



# Community Development News Bulletin - April 2026

News, updates, information and sharing success in our communities

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## Carnival of the Wolf

Friday 1 May 2026

A night of **FREE** music, comedy & arts

Taking place across Stirling and the surrounding areas, Culture Night Stirling is a **free** annual event for everyone that celebrates the city's thriving cultural scene.

Building on the success of the Culture Night at Stirling Castle in May 2025, which was a centrepiece of Stirling's 900th anniversary finale celebrations, this first event will take place on **Friday 1 May 2026**. It aims to connect a range of communities and showcase the best of Stirling's music, dance, comedy, art, crafts, literature, food and drink, and much more.

Visitor attractions, including The National Wallace Monument and Stirling Castle, along with Tolbooth, The Albert Halls, and other venues and businesses across the city are all taking

part in this night-time cultural takeover. The event takes inspiration from similar events held in Ireland, Iceland and the Netherlands.

The opening event will start at Stirling Castle from 5pm, spreading across the town and the wider Stirling area over the evening. Audiences are encouraged to attend as many FREE events across Stirling as they can as there will be lots not to be missed!

### **The Carnival of the Wolf**

The wolf is one of Stirling's most famous tales, dating back to the 9th century, when the town stood at the border of rival kingdoms. As Vikings crept up the crag under cover of darkness, a pack of wolves began to howl, alerting the townsfolk and saving Stirling from attack!

This is the story that inspires Stirling's first Culture Night, **Carnival of the Wolf**.

In 2026, the Wolf returns, not as a single story, but as *Carnival of the Wolf*: a celebration of creativity, transformation, and community spirit across Stirling and its surrounding areas. The wolf serves as inspiration for a range of different events which will be brought to life on Friday 1st of May.

**The full programme will be launched in March and can be viewed at [yourstirling.com](https://yourstirling.com).**



## Upcoming Events



### [The Poverty Alliance: Scotland Demands Better Leaders Hustings](#)

**What?** Poverty Alliance members and community organisations are invited to register to attend. The hustings will be an opportunity to hear from political leaders about how policies will progress change people want to see in Scotland. A minimum of two representatives from an organisation can register [here](#).

**Where?** City Halls, Glasgow

**When?** Tuesday 31st April 6pm-8pm



## Women's Wellbeing Programme

**Women's**  
**FREE WELLBEING**  
**SESSIONS**

Every Tuesday for 8 Weeks  
Starting Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March  
10.30am-1pm  
The Cowane, 69 Cowane Street,  
Stirling, FK8 1JP

A community health & wellbeing  
programme for women aged 16+  
in the Mercat Cross & City  
Centre area of Stirling.

**TUESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> MARCH**  
Making Positive Changes  
Goal setting & Vision Board  
Workshop

**TUESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> MARCH**  
From Self Doubt to Self-Belief  
Learn how to develop a positive,  
can-do confident, mindset

**TUESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> MARCH**  
Managing stress & anxiety  
Exploring tools & techniques to  
support your mental & emotional  
wellbeing

**TUESDAY 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH**  
Let's get moving  
Beginner friendly Yoga Class  
(Chair options available)

**TUESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> APRIL**  
Let's talk about women's health  
Exploring hormones, menstrual  
cycles & menopause

**TUESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> APRIL**  
Let's get cooking  
A hands on cooking session to learn  
how to eat healthy on a budget

**TUESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> APRIL**  
Sleep Well  
Learn practical, simple techniques &  
information to help improve sleep quality

**TUESDAY 28<sup>th</sup> APRIL**  
Self Care Pamper Session  
Relax, unwind, & enjoy gentle self-care  
activities

Lunch and refreshments provided each week.  
Join us for 1 or all of our wellbeing taster sessions & meet like-  
minded women from your community.

No experience needed. All abilities welcome.

