

# CD News

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

## Volunteering for Everyone

**Make Your Mark** has launched an updated version of its [Inclusive Volunteering Toolkit](#)

The aim of the toolkit is to support voluntary organisations in Scotland that care for places, history and culture to make their volunteering programmes more inclusive.

The toolkit was informed by focus groups with marginalised people, surveys of voluntary organisations and extensive research on inclusive volunteering. Launched November 2023, version 1 has been downloaded over 4,300 times and feedback since the launch has been used to help create this updated version and some of the new elements. Including:

- A section clarifying the difference between volunteering, placements, unpaid work and paid employment.
- Updated stats on volunteering in Scotland from the latest Scottish Household Survey.
- More information around how to address economic barriers to volunteering, which are becoming more prevalent due to the cost of living crisis.
- More information around the legalities of paying expenses.
- Resources available to empower staff to support volunteers with a range of access needs, specifically around supporting people struggling with their mental health.



To access the Toolkit and help make your group and activities more inclusive visit the [Make your Mark website](#).

## Emergency Systems Alert 7 September

The UK government will be carrying out a national test of the Emergency Alerts system this coming **Sunday 7 September at 3pm**. Compatible mobile phones and tablets will receive an alert, make a loud siren-like sound, and vibrate.

The Emergency Alerts system is an important tool for reaching the public in emergency situations and is used to warn if there's a danger to life nearby, including extreme weather.

There may be some people who have a separate phone for personal safety reasons, so there is information on how [you can opt out of the alert here](#).



## Reminder Changes to Phone Systems

As you may already be aware landlines are changing, and the UK's telephone network is going digital. By January 2027, the old analogue network will be completely switched off.

### National Telecare campaign

If you use a telecare device such as personal alarms, pendant alarms, lifeline devices and home care monitoring systems, it is important that they take action to ensure that your equipment is compatible with the new digital technology. Please make contact with your landline provider for support as soon as possible.

More information is [available here](#).

**BT Connected-Together** campaign provides friends, family, colleagues, neighbours resources to support vulnerable members of the community through the switch. Find out more on the [BT website](#).

Anyone who needs extra support to make the switch, register using the BT webform available on the [website](#).



### Inside this issue:

- Fallin Fun Day
  - Education Admissions Policy
  - Funding and consultations
  - Energy Team Newsletter
  - Deanston Community Centre
- and much more

# Fallin Fun Day

Fallin held their annual Fun Day on August 2<sup>nd</sup> and had over 800 people attend with 385 children attending and receiving a goody bag on arrival! It was a beautiful bright and warm summer day with everyone having the best time.

The group had opened the Fun Day an hour early to allow families with children who have ASN to come and enjoy the event before the big crowds arrived. This went down a treat and FCV will do this now for future Fun Days!

Fallin Fun Day is all about bringing our community together for a free, fun-filled day for local families and kids. From bouncy castles to games, music to food, every smile you saw this year was made possible thanks to last year's generous donations.



We believe everyone should have access to events like this—no tickets, no barriers, just joy. That's why we rely on your support to make it happen.

If you enjoyed Fallin Funday 2025, or just love seeing the community come alive, please donate today to help us kickstart the fun for 2026. Every penny goes straight into creating another amazing event that everyone can enjoy.

Thank you for being part of something special.

At the Fallin Fun Day, Fallin residents were remembering a very special boy, Noah. In his memory, there was free ice creams for every child and a bouncy castle dedicated by his loving family, which was a beautiful way to share Noah's joy and spirit with us all.

We sincerely hoped that you enjoyed the ice creams and the bouncy castle, and all the fun they brought. This helped us make the day full of smiles, laughter, and lovely memories.



## Strathcarron Hospice Knitober

1 October 2025 - 31 October 2025

Get ready for Knitober, our new virtual challenge for all lovers of knitting, crochet, and crafting! This October, we're asking you to pick up your needles every day and get sponsored to create Christmas-themed makes for a great cause.

We're on the lookout for festive fun; think quirky Christmas baubles, cosy covers for Chocolate Oranges, and of course, the quirkiest Brussel sprouts you can imagine! Once you've completed the challenge, donate your handmade creations to the hospice, where they'll be sold to raise vital funds. It's a fun, festive way to support your community.

