



In this issue:

- ⇒ **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**
- ⇒ **FUNDING & AWARDS**
- ⇒ **GROUP NEWS**
- ⇒ **VOLUNTEERING & EMPLOYMENT**
- ⇒ **OTHER NEWS**

'Historic' was been the term being used to describe the joint statement by the Third Sector Task Group (comprising the Scottish Government, COSLA, Solace and SCVO) which commits the public and third sectors to working together to deliver the best possible outcomes for communities. It specifically commits to having third sector representation on all Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) in Scotland, and establishes a 3-year basis for most funding.

As a statement of intent and commitment, this will be widely welcomed; the challenge now is to deliver locally on the agreement. We will look at the issues in more detail in future eBulletins - in the meantime, you can read the text of the statement at www.scvo.org.uk/

Comments and suggestions for the [website](http://www.cvs-stirling.org.uk) and e-Bulletin are welcome.

Emails to: lee.stevenson@cvs-stirling.org.uk or donald.saunders@cvs-stirling.org.uk

Deadline for contributions is the previous Monday. If you have any queries, please call 01786 469916 and ask for Lee or Donald.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

New Health Walks in Raploch & Cultenhove



FREE

LOCAL WALKING GROUP



- FUN
- EASY
- FRIENDLY WALKS
- SHORT (30-45 mins)

Tuesdays (beginning Oct. 6th) **10:00 a.m.**
leaving from **Raploch Community Centre**

Tuesdays (beginning Oct. 20th) **9:15 a.m.**
leaving from **Hillview Centre, Cultenhove**

Thursdays (beginning Oct. 22nd) **11:00 a.m.**
leaving from **Hillview Centre Cultenhove**

For further information:
Margaret-Anne Ewart, Cultenhove Resident Support Worker : 01786 450577
Tricia or Raija: Walk about Stirling 01786 432323
darleyr@actvestirling.org.uk



Active Stirling is promoting a series of new health walks (*see poster*) beginning this month.

The walks are for everyone, but are especially to give those who haven't exercised for a long time a starting point to get a bit healthier without even knowing it, as the walking groups become a social part of the walkers' lives.

These walks (only 30 – 45 minutes) are giving people the confidence to become active either for the first time or again. So if you think anyone in your group or client base might benefit (whether from the health, social aspect, or both) why not phone Tricia or Raija on 01786 450677, or email darleyr@actvestirling.org.uk

Life after Debt - Advice in a Recession

Stirling Citizens Advice Bureau AGM and Mini-Conference

Council Chambers, Old Viewforth, Stirling

Monday, 26th October, 10 am – 2 pm.

This year, Stirling CAB is combining its AGM with a 'mini-conference' around topics connected with the impact of the recession. Though CAB modestly describes the conference as 'mini', the agenda contains much of substance and relevance. Highlights will include:

- * **The impact of the credit crunch on repossessions, evictions and summary/small claims actions** (by Keynote Speaker Sheriff Andrew M. Cubie)
- * **Unemployment and the importance of partnership working in a recession** (Etta Wright (District Manager, Jobcentre plus)
- * **Advice services in a recession and the importance of partnership working** (Kaliani Lyle, CEO of Citizens Advice Scotland).

The afternoon will feature breakout sessions on **Homelessness Prevention, Debt Recovery in a recession**, and the **Community Value of CAB**. The AGM and public meeting will be followed by lunch and Stirling CAB project exhibitions.

All eBulletin readers should have received an invitation: if not, please contact ourselves or Stirling CAB at 01786 470239, email SessionSupervisor@StirlingCAB.casonline.org.uk

Scottish Third Sector Research Conference

Old College, University of Edinburgh, South Bridge, Edinburgh

26th October, 9.45 am – 5 pm

This conference is organised by SCVO in conjunction with the Centre for Public Services Research, Edinburgh University Business School with the purpose of connecting researchers, policy-makers and practitioners to ensure Scotland's Voluntary Sector has the latest knowledge and research at its fingertips.

The conference will showcase new and emerging research from practitioners and academics and will build on the recent series of SCVO/ESRC public policy seminars held in Edinburgh on the themes of localism, recession and innovation.

A publication entitled 'The Third Sector – discussions around key public policy issues' has been specially commissioned by the ESRC to report on these seminars. This book will be launched at the conference and copies will be made available to delegates.

For information contact Ian Lees ian.lees@scvo.org.uk , or visit the SCVO website at www.scvo.org.uk/scvo/SCVOEvents/ViewSCVOEvents.aspx?al=t&EID=1138&from=EventHome



'1 in 4' Music Event

Albert Halls, Stirling
Monday, 2nd November, 6.30 pm
Tickets £8



This event from **Artlink Central** aims to raise awareness of mental health issues among young people, and raise funds for Artlink Central's programme.

