone for this rural area nestled in the heart of Scotland.



The project, which has been in planning for several years, is now taking shape thanks to the dedication of local volunteers, generous fundraising, and support from regional development bodies. The building is set to provide a much-needed venue for residents, outdoor enthusiasts, and visitors alike.

"Seeing the structure begin to rise is incredibly exciting for everyone involved," said a spokesperson from the Carron Valley Community Trust. "We've worked hard to get to this point, and the hall will be a true asset to the area—something the community can be proud of."

With proximity to the reservoir and nearby forest trails, the location offers a picturesque setting that reflects the community's strong connection to the land and natural environment. The hall will serve as a flexible space for everything from community meetings and yoga classes to art workshops and family celebrations.

Organisers are now looking ahead to a grand opening ceremony planned for August, with hopes of welcoming locals and guests for a day of festivities, music, and refreshments to celebrate the new beginning.

"This hall isn't just bricks and mortar," the spokesperson added. "It represents a new chapter for the Carron Valley—bringing people together, creating opportunities, and strengthening our sense of place."

More details about the opening ceremony will be announced in the coming months. In the meantime, locals are encouraged to stay updated through the Carron Valley Community Trust website, social media channels or contact [info@carronvalleyhall.org.uk](mailto:info@carronvalleyhall.org.uk)

## Bee Yellow with Strathcarron Hospice

Are you ready to have fun and #BeeYellow in support of Strathcarron Hospice this June?

The Hospice is looking for schools, colleges, communities, clubs and work places to host a fundraising yellow dress up day (or dress down day!), or organise a fun #BeeYellow activity to raising much needed money.

They need £19,452 to pay for one day of operating costs, so every penny counts. Activity ideas could include:

- Play yellow themed games -yellow balloon pop, duck race or hook-a-duck
- Hold a yummy yellow bake sale
- Custard Challenge: throwing or eating pies, or take a custard bath!
- Raffle a hamper of yellow goodies
- Guess the yellow sweetie jar

Or any other ideas you can think of!

You can register your own #BeeYellow day with the Hospice who can provide a range of fundraising materials.

For further information call the Fundraising Team on 01324 826 222 or [email](#)

### Contact

Communitydevelopment  
[@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:communitydevelopment@stirling.gov.uk)

01786 233076

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