## Where the Body and Mind Meet



### SRFCA Short Seminar

Join us for an enlightening evening with SRFA Trustee, Dr Pete Connick, Senior Neurologist at NHS Forth Valley, as he delves into the profound topic of the neurological effects of childhood trauma. This thought provoking talk offers valuable insights into how early experiences shape our neural pathways and influence our overall well-being

**Tuesday 9 September**

**7.30pm**

**Mayfield Centre, Stirling**

Whether you are a survivor, healthcare professional, educator or simply curious about the intricate connections between mind and body, this event promises to be both educational and inspiring.

To find out more about the work of the Scots Recovery From Childhood Abuse group [visit their website](#).

*Supported by the Community Development Team, Stirling Council*

# Consultations

## Scottish Charity Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) Dissolution

The Scottish Government are giving people the opportunity to provide their views on their proposals to improve the current law on the dissolution of [Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations \(SCIOs\)](#). This would involve making changes to the [existing regulations](#).

If you have any questions, comments or concerns about this consultation, [please email](#) . [Read the consultation paper](#) which contains full background information for this consultation.

**Deadline: 11 Sep 2025**

To give your views and see the [Scottish Government Website](#).



## Education Admissions Policy

Stirling Council's consultation on the creation of the Education Admissions Policy gives an opportunity to express your opinion on Schools, Learning and Education's update to, and amalgamation of, five separate policies and guidance relating to education admissions into one document. The policies being amalgamated are Nursery Admissions Policy; Early Entry to School Policy; School Admissions Policy; Education Placement Panel guidance for the admission of children and young people to Specialist Additional Support Needs Provisions; and Placing Request Policy.

Public meetings are scheduled to discuss the proposed policy, taking place on:

- Tuesday 16 September 6.30pm to 8pm in McLaren High School
- Wednesday 1 October 6.30pm to 8pm in the Raploch Campus

Any interested party is welcome to attend.

**Deadline: Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025.**

To participate visit the [Council's Engage Platform](#). Alternative methods of response can be requested by contacting [educ-comments@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:educ-comments@stirling.gov.uk) or by calling 01786 233220.



## Public Health & Community Organisations

Community Health Exchange (CHEX) has been working to explore whether the relationship between community-led health organisations and our public health partners has changed over the last three years.

If you have been funded by or worked in partnership with public health partners., they want to hear from you.

To take part [visit the survey here](#).

## Volunteer Scotland stakeholder survey

Volunteer Scotland are seeking your views around the services and products they have delivered over the last year - specifically, what difference their work has made to you, your organisation and the wider community. Your feedback will directly influence the decisions made for future work, including Scotland's Volunteering Action Plan.

To participate [visit their survey here](#).



## Shaping Stirling's Next Local Development Plan (LDP3)

### Call for Sites and Ideas

Stirling Council is inviting residents, community groups, and key stakeholders to share their ideas and proposals for the next Local Development Plan. This is your opportunity to influence the future of local places, from delivering new housing and community infrastructure to protecting important buildings and spaces.

A local development plan is an official Planning document that sets out policies and proposals for development and the management and use of land, and helps to ensure it is used in the long-term interests of the public.

It helps the Council guide developments to the most appropriate locations, and makes sure our built and natural environment is protected. It also sets out how we will provide new or improved community facilities, including roads, schools and parks.

To take part in the online survey please scan the **QR CODE** with your mobile device or visit [www.engage.stirling.gov.uk](http://www.engage.stirling.gov.uk).



**The survey will close on 31<sup>st</sup> October.**

For more information, or to request a hard copy or an accessible format, please email: [LDP@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:LDP@stirling.gov.uk)



# Consultations

## Stirling Housing Need Survey

The Stirling Housing Need Survey is live, with views being sought from residents across all types of tenures, including social tenants, owner occupiers and private renters.

Information from the survey will be used to plan for the number of homes that may be needed in future, set a target for affordable homes and areas of Stirling where new developments may be needed most, and will inform a range of policies including the Local Housing Strategy and Local Development Plan.

The survey is completely confidential and anonymous and will run for the next eight weeks. Survey partners Craigforth will be contacting a sample of residents directly via telephone in the coming month to request feedback.