Tickets from Artlink Central (01786 450971), the Albert Halls (01786 473544), the MacRobert box office (01786 46666) or the Andy Simpson Music Shop (01786 449555).

Life in the Fast Lane: the road to better outcomes for children and young people

Children in Scotland Annual Conference 2009

Macdonald Crutherland House, East Kilbride

5th November, 9 am – 4.30pm; 6th November, 8.30 am – 4 pm



This 2-day event will examine the impact of Single Outcome Agreements on children, young people and their families and will consider what really makes a difference to their lives.

Delegates attending the conference will:

- ✿ **hear** what Single Outcome Agreements will mean for children and families and hear from children and young people on what they feel can make a difference to their lives
- ✿ **consider** different dimensions in planning across childhood and discuss the implications for workforce roles and development
- ✿ **learn** about how Scottish childhood compares with other countries in Europe in terms of health, inclusion and child poverty
- ✿ **enable** ideas, practice and experiences to be shared between delegates.

The event will have particular relevance for everyone whose work affects the lives of children and young people

For full details, including programme, costs and booking, go to the Children in Scotland website, www.childreninscotland.org.uk/, or contact Hannah Goodrum, phone 0131 222 2431, email hgoodrum@childreninscotland.org.uk (NB: a small amount of funding is available to help with fees or accommodation costs - be sure and enquire about this.)

[Back to top](#)

FUNDING & AWARDS



Awards for Green Initiatives

The **Ashden Awards for Sustainable Energy 2010** is a free-to-enter contest which aims to reward and recognise “inspirational” sustainable energy schemes across the UK that use renewable energy or reduce energy demand at a local level.

There are five awards worth £10,000, along with a £20,000 prize for the overall champion.

Prizes are in the following categories:

- **Energy Business Award** – for the company that has made local renewable energy and energy efficiency products and services more accessible.
- **Local Authority Award** - for councils that have improved energy efficiency, increased the supply of local renewable energy, and also promoted the wider use of sustainable energy through local planning and policies.
- **Charity Award** - open to not-for-profit organisations and charities that have carried out local projects to increase energy efficiency and cut energy consumption.
- **Schools** - for any UK school (primary or secondary) that has developed both an ethos and practice of sustainability, in which the responsible use of energy is a crucial element.

The closing date for submitting an expression of interest is 27th October (the schools award is open until 26th November).

Shortlisted contestants will be given until 15th December to complete a full application, with the winners set to be revealed at a ceremony to be held in London next summer.

For further information about the competition (including downloadable application forms), visit www.ashdenawards.org/

Rural Funding: Opportunities Guide

This publication from the Scottish Government is a handy resource that lists the main rural funding sources, giving short descriptions, links and contact information. You can download it at www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/285089/0086564.pdf

Resilience Fund to Counter Effect of Recession

On 30th September, the Scottish Finance Minister John Swinney announced the launch of the £1.7 million Resilience Fund, to help Third Sector organisations suffering from the impact of the recession.

Speaking at the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations' (SCVO) parliamentary reception, the Finance Secretary encouraged Third Sector organisations to apply.

He said: *“Scotland's Third Sector has the unique ability to connect with vulnerable people and create employment opportunities - something we must take advantage of in an economic downturn, but we recognise the sector is not immune from the effects of recession. That's why, as we build on our economic recovery plan, we want to help the sector withstand the pressures of recession and emerge stronger.”*

Grants of between £10,000 and £100,000 could be available to Third Sector organisations which can demonstrate:

- ❁ How the recession has led to increased demand or significantly undermined their services
- ❁ Any increased pressure on their services is as a direct result of the recession
- ❁ That prior to the recession they were a viable organisation with a proven track record of delivery over two years
- ❁ What caused the problem, and their proposed solution including the submission of a detailed Recovery Plan
- ❁ They have unrestricted reserves equating to less than six months' running costs of the organisation
- ❁ The requirement for the Resilience Fund and their longer term viability with certification by an auditor or chartered accountant to that effect
- ❁ Appropriate safeguards are in place for both the expenditure of funding and, if the need arises, recovery.

The fund, which will be open for five weeks from late October, is being delivered as a ring-fenced part of the £12 million Third Sector Enterprise Fund.

Organisations seeking information on the fund, or potential applicants, should contact Mary Lyden on 0141 305 4176, or Polly Chapman on 01463 663918.

[Back to top](#)

GROUP NEWS

Start-Up Picks Up Prize

Start-Up Stirling, the voluntary group set up to assist homeless people by providing them with startup packs of household items etc, has been given a **BT Community Connections Award**. The award consists of laptop plus one year's wireless broadband connection. Another Stirling groups to receive an award was Youth Music Theatre Company Scotland.

BT Community Connections Awards are intended to bring the benefits of internet connectivity to community and charity organisations. Competition for the awards is intense – over 2300 groups applied in the latest round – and the judges are particularly concerned with community benefits that internet connectivity could bring.

