



CONTENTS:

- **THIRD SECTOR NEWS**
- **NEWS FROM THE CHARITY REGULATOR**
- **RESOURCES**
- **FORTHCOMING TRAINING AND EVENTS**
- **CLIMATE /ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS**
- **JOB OPPORTUNITIES**
- **SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT NEWS – INCLUDING CONSULTATIONS**

THIRD SECTOR NEWS

[NEW LERWICK GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP](#)

Shetland Bereavement Support Service has launched a new Lerwick support group 'Life After Loss' based at Market House in Lerwick, Mondays 11.30am – 12.30pm. It runs on a fortnightly basis.

This is a new informal support group, where individuals can talk about their loss and feelings or just chat to others knowing they have experienced grief too. The first session starts on **Monday 27th January** in the Conference Room at Market House.

Sessions are FREE and offered fortnightly on Mondays 11.30-12.30 at Market House, Lerwick. Sessions are drop in – no need to book in advance, no waiting list. **Further details and dates of sessions can be [found here](#).**

[NATIONAL YOUTH WORK AWARDS 2025](#)

Deadline for nominations: 27th January 2025

This is your chance to recognise and celebrate the youth workers, projects and youth work organisations transforming young lives across Scotland. From innovative initiatives to inspiring mentors, we want to hear about the impactful work making a difference for Scotland's young people.

[GET A £150 DISCOUNT ON YOUR ENERGY BILL THIS WINTER](#) (HOME ENERGY SCOTLAND)

Don't let your bills get on top of you this winter, Home Energy Scotland may be able to help you. Get in touch with their advice team and find out if you're in line for a discount of up to £150 on your energy bill!

Energy suppliers are starting to open up their Warm Home Discount schemes so now is the time to apply. Even if you had the discount last year not all energy suppliers will automatically renew their customers' special discounts each year so it's always best to check.

Home Energy Scotland advisors help people to reduce their bills by making sure they can access all the funding and help that's available. They are the only place to get Scottish Government grants and interest-free loans to support your energy-efficient journey.

Call us on [0808 808 2282](tel:08088082282) and help keep your energy bills under control! You can also contact them online: [Contact Home Energy Scotland](#)

MOVEMENT FOR GOOD GIVING PROGRAMME IS BACK WITH AWARDS OF £1,000 AND £5,000 TO GIVE TO CHARITIES HELPING THOSE IN NEED

The Movement for Good Awards is the Benefact Group's annual programme of giving that anyone can get involved in, and again this year we'll be donating over £1 million to charities and good causes. 2024 nominations are not carried over, so please [nominate](#) the charities of your choice to get them in the running. Find out more about how it works here: [Movement for Good - Nominate a charity for an award.](#)

WILL YOU BE READY FOR MARTYN'S LAW?

Does your organisation host large events at your premises? A new Bill known as Martyn's Law may affect some third-sector organisations. Read more about the requirements and the proposed changes to help you prepare.

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO DISCLOSURE SERVICES/ CHANGES TO THE PROTECTING VULNERABLE GROUPS (PVG) SCHEME

From 1st April 2025 the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme becomes a legal requirement in Scotland.

It will be a legal requirement for individuals to be a member of the PVG Scheme when carrying out a regulated role with children, protected adults, or both. Organisations must ensure that individuals who are to carry out a regulated role (paid or voluntary) have PVG scheme membership from 1st April 2025 onwards.

From this date, 'regulated work' will be replaced by 'regulated roles'. Disclosure Scotland expect that roles which are currently included under regulated work, will also be regulated roles. However, the introduction of 'regulated roles' will bring new roles into the PVG scheme that are currently not regulated work. Examples include, football agents, talent scouts, hypnotherapists and certain hospital or hospice-based roles that do not currently qualify for the PVG scheme.

Make Sure You're Ready!