**Deadline: 27 October 2025**

To take part visit our [the website here](#) or call 0800 433 7212 (9-5 Mon -Fri, residents can leave a message outwith these hours). A printed format of the survey is also available by emailing [survey@craigforth.co.uk](mailto:survey@craigforth.co.uk) or by calling the 0800 number.



Historic Scotland are inviting people across Scotland to take part in a national conversation about heritage, encouraging them to share their perspectives and help shape how it is recognised and looked after in the future.

Scotland's historic environment belongs to us all - from stone circles and high streets to tenements and schools. It may also be your local park, the venue where you saw the best gig you've ever been to, or the place you picture when you think of home. Heritage makes our communities special and it's everything we inherit from the past that shapes who we are today.

To fill in the survey or to register your interest to take part in both the online and in-person events, visit the [Talking about Heritage webpage](#). Event details will be shared over the coming weeks.

## Routes to Sharing and Repairing

An online session organised by Circular Communities Scotland that will explore different starting points for setting up a sharing or repair project.



The session will also explore how running one type of project can provide the catalyst for setting up another and is suitable for anyone interested in setting up a sharing library or repair project – whether starting from scratch or expanding an existing project into new areas.

With contributions from Lindsey Campbell of Linlithgow Community Development Trust who set up their Tool Library in 2018, a Repair Café in 2023 and their Repair Shop in 2024, and Sue Briggs of The General Store in Selkirk who launched as a repair service in 2021 and expanded to add a Tool Library to their growing services. There will be plenty of opportunity for Q&A and the session will conclude with an option for networking between participants.

To find out more and book a space [visit the site here](#).



Stirlingshire Voluntary Enterprise

## AGM and Workshops

SVE are holding their annual general meeting on 25 September 2025 at Colleges Scotland. The half-day event will include AGM alongside workshops built around Collaboration, Creativity and Change.

We encourage all SVE members to attend if they can. Formal invitation and agenda will be sent out soon.

If you would like further information, [please email](#).

## Safer Mobility Event



**Wed 17 September 11am - 2pm**

Bellfield Centre, Stirling FK8 2AU

How can you reduce the risk of falling? Come and visit our interactive stands

- Nutrition Advice
- Community Nursing
- Bone Health
- Falls Technology
- Strength & Balance
- Hearing aid support
- Medication and Falls
- Safe Home Environment

## Lasting Impact of Scotland's Social Enterprises

The Social Enterprise in Scotland: Census 2024 report has revealed the lasting impact the organisations have had in the past decade.

The Social Enterprise Census is a regular and comprehensive account of social enterprise activity in Scotland.

The census highlights the enduring innovation, transformation and impact of Scotland's social enterprises.

Key findings include a 17.4% increase in social enterprises since 2015.

To read the report and find out more of the fundings, [visit the website](#).



# 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.

## Climate Action Grants

FEL Scotland and the Forth Valley Climate Action Hub is offering a new round of grants to empower community-led climate action. Grants are available to eligible FEL member organisations only.

The grant aims to empower communities to:

- Increase climate-aware consumption and production
- Increase nature-based solutions to climate change
- Increase climate change awareness

Two levels of grant are available:

**First Steps:** £250 and £1,000

**Next Steps:** Communities taking their next steps in climate action are invited to apply for over £1,000. There is no maximum limit, however, please note we expect most successful awards will typically fall below £2,500.

**Deadline: 30 January 2026**

**Deadline: Groups requesting £5,000 or more must submit an expression of interest (EOI) by 12 September**

To find out more and apply [visit the FEL website](#).



## Women's Climate Leader Training Fund

FEL Scotland is excited to offer its innovative Women's Climate Leadership Training Fund for 2025-26. This fund offers up to £1,000 towards training, learning or development that can better help applicants lead and inspire on community response to climate change.

**Deadline: 30 January 2026**

To find out more and apply [visit the FEL website](#).



## Creative Communities Scotland Fund

Funded by the Scottish Government and facilitated by Inspiring Scotland, the Creative Communities Scotland fund will support grassroots community-led organisations across Scotland to develop and deliver projects that harness the power of creativity in supporting people and communities.

Organisations can apply for up to £35,000, and the fund is expected to support at least 10 charities. Activities will be delivered between January and December 2026.

The deadline for applications is **Thursday 18th September**.

For more information on how to apply, see our [Creative Communities Scotland Fund Information and Guidance Notes](#). An [Easy Read version](#) is also available.



## Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund

This fund is now open. Groups wishing to apply must submit an expression of interest form with a deadline of 15 September and successful applicants will be invited to submit to a stage 2 full application.

The intended aim of the Fund is to support community-based initiatives that promote and develop good mental health and wellbeing and/or mitigate and protect against the impact of distress and mental ill health within the adult population (aged 16 or over), with a particular focus on prevention and early intervention. The Fund specifically aims to:

1. Tackle mental health inequalities through supporting a range of at-risk groups.
2. Address priority issues of social isolation and loneliness, suicide prevention, recovery from addiction, poverty and inequality, support for people with neurodivergence and promotion of healthy living through physical activity, diet and nutrition.
3. Support small 'grass roots' community groups and organisations to deliver such activities.
4. Provide opportunities for people to connect with each other, build trusted relationships and revitalise communities.

[Expression of Interest Guidelines](#)

[Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund Guidance](#)

The funding is split into two categories of up to £5,000 and £10,000 with groups able to apply for the larger amount for projects of one or two years.

[To submit an EOI](#)

For further information or queries on Clackmannanshire applications, please contact [Tracey](#) or [Kainde](#).



## FUNDING

### The Hugo Burge Foundation - Creative Communities

The Creative Communities fund supports organisations, festivals, fairs and community groups that develop and deliver initiatives focusing on culture and creative arts in their local area.

**Deadline: 30th September 2025**

To apply [visit the website](#).

### Inspiring Scotland - Outdoor Community Play Incubator

The Outdoor Community Play Incubator Programme will support small community groups in rural and remote areas to develop and deliver local outdoor play opportunities.

**Deadline: 22nd September 2025**

For more details and to apply [visit the website](#).

1 - 7 November

## Befriending Week

### Befriending Week

1 – 7 November 2025

Befriending Week is the national campaign celebrating and raising awareness of befriending and the positive impact it has on individuals and communities.

During the week, we invite those in the befriending sector to reflect on their achievements over the previous year, thank volunteers and staff, celebrate their service users, and share their message with stakeholders, government and the public.

Befriending Week is also an opportunity to look into the future by raising awareness of how befriending helps to tackle isolation and create community connections, in-person and at a distance.

Befriending Week was established in 2012 by Befriending Networks, working in collaboration with our membership and strategic partners.

To find out more and get some resources to help you join in, visit the [Befriending network website](#)

## Family Activities in Stirling

Active Stirling have a series of classes and activities out in communities for families. Their family activities are designed to bring people together through a wide range of **sports, physical activities and local events** designed to keep children and parents moving, learning and having fun together.

From games and multi-sports to seasonal events, there's something for everyone – and it's all about enjoying time together while keeping fit and building confidence.

To find out more and join a class, [visit their website](#) or don't miss updates by following them on Instagram - [@activecommunitiesstirling](#).



## Healthy Life Expectancy



The time people in Scotland spend in good health has fallen to a near ten year low, according to new figures published by National Records of Scotland.

HLE is the average number of years of life that people are estimated to spend in good health. Good health is based on how people rate their own health in the Annual Population Survey (APS). Similar to life expectancy, healthy life expectancy is an average.

The latest figures show that in 2021-2023 females can expect to enjoy 60 years of good health and males 59.6 on average at birth. Healthy life expectancy at birth has been falling since 2014-2016.

However, over the last decade healthy life expectancy has remained relatively stable for males and females aged 65 to 69. In 2021-2023, healthy life expectancy for females in this age group was 10.7 years, and for males 9.6.

There is a wide gap in healthy life expectancy at birth between different council areas. In 2021-2023, the Council Areas with the highest estimated healthy life expectancies at birth for both females and males were Orkney Islands, Shetland Islands, and Perth and Kinross.

To find out more and see Stirling's figures, visit the [National Records of Scotland website](#).



AUTUMN  
2025

STIRLING DISTRICT CITIZENS ADVICE  
BUREAU



# Energy Team Newsletter



After a mostly sunny summer, autumn and winter are fast approaching with cooler weather and darker nights! Get preparing now for the increased costs by ensuring you set your thermostat to a suitable temperature, checking you are on the best tariff and turning off any unused appliances! Find out more ways you can save by checking out the British Gas Energy Saving Calculator online - [www.britishgas.co.uk/home-services/savings-calculator.html](http://www.britishgas.co.uk/home-services/savings-calculator.html) or by getting in touch with the energy team - [energy@stirling.cas.org.uk](mailto:energy@stirling.cas.org.uk) !