For more information or to confirm your  
space scan the QR code or contact Natasha  
email: [natasha@gracechocolates.co.uk](mailto:natasha@gracechocolates.co.uk)  
phone: 07483164489

Positive  
Changes  
SCOTLAND

Stirling  
Council

These sessions have  
been made possible with  
funding from the UK  
Shared Prosperity Fund  
granted by Stirling  
Council

**What?** A new 8-week Women's Wellbeing Programme is being delivered in partnership between Positive Changes Scotland CIC and Stirling Council.

**Where?** The Cowane Centre, 69 Cowane Street, Stirling, FK8 1JP.

**When?** These free, friendly sessions run on Tuesdays from 10:30am to 1:00pm continuing weekly until the end of April. Lunch is included, and the sessions offer a relaxed space to connect, unwind, and try something new. All women are welcome, whether you'd like to come along to just one session or join the whole programme. No experience is needed. You can find out more and sign up for one or more sessions [here](#)

## Anti-Racism Approach to Inclusive Working

**What?** Online event; Anti-Racism Approach to Inclusive Working. The Health Improvement Service, Clackmannanshire and Stirling HSCP, in partnership with Stirling Voluntary Enterprise

(SVE), the Clackmannanshire Third Sector Interface (CTSI), and the Central Scotland Regional Equality Council (CSREC), is calling on all minority ethnic-focused communities and third sector organisations across Clackmannanshire and Stirling to launch an Anti-Racism Approach to Inclusive Working. This programme is approved by the Clackmannanshire & Stirling IJB and aims to ensure that service planning and delivery meaningfully reflect the voices of minority ethnic people and their communities. You can find out more about the initiative [here](#)

**Where?** MS Teams (link sent immediately upon registration)

**When?** Thursday, 23 April 2026 (14:00–15:00) Click this [link to register](#).



Stay Steady Sessions



**What?** As part of their campaign to raise awareness about ageing well across Forth Valley, Clackmannanshire & Stirling Social Care Partnership are hosting standalone sessions providing local opportunities to learn how to reduce your risk of falls, maintain bone health and stay independent.

The focus will be on self-managing your risk of falling; sessions will benefit those concerned about falling or interested in staying well and active

**When and Where?** Online (Microsoft Teams) 16th April 1pm-2.30pm, Falkirk (Brightons Village Hall) 28th May 1.15pm-2.45pm, and Clackmannanshire (Cochrane Hall, Alva) 9th June, 1.30pm-3pm

You can book a session local to you, by clicking on the link [here](#)

You can also call 07929653914 and leave a message to include: your name, contact details and what session you plan on attending

### **Climate and Energy Gathering 2026**

[Climate and Energy Gathering 2026](#)

**What?** This event will bring together community organisations, businesses, individuals and local authorities working in energy efficiency, sustainable energy and the reduction of carbon emissions. The day will be themed around 'Powering Up' and 'Powering Down', with morning sessions looking at scaling up energy generation and opportunities for empowering communities, and afternoon sessions looking into reducing energy demand at the home, business and community level.

Confirmed speakers include Nikki Thomas from [Fallin Community Voice](#) speaking about Fallin

Minewater Thermal Energy Project, Marnie Kavanagh from [CVS Falkirk](#) speaking about Grangemouth's Just Transition Programme, and Kayt Howell from [Fintry Development Trust](#) speaking about locally-owned renewable energy and the potential of partnerships for communities. There will also be a range of community organisations with energy projects in

the Forth Valley showcasing their activities, as well as representatives from Stirling, Clacks and Falkirk councils.

**When?** Tuesday April 28th from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm

**Where?** The Barracks Conference Centre Forthside Way, Stirling, FK8 1QZ

The agenda as well as more information about the day is available on our Eventbrite page: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1983439904146?aff=oddtcreator>



**CLIMATE AND ENERGY GATHERING 2026**

**Full-day event** bringing together community organisations, businesses, individuals and local authorities working in energy efficiency and the reduction of carbon emissions.

**Featuring** speakers and workshops investigating sustainable energy generation, renewable and community energy projects, and ways to reduce energy demand at the home, business and community level.