The Disclosure Act will improve the disclosure system in Scotland by removing unnecessary barriers for people with convictions as they seek employment or other opportunities and enhance the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme. Upcoming changes will be introduced in 1 April 2025 and charities, particularly those who work with vulnerable adults or children, should be aware of what's changing.

Key Changes from 1 April 2025:

- Reduction in Disclosure Products
- Applicants control their information, sharing disclosures or seeking reviews.
- Tailored approach to childhood offences and conviction reviews.
- Mandatory PVG Scheme: Required for regulated roles with children and protected adults.

For more details [visit the Disclosure Scotland website](#), read more on the [Volunteer Scotland website](#) or subscribe to the [VSDS Newsletter](#).

VOLUNTEER SCOTLAND IS HOLDING FREE ONLINE SESSIONS TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THESE CHANGES

Several dates are available and sessions start from Tuesday 7 January 2025.

More information on [Training sessions can be found here](#).

THE HEAT NETWORKS REGULATION: IMPLEMENTING CONSUMER PROTECTIONS CONSULTATION IS OPEN

[The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero](#) and [Ofgem](#) have launched the [heat networks regulation: implementing consumer protections consultation](#). They are seeking your views on consumer protection requirements such as standards of conduct, protections for vulnerable consumers and more. This consultation will be of particular interest to consumer groups, those in the heat network industry (such as developers) and local government. Ofgem are hosting a series of [webinars](#) to explain the key proposals in the consultation and you will have the opportunity to ask questions.

The consultation will close at 11:59pm on Friday 31 January 2025.

NEWS FROM THE CHARITY REGULATOR

No updates

RESOURCES

PRIVACY NOTICES

Do you need help creating a Privacy Notice for your organisation? It's important to let people know what information you have and what you'll do with it. The ICO provide a [helpful guide](#).

QUICK GUIDE TO SERVICE DESIGN FOR THE THIRD SECTOR.

This resource from GCVS includes a breakdown of the 'Double Diamond' framework and more on the Scottish Approach to Service Design, including the seven founding principles which can be applied to your work. [Download the Resource](#) from the GCVS website.

GETTING IT RIGHT FOR EVERY CHILD (GIRFEC) - E-LEARNING MODULES NOW LIVE

Two new e-learning modules are available to support knowledge and understanding across the workforce of the 'Getting it right for every child' (GIRFEC) approach and its application in everyday practice.

DYSLEXIA GUIDE FOR YOUTH WORKERS

Dyslexia Scotland and Youth Scotland have recently collaborated to create a free guide for youth practitioners working with young people.

NEIGHBOURHOODS AND COMMUNITIES 2023: SCOTTISH HOUSEHOLD SURVEY FINDINGS

This [report](#) draws on key data from the Scottish Household Survey to explore key findings on neighbourhoods, communities, neighbourhood problems and neighbourhood safety at a national level in Scotland. It also gives additional detail across various protected characteristics, and for people living in different places, such as urban and rural settings.

NEW INTERGENERATIONAL RESOURCES FOR THE EDUCATION SECTOR IN 2025

GWT (Generations Working Together) are pleased to announce a new package of support available for teachers, staff and volunteers interested in or involved in, delivering intergenerational work with school pupils.

SHETLAND CARERS WINTER NEWSLETTER

The Winter edition contains information about Time to Live Short Break grant scheme, Respite Scheme, My important information for NHS 24 leaflet, Family Fund, Young Carer Grant, Young Carer Package, ParentClub, Shetland Islands Citizens Advice Bureau, Herbert Protocol, Falls Prevention and Online Fraud.

Carers can register – to sign up visit: <https://www.shetlandcarers.org/>

SCVO: GOOD GOVERNANCE: FUTURE PROOFING FOR TRUSTEES CONFERENCE - RESOURCES

SCVO brought together 100 trustees and charity and governance experts to celebrate Trustees' Week 2024 at our 'Good Governance: Future proofing for trustees' conference in Edinburgh. They celebrated the work trustees do and shared inspiration, experience and knowledge. It was an opportunity to reflect, and develop knowledge and understanding of good governance.