## CASE STUDY: LOCAL LIBRARY OUTREACH

A client attended one of our local library outreach sessions seeking advice about Adult Disability Payment. During the conversation, they shared that they were on a pre-payment meter and struggling to keep it topped up.

Our advisor explained the ADP application process, helped them register for the Priority Services Register, and, after receiving evidence the next day, secured financial support to top up their meter.

This immediate support eased their energy concerns, allowing them to focus fully on their ADP application without the added financial stress.



## SUPPORT THIS WINTER

Be on the lookout for energy suppliers opening up their **Warm Home Discount** schemes!

Changes to the **Pension Age Winter Heating Payment** will be instated this year. Only those with an annual income of less than £35,000 will receive the payment. You don't need to apply and should receive the payment automatically in December.

Seeking support for energy efficiency improvements? Try contacting Home Energy Scotland to see if you are eligible for support! You can call them on 0808 808 2282 or visit their website - [www.homeenergyscotland.org/](http://www.homeenergyscotland.org/)

## GET IN TOUCH

Our email - [energy@stirling.cas.org.uk](mailto:energy@stirling.cas.org.uk)

### The Team

**Gary** - Senior Energy Advisor

07498988993

**Eleanor** - Energy Advisor

07932324975

**Leanne** - Energy Advisor

07984310986

**Peter** - Rural Energy Advisor

07498925158

For regular updates about our outreach schedule, visit our website or socials linked below!



[WWW.STIRLINGCAB.ORG.UK](http://WWW.STIRLINGCAB.ORG.UK)



## Highlighting Community Halls and Centres: Deanston Community Centre – Your Hall, Your Space, Your Say



Tucked in the heart of the village, Deanston Community Centre is more than just bricks and mortar, it is the beating heart of community life.

Run by local volunteers and supported by Community Action for Deanston (CAFD), the hall plays host to everything from children’s dance classes and film nights to yoga, craft groups, and ceilidhs. As well as a weekly toddler group, the popular Community Café, and family-friendly events, the centre offers a warm, welcoming space where everyone in Deanston can come together.

Now, the team is calling on residents to help shape the next chapter of the community centre’s story.

### Hire the Hall – A Space for You

The village hall isn’t just for community events, it is also available for private hire. Whether you’re planning a birthday party, running a club or fitness class, or hosting a creative workshop, the hall offers an affordable, flexible venue right on your doorstep.

It’s fully accessible and well equipped with kitchen, a cinema-quality projector and screen for film showings or presentations, and even an outdoor gym!

### Let’s Keep Our Community Hall Alive

Community centres like Deanston’s rely on local support to stay open and thriving. That support can come in many forms. Volunteering, organising events, spreading the word, or simply attending what’s already on.

Have an idea for a new activity? Whether it’s youth football, adult education, book clubs or social groups, the team would love to hear from you. There’s a growing appetite in the village for new clubs, services and events and with the right local backing, anything is possible.

### Get Involved

As part of a longer-term plan to secure the future of the centre, CAFD is also exploring funding opportunities and seeking local input on how best to use the space.

To book the hall, suggest an idea, or get involved, email Anna Clark:

[anna@clarkeditorial.co.uk](mailto:anna@clarkeditorial.co.uk)

## Sponsored Bungee

Fallin Community Voice (FCV) is dedicated to making the village a better place for everyone to live, work, and play. They believe that strong communities are built on shared moments, local traditions, and memories that bring generations together.

Long-standing events like the gala days and fun days are at the heart of Fallin. They give children magical memories, bring neighbours together, and remind us all how special our wee village really is.

To keep these alive takes time, effort, and money — which is why local trustees, Michelle and Naomi, decided to take a leap of faith (literally!) by doing a sponsored bungee jump.

Every penny you donate helps make sure the next Fallin Funday is full of smiles, laughter, and memories.

Massive thank you to Laney’s swinging 60s for their sponsorship of £300!

To sponsor Michelle and Naomi - [please click here.](#)



### Contact

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@stirling.gov.uk

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