



# **Safer and Empowered Communities Forum – Updates**

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# Funding updates – SAEC Forum



# NCRs Funding

**THIRD SECTOR,  
COMMUNITY AND  
PRACTICE FUND**

Our funding call is to empower community groups and third-sector organizations to develop and implement projects that enhance resilience to natural hazards within their specific communities. We aim to support initiatives that not only address immediate vulnerabilities but also consider the broader context of community well-being.

**Open to:**  
Community groups, practitioners,  
& third-sector organisations from  
across Scotland

**Grant Amount:**  
Up to 15k

**Application Deadline:**  
31st January 2024

**NATIONAL CENTRE FOR RESILIENCE**  
BUILDING SCOTLAND'S RESILIENCE TO NATURAL HAZARDS

- Currently hosted by The University of Glasgow, the National Centre For Resilience has launched its **Third Sector, Community and Practice Fund** for the new financial year, 2024-25.
- The theme is about building resilience to natural hazards through local community and place-based approaches.
- The funding call seeks to support 12-month projects that work towards one or more of the following areas:
  - **Community-Led Risk Assessment**
  - **Place-Based Resilience Planning**
  - **Collaboration and Networking**
  - **Knowledge Sharing and Replicability**
- For more information, please click [here](#).



# NCRs Funding (Contd)



**COMMUNITY COUNCIL FUND**

**NATIONAL CENTRE FOR RESILIENCE**  
BUILDING SCOTLAND'S RESILIENCE TO NATURAL HAZARDS

The National Centre for Resilience is dedicated to building resilient communities across Scotland. We recognise that community-driven efforts are essential in addressing the challenges posed by natural hazards and their resulting disruptions.

**Open to:**  
Scottish Community Councils

**Grant Amount:**  
£500

**Application Deadline:**  
31st January 2024

- NCR is supporting Scottish Community Councils by providing funding to develop local resilience plans that address potential natural hazards such as heavy snow, landslides, high winds, and other disruptive events and subsequently enhance their local community preparedness and response to natural hazards.
- The grants are open to Scottish Community Councils.
- Grants of up to £500 are available.
- Application deadline is **31 January 2024**.
- For more information, please click [here](#).



# Other Funding Updates

- The British Heart Foundation is giving out a limited number of [free defibrillators](#) to community groups in the UK. Applications close on 15 March 2024.
- The Clothworkers' Foundation has recently expanded the eligibility criteria for their [Open Grants Programmes](#), and now offer capital grants for digital infrastructure projects. They will also consider applications for products and software (such as websites, databases and apps). Online webinar takes place on 7<sup>th</sup> December at 10am – 11am.
- [Healthy Planet, Healthy People Community-led Awards](#): The Williamson Trust and Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE) are looking to award ten demonstrator pilot-scale projects led by community-based individuals or organisations, who would each receive an award amount of up to £5,000 to conduct a research project for up to 12 months. Closing date is **11.59am** on **Monday 22 January 2024**.
- [The Community Empowerment Fund](#): Falkirk Council has launched its new £300,000 grant programme designed to support community groups and third sector organisations. Part of the broader Shared Prosperity Fund, this Fund is a community capacity building initiative, aiming to boost local projects across the Falkirk area. We strongly encourage all third sector groups and organisations operating in Falkirk District to consider applying via one of the 3 funding areas. This Fund is open until March 2025.



# Local updates – SAEC Forum



# Falkirk Adult Support and Protection Committee

- Developing a leaflet aimed at vulnerable adults that details various statutory and third sector supports and services to help them to stay safe, well, and warm over the winter period and beyond.
- The first draft has been shared with ASP Committee and once revised, it will be available for organisations to request copies.
- The ASP wants this resource to be used in a meaningful way to support vulnerable adults – those at higher risk of harm.
- They are asking services using the leaflet to sit down and talk the adult through the services available so that they have a full understanding of what support is available to them and/or any additional needs that the leaflet does not address, services can pick up on these in the conversation and signpost to relevant supports.
- If you are interested in copies of the leaflet, please contact [Eloise.Wilson@cvsfalkirk.org.uk](mailto:Eloise.Wilson@cvsfalkirk.org.uk)



# Let's Be Heard – Session for Falkirk



- We are facilitating a drop-in session for the local third sector and partners (those groups and organisations who were active during the pandemic lockdown period) to submit a collective response to Let's Be Heard – the Scottish Covid Inquiry.
- The session takes place online and in our office from **3pm – 5pm on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023**.
- Your thoughts and discussion will help us to formulate a Falkirk District third sector response to the Inquiry, and we will also pull supplementary information from our [COVID-19 report](#).
- More information is [here](#).
- **What were your experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic?**
- **What were the impacts of these experiences on you or the people you know?**
- **What lessons do you think people could learn from your experiences?**