If you think your group might qualify for one of these awards, you can apply online (and find out more information about the scheme) at www.btcommunityconnections.com . Or you can write for an application form to PO Box 6919, London W1A 8UX.

Hearing Loss Research: could you help?

RNID Scotland is inviting people in the Stirling area who suffer from hearing loss to take part in two pieces of research.



The first involves people who have been fitted with an NHS hearing aid in the last 5 years being interviewed about the support they have received as regards using and maintaining their aids.

The other piece of research includes family members, and aims to find out about the impact of hearing loss on families.

RNID would like to speak – in complete confidence – with anyone who can help in this research. For more information, or to take part, phone 0141 341 5345 or email florence.edmond@rnid.org.uk

[Back to top](#)

VOLUNTEERING & EMPLOYMENT

Home-Start Stirling Wants Volunteers

Home-Start, the UK's leading family support charity, provides friendship and informal support to parents in their own homes, families struggling to cope with the unavoidable pressures young children bring, families sometimes also burdened with the stress of long-term illness or redundancy.

Several families here in Stirling need a bit of extra help and Home-Start Stirling is looking for more volunteers - people who could spare just three or four hours a week to befriend a family with young children and help them through a tough time.

People who volunteer feel they're doing something worthwhile, many make new friends, gain confidence and self-esteem - even go on to pursue new careers based on their voluntary experience. As a spokesperson said, *"It's immensely rewarding and could change your life as well as the family's you work with. All you need is to be a parent or grandparent aged between 20 and 70."*

A preparation course for new volunteers will start on October 22. Anyone interested in finding out more can contact Brenda or Ashleigh at Home-Start Stirling on (01786) 445314 or visit www.homestartstirling.co.uk

[Back to top](#)

OTHER NEWS

Disability Equality Scheme 2010-12 - Have *your* say now!

Stirling Council is currently preparing its second **Disability Equality Scheme (DES)**, confirming the actions it will take to continue to promote disability equality and prevent and tackle disability discrimination in the Stirling Council area. The scheme considers the Council's responsibilities both for delivering services and as an employer, or prospective employer.

Consultation is a key part of this process, and the Council is now seeking responses to the Draft Action Plan. This is an opportunity for all groups and individuals with an interest in disability, equalities, access and related issues to make their views known and help shape this important document.

The Disability Equality Scheme Action Plan can be viewed on the Council's website at www.stirling.gov.uk/des, both in summary and in detailed form. *(The document is also available in alternative formats - details of how to obtain these are on the website.)*

But don't delay! Responses should be submitted **by 28th October**. Email des@stirling.gov.uk, or send your written comments to Liz Fraser or Laura Hoskins, Room 50, Old Viewforth, Stirling Council FK8 2ET.

The DES Action Plan has been drafted round seven priority themes for promoting disability equality and tackling discrimination. These are

- * Leadership
- * Community Participation
- * Information & Knowledge
- * Access to Services
- * Buying Goods and Services
- * Employment
- * Monitoring & Reporting

Each theme lists the objectives, outcomes and actions to be taken over the lifetime of the Scheme (2010-12).

Community Account for Charities

HSBC's **Community Account** is available to any club, society or charity with an annual turnover under £100,000 (also to churches, executors and administrators and trustees). Among its benefits are free banking, credit interest, and advice from business specialists. They also provide on request a free Audit Letter of Certificate of Balance for tax purposes at the end of the financial year.

Check it out at www.hsbc.co.uk/1/2/business/accounts/community-account;jsessionid=000052uQfXW_7zzJzvprRpXJbmn:12c58n73a

Development of Procurement Guidance - *an update*

The Scottish Government has responded to concerns raised by voluntary sector providers about the re-tendering of social care services by setting up a programme of work to produce good practice guidance on social care procurement. The programme is being led by the **Joint Improvement Team** in association with the Scottish Procurement Directorate.

What is JIT?

The Joint Improvement Team (JIT) was established in late 2004 to work directly with local health and social care partnerships across Scotland.

Its main focus is to provide practical support and additional capacity to partnerships to help address the issues and challenges they face.

Information gathered from meetings with service users nationally, and separate meetings with council staff and with service providers in seven local authority areas is contributing to exploring procurement issues, identifying good practice and determining which areas require guidance. A second meeting of the National Reference group in September has considered reports of all of this consultation activity along with proposed outline contents for guidance material.

Full details of the reports presented to the reference group can be viewed on the JIT website at www.jitscotland.org.uk/action-areas/commissioning/procurement/ .

[Back to top](#)

Council for Voluntary Services - Thriving and Connecting Communities in Stirling
CVS Stirling is a Company Limited by Guarantee SC169437
Registered Scottish Charity Number SC016980