ALCOHOL-FREE CHILDHOOD CAMPAIGN

The [Alcohol-Free Childhood campaign](#) from Alcohol Focus Scotland, BMA Scotland, Children in Scotland, Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol and Drugs, and Scottish Health Action on Alcohol Problems is backed by around 50 organisations and 80 MSPs across all parties. It also has the backing of First Minister, John Swinney MSP, view more about his support in this recent [video](#).

HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS

The [Scottish Human Rights Commission](#) has [published a new report](#) exploring its concern about the economic, social and cultural rights in the Highlands and Islands. Through listening to the lived experiences of residents and organisations in the area, they've identified a range of issues affecting communities, and a lack of available data for monitoring compared to the rest of Scotland.

THE COMMUNITY LEARNING EXCHANGE FUND

The [Community Learning Exchange fund](#) from the [Scottish Community Alliance](#) offers funding to support community learning visits. This will help local community groups to connect and share peer learnings across Scotland. This fund supports learning visits that take place virtually and in-person.

FORTHCOMING TRAINING AND EVENTS

PUBLIC WEBINAR ON NAVIGATING MIGRAINE, WEDNESDAY 29 JANUARY, 7- 8:30PM VIA ZOOM

This event is brought to you by NHS Grampian in partnership with The Migraine Trust. Event highlights include:

- Understanding Migraine with Dr. David Watson, GP with Special Interest in Headache, NHS Grampian
- Treating Migraine with Dr. Callum Duncan, Consultant Neurologist, NHS Grampian
- Accessing Support From Your Local Pharmacy with Abigail Duthie, Pharmacist, NHS Grampian
- Q&A Session to address your questions and concerns

Discover the latest in migraine management, explore treatment options and learn how to access support from your local pharmacy team. This is a great opportunity for individuals living with or supporting those with migraine to gain valuable insights and resources.

JOIN YOUTHLINK SCOTLAND FOR A FREE ONLINE ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS ON A RIGHT TO YOUTHWORK IN SCOTLAND

Access to youth work for young people across Scotland could soon be enshrined in law, after Scottish Labour MSP Martin Whitfield launched a public consultation on a proposed Youth Work (Scotland) Bill.

This legislation aims to embed youth work as a statutory service, ensuring equitable provision for all young people and addressing longstanding disparities in access and support. If enacted, the legislation would establish a legal right for all young people aged 11 to 25 to access high-quality youth work services, setting a new standard for equitable provision across Scotland.

There are multiple dates for stakeholder engagement events - see here: [Youth Work \(Scotland\) Bill Consultation: Stakeholder Engagement Events Tickets, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite](#)

TIME TO TALK DAY - 6 FEBRUARY 2025

Time to Talk Day is the nation's biggest mental health conversation. Taking place on Thursday 6th February, it is a day that friends, families, communities, and workplaces come together to talk, listen and change lives.

The theme for this year's campaign is "get comfortable and start talking about mental health". Talking openly and honestly can be the first step towards better mental health for everyone. It can reduce stigma and help people feel comfortable enough to seek help when they need it.

SCOTLAND WIDE INTERGENERATIONAL GET TOGETHER, WEDNESDAY 15 JANUARY 10AM-12PM, ONLINE

Join an intergenerational gathering across Scotland with this an online event to kick off the New Year 2025, bringing everyone together to discuss all things intergenerational. You'll be joined by Bella Kerr, Lorraine George, and other special guests to explore the exciting intergenerational year ahead.