# Equally Safe and 16 Days Of Activism

**SIXTEEN DAYS OF ACTION**

**END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN NOW**

**29TH NOVEMBER 2023  
11.30AM TO 2PM**

Scan the QR code for more details

**EQUALLY SAFE FALKIRK OPEN DAY**

**WATLING LODGE,  
TAMFOURHILL ROAD, FK1 4RE**

Believe in children  
Barnardo's Scotland

aberlour  
Scotland's Children's Charity

Equally Safe Falkirk

Falkirk Council

- 16 Days of Action (or Activism) is an annual international campaign, beginning on 25th November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, running until 10th December, Human Rights Day. This year's theme is "UNITE! Invest to prevent violence against women and girls".
- [Equally Safe Falkirk Open Day](#)
- [Forth Valley events programme for 16 Days Of Activism](#)



# Link “Moving On Up” Referrals Open

- LinkLiving is currently accepting referrals for their next Moving On Up programme, which is due to start in January 2024.
- Moving On Up is a 2 tiered programme for young people aged 16 – 19 years old living in Falkirk District, and it involves group work, peer support, and ongoing one-to-one sessions, which include:
  - activities running 5 days a week
  - support for parents
  - mental health and resilience workshops
  - a range of SCQF programmes
  - weekly focus groups
- More information is available [here](#).



# New Anti-Poverty Strategy: Engagement Support

- The Fairer Falkirk team are beginning the process of creating a new anti-poverty strategy to replace the current “Towards a Fairer Falkirk” strategy and Falkirk’s Child Poverty Action Plan.
- The new strategy will be designed to have a broader scope, aiming to tackle the impact of poverty in all its forms, whilst still retaining a focus on child poverty. It is expected that the new strategy will launch in Spring 2024.
- Local third sector groups and organisations can support the team to engage with people and communities they already support and engage with.
- The team will provide suitable digital and physical resources to help prompt and direct informed conversations, along with a system to record the responses and key takeaways. The team can also join or lead these conversations, where groups feel this would be appropriate and of value.
- More information, including resources, are available [here](#).



# Other local updates

- The Central Scotland Regional Equality Council (CSREC) is [delivering Islamophobia awareness workshops](#), as part of their work for Islamophobia Awareness Month, which takes place every November.
- [Falkirk LDP Play Sufficiency Assessment Survey](#): Share your views about the availability, accessibility and quality of open spaces and play areas in communities to help devise policies and proposals to improve opportunities for outdoor play in the future.
- Together Jobcentre Plus and Falkirk Council invite you to a [networking event tailored for third sector organisations](#) to hear directly of the help and support available to local citizens and businesses within the Falkirk and Grangemouth area – 08:45 – 11:00 on 07 December at Municipal Chambers, Grangemouth.
- [CVS Falkirk AGM 2023](#): 13:15 – 16:00 on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023, at Bonnybridge Community Centre, Bridge Street, Bonnybridge, FK4 1AA.



# National updates – SAEC Forum



# National Updates

- Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) has launched its [Warm Home Discount \(WHD\) helpline](#). You can contact the helpline free on 0800 030 9322.
- [Pension Age Winter Heating Payment Consultation](#) – Closes on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024.
- Joseph Rowntree Foundation's 4<sup>th</sup> [Destitution in the UK study](#) has been released and reveals approximately 3.8 million people experienced destitution in 2022, including around one million children.
- This [Successfully Engaging Volunteers with Disability guide](#) was developed with the support of people with lived experience of disability. The aim is to share knowledge, experiences, and understanding to strengthen diversity and inclusion across the volunteering ecosystem.



# National Updates

- Child Protection Committees Scotland has launched a cost of living crisis campaign titled [It's Okay To Ask](#). Focusing on the impact of the crisis on children and families, the campaign will run for two weeks until 3<sup>rd</sup> December.
- Citizens Advice Scotland - [Worried This Winter campaign to help with energy bills](#).
- The Bankruptcy and Diligence (Scotland) Bill contains powers which would allow Scottish Ministers to create a Mental Health Moratorium. This would protect people with serious mental health issues from debt recovery action. Scot Gov is seeking views on the proposed process for a [Mental Health Moratorium](#).