**TUESDAY 28TH APRIL 9:30AM - 3:30PM**  
**THE BARRACKS CONFERENCE CENTRE, STIRLING**

Tickets:  
<https://tinyurl.com/xxmwmk9>



**FEL**  **FDI**  **FDI**  **Community Energy Scotland**  **Falton Community Voice**  **FORTH**  **Falkirk** 

## Funding





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.

### Funding Scotland - Cambusbarron Community Fund

#### Details

The fund receives its payment from the Earlsburn and Kingsburn Wind Farms for the benefit of people in the Cambusbarron Community Council area. Applications should usually be linked to priorities and projects already identified in the Cambusbarron Community Action Plan. These include:

- Schemes or activities which protect, conserve or improve the environment.
- Schemes or activities which promote rural regeneration through increasing opportunities for local enterprise and vocational training.
- The development and improvement of infrastructure including transport, broadband, community-owned property and access routes.
- Proposals which seek to maintain, improve or expand community services and facilities, including health, welfare and education, particularly with regard to young people and the elderly.
- The development and improvement of community facilities and activities, including the arts, heritage, culture and science.
- The development and improvement of leisure/sport facilities and activities and tourism opportunities.
- Activities which support capacity building for new and existing community organisations, in particular to help promote citizenship and community development.

**When to apply** Applications now open.

Deadlines for 2026:

- 28 August 2026 (for decisions late October 2026)

For more information: [Foundation Scotland - Cambusbarron Community Fund](#)

[Barclays Community Sport Fund](#)



Sport opens doors to skills that last a lifetime. That's why Barclays is giving grants to community sports groups who need it most.

In partnership with Sported, the Barclays Community Sport Fund offers grants, bespoke support, and exclusive ticketing opportunities to make football, tennis, and cricket more accessible to women and girls in communities across the UK\*.

Since the fund's inception in 2022, we've helped over 4,000 community groups to make sport more accessible, with over 670,000 people supported by the fund so far.

The Barclays Community Sport Fund is open for applications from Wednesday 25 March 2026 until **Wednesday 27th May 2026**.

For more information: [Barclays Community Sport Fund | Barclays](#)

### [National Lottery Awards for All Scotland](#)

National Lottery awards for Scotland fund projects that bring people together and help communities across Scotland thrive. Social connections and community activities are at the heart of healthier, happier lives, that's why we support community-led projects.

### **What we can fund**

You can use the funding to:

- start a new activity or continue an existing one
- help your organisation adapt to new challenges
- run one-off events

We're particularly interested in projects that aim to:

- bring people together to build strong relationships in and across communities

- improve the places and spaces that matter to communities
- help more people to reach their potential, by supporting them at the earliest possible stage
- support people, communities and organisations facing more demands and challenges because of the cost-of-living crisis

For more information visit: [National Lottery Award for all Scotland](#)



## Consultations



Engage Stirling



[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.

### [Proposal of Application Notice for a new care home and assisted living development in Stirling](#)

Residents, local businesses, and community groups from Mercat Cross, the City Centre, and Raploch are invited to take part in the upcoming public consultations. These sessions offer an opportunity to share views on the proposal, suggest improvements, and highlight the benefits and facilities the community would like to see in the area, as well as express wider hopes and aspirations for the locality. Consultations will take place on Thursday 2 April and Thursday 7 May from 3–7pm at Northcare Residences Care Home, 20 Bridge Street, Stirling, FK8 1AA. Planning documents and further information can be viewed online [here](#)

## NORTHCARE

[Support provisions for victims of human trafficking in Scotland: published guidance](#)



This consultation seeks views on whether the draft guidance is clear, practical, and accessible, and if it provides the right level of information to assist practitioners in supporting victims. Your feedback will help ensure that the guidance meets these objectives. You can find out more and access the consultation [here](#)

### [Rights to breaks for unpaid carers](#)

The right to breaks provisions in the Care Reform (Scotland) Act 2025 will make changes to the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 to deliver a right to personalised short breaks support for carers who can't currently access "sufficient breaks" from caring. In preparing for implementation this consultation seeks opinions. You can find out more and access the consultation [here](#)

## Contact us



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