**Shetland Befriending Scheme
Tea & Cake at Islesburgh**

**A free group for adults
to meet, eat cake, chat
and make new friends!**

**Friday 17th January
2.30 – 4.00pm**

Featuring a chance to
meet Andrew Campbell
from Cycling UK

Future Dates:
21st February & 21st March



For more details contact Ian Edwards on 01595 743 964



FUNDING IMPACTS ON CHARITY AND THIRD SECTOR EMPLOYERS – FOCUS ON RESTRUCTURE, REDUNDANCY, CLOSURE, THU 16 JAN 2025 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM GMT, ONLINE

McKinney HR works with many charities and third sector employers and has been hearing about the extensive reduction in funding and now there are also increases in employer costs being implemented next year, through the changes to employer National Insurance. The cuts and cost increases will likely mean significant changes for some charities and third sector employers, with some considering a restructure, redundancies or even closure.

As many small charities don't have internal HR support, we wanted to dedicate one of our free lunchtime webinars to this topic. Rona Loweth, Sr HR Business Partner will share expert HR knowledge, guidance and top tips for navigating significant change such as restructure, redundancies or closure.

Book here: [Select tickets – Funding Impacts on Charity and Third Sector Employers – Focus on Restructure, Redundancy & Closure](#)

SELF MANAGEMENT NETWORK SCOTLAND UPDATE - JANUARY 2025

FIRST NETWORKING SESSION OF 2025, MONDAY 20 JANUARY, 12PM - 1PM, ONLINE

Presentations from Jenny Reeve from Beatroute Arts, talking about their work their new cookbook that's been developed with their members, and Janine Lamont from Moira Anderson Foundation.

SOCIAL SECURITY SCOTLAND'S SCOTTISH ADULT DISABILITY LIVING ALLOWANCE STAKEHOLDER EVENT 1 - 14 JAN 2025 - 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Join a free online stakeholder information event to learn more about Scottish Adult Disability Living Allowance.

OPTIMISING FUTURE HEALTH – WOMEN'S HEALTH WEBINAR, 13 FEBRUARY 2025, 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Join us for a webinar in our women's health series, on post-menopausal health and healthy aging across the life course.

SCVO EVENTS

IMPROVING YOUR CHARITY'S FINANCIAL REPORTING, 22 JANUARY 2025, 13.00 - 14.00, ONLINE, FREE

In a follow up to our webinar on [Financial Basics for Trustees](#), we'll be giving key pointers to assist in understanding the requirements of statutory reporting for charities. Our [trusted finance partner, WBG](#) will look at the requirements of the Trustees Annual Report, fund accounting, audits and independent examinations, and reserves policies.

FURTHERING FINANCIAL RESILIENCE AND THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF INVESTMENTS, 18 MARCH, 13.00 - 14.00, ONLINE, FREE

We'll be exploring how charities of all shapes and sizes can optimise their assets to support greater financial resilience. This could be a review of how cash is managed, seeking to ensure that any short-term reserves or funding is earning good interest. For others it could be a consideration of when longer term investments might be appropriate, what key risks need to be considered, and how charities could start investing.

SCVO WEBINAR RECORDING: NEW LAWS ON DISCLOSURE AND PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE GROUPS

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE SCOTLAND

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE SCOTLAND WEBINAR: SYSTEMS STEWARDSHIP, THURSDAY 23 JANUARY | 13:00 – 14:30

An online workshop focusing on using stewardship to increase employability. This session will introduce definitions of and examples of System Stewardship in action from different sectors and parts of the UK, explore if and how a stewardship approach might be helpful in the context of developing the employability eco-system in our unique areas and across Scotland.

TUESDAY 4 FEBRUARY, 6PM, ONLINE, SOCIAL ENTERPRISE CROSS-PARTY GROUP MEETING

Join us in-person at the Scottish Parliament or online for the next CPG meeting. We'll be joined by co-convenors Arianne Burgess MSP and Emma Roddick MSP to talk about Social Enterprise business support.

THURSDAY 6 MARCH, 2PM, ONLINE, THEMATIC WORKSHOP: HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND EMPLOYABILITY

Human trafficking is one of the most misunderstood and yet prevalent crimes in Scotland. This short online, introductory session will bust myths, challenge thinking and strengthen knowledge about human trafficking.

NATIONAL RURAL MENTAL HEALTH FORUM - JANUARY 29TH 2025, 11AM, ONLINE

Some of the topics covered are the anniversary of [NHS 24 Breathing Space](#), a session on what is best practice for early intervention and prevention in mental health and mental illness in rural Scotland, and [VOX Scotland](#) will share the findings of their lived experience report, Your Views: Psychiatrists in Scotland.

UHI CHILDHOOD, YOUTH, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CHILDREN'S RIGHTS ONLINE OPEN DAYS

In these sessions UHI will offer information including an overview of the following programmes

- [BA \(Hons\) Child and Youth Studies](#)
- [BA \(Hons\) Child and Youth Studies with Community Learning and Development](#)
- [BA \(Hons\) Childhood Practice](#)
- [Masters in Children and Young People's Participation and Leadership](#)
- [Building Resilience: Understanding the Impact of ACEs \(SCQF level 11\) CPD Award](#)
- How to select the right programme for the individual
- Explanation of fully online delivery and how this supports successful study

The open days are taking place on:

- Thursday 6th March 2025 18:30-19:30
- Thursday 1st May 2025 18:30-19:30
- Thursday 7th August 2025 18:30-19:30
- Thursday 2nd October 2025 18:30-19:30

To register and book please follow the links here:

[Study with us - Open days and information sessions - come and see us!](#)

If you would like any specific information, please contact the following:

- Dr Mei-Li Roberts BA (Hons) Child and Youth Studies and BA (Hons) Child and Youth Studies with Community Learning and Development Programme Leader Mei-Li.Roberts.perth@uhi.ac.uk
- Debbie Corbett BA (Hons) Childhood Practice Programme Leader, Debbie.Corbett.perth@uhi.ac.uk
- Katrina MacIntyre MA Children and Young People's Participation and Leadership Programme Leader Katrina.MacIntyre.perth@uhi.ac.uk

TREASURER TRAINING, MON, JAN 20, 2025 AT 6:00 PM- 8.30PM, MARKET HOUSE, LERWICK

Join Wendy Hand on this **FREE** course for voluntary/community groups to improve their treasurer skills. Topics Covered:

- Treasurer role and responsibilities
- Recording income and expenditure
- Recording petty cash
- Reconciling the books with the bank statement
- Keeping files, receipts and forms
- Presenting financial information

[UNDERSTANDING FINANCES, SAT, FEB 22, 2025 AT 10:00AM - 12.30PM, MARKET HOUSE, LERWICK](#)

This **FREE** course is for anyone who is involved with a committee/ has a treasurer role who would like to understand more about finances. The workshop, designed for voluntary groups, will help you develop the knowledge and confidence to understand, monitor and question financial information and to use this to contribute to Board decisions regarding financial planning and expenditure.

CLIMATE NEWS

CIRCULAR COMMUNITIES SCOTLAND

[NATIONAL MEMBERS FORUM, WEDNESDAY 22 JANUARY 2025, 10.30AM – 12NOON \(ZOOM\)](#)

The forum will take place on Zoom and will inform on the many benefits associated with membership of a network dedicated to supporting the establishment of a thriving circular economy in Scotland. At the forum we will hear from both existing and more recent members during our Spotlight on Members session.

[SCOTTISH ISLANDS MEMBERS FORUM, THURSDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2025, 10.30AM – 12NOON \(ZOOM\)](#)

Members based in all Scottish Islands are invited to this exclusive member forum. The event will enable our more remote projects and organisations to network with each other on issues that matter to them.

[MEMBERS POLICY FORUM, THURSDAY 6 MARCH 2025, 10.00AM – 11.30AM \(ZOOM\)](#)

With Scotland's policy landscape remaining full of possibility and potential for Scotland's reuse sector, we invite you to join us for a discussion around the latest updates on important legislation, including Scotland's Circular Economy Act, the Circular Economy and Waste Route Map and other policy updates relevant to our sector.

HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS CLIMATE HUB NEWS

[MEET THE FUNDER: SHETLAND COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND](#), THURSDAY 16TH JANUARY 2025, 7PM - 8.30PM

Come along to learn about how Shetland Community Benefit Fund can support your community. Everybody welcome.

Shetland Community Benefit Fund (SCBF) administrates the Viking Community Fund, which since the 1st of September 2024 receives £2.2 million annually, to be distributed in support of projects benefiting the Shetland community.

This online event will be a great opportunity for community groups to understand more about the criteria and process of application for funding, and to ask any specific questions you may have about projects and how to secure funding.

[PLEASE REGISTER TO ATTEND HERE: MEET THE FUNDER: SHETLAND COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND TICKETS, THU, JAN 16, 2025 AT 7:00 PM | EVENTBRITE](#)

[PREVENTING BURNOUT WORKSHOP, TUESDAY, JANUARY 14 · 2 - 4PM GMT, ONLINE](#)

A course to recognise the signs of burnout and practice the skill of deep resourcing yourself, your work and your community for resilience. The Highlands and Islands Climate Hub and Moray CAN have enlisted the knowledge of [Jo Musker-Sherwood](#) to help our members recognise burnout and equip them with the skills to overcome. Through two workshops and self-guided exercises, Jo will explore the signs and stages of burnout and guide participants to lead their deep resourcing practices to develop self resilience.

[FUNDING MASTERCLASS, WED 22ND JANUARY - 7PM - 8.30PM, ONLINE](#)

Interactive training workshop to improve or refresh your application writing skills.

[COMMUNITY ENERGY SKILLSHARE, THURSDAY, JANUARY 30 · 2 - 3:30PM GMT, ONLINE](#)

Join the Highlands and Islands Climate Hub for a skillshare event, delving into community energy. The focus will be on the new energy generation, and how communities can capitalise on community energy schemes to maximise benefits for themselves. The Hub can offer support to groups wishing to pursue community energy projects through signposting to appropriate funds and specialist agencies, such as Community Energy Scotland and Local Energy Scotland. The skill share will offer an insight to the current opportunities surrounding community energy and how these resources can be utilised.

[SUSTAINABLE SPACES](#)

Back for 2024-25, the Hub's Sustainable Spaces programme is now open to support community building's transitions to becoming sustainable. Our Development Officers are on hand to identify opportunities, source sustainable solutions & help secure funding.

[CLIMATE ACTION FUND](#)

Our Climate Action Fund remains open on a rolling monthly basis. Our members are invited to apply for up to £500 for new community organisations, new climate action projects or community engagement. T&Cs apply.

PAST EVENT RECORDINGS

- [Sustainable Spaces Launch](#) (October 2024)
- [Challenging Poverty through Climate Action: Challenge Poverty Week 2024](#) (October 2024)
- [Sustainable Event Planning with Ullapool Unpacked](#) (September 2024)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES/ VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

[THE COMPASS CENTRE IS RECRUITING A FINANCE & OFFICE MANAGER](#)

Closing date: 9am on Monday 20th January

Job Title: [Finance & Office Manager](#)

Interviews: Week of 20 & 27 Jan (may be subject to change)

This is an exciting opportunity to join the team at Shetland Rape Crisis (SRC), based in The Compass Centre in Lerwick. You will play a key role ensuring that we meet [our priorities](#) and invest in our people, culture, and systems to support the safe, sustainable, and effective delivery of our services, increasing the positive impact of our work across Shetland as a whole. You will be supported to learn and grow in your own practice and values-base, and robust training and induction will be provided to ensure you are able to carry out the full responsibilities of the role.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S BOARD FOR CHANGE

NSPCC are looking for 15 young people to join their next 'Young People's Board for Change'. This opportunity is aimed at young people aged 13 to 16 who want to share their ideas and opinions, meet new people and have fun. The deadline for applications is **20th January**.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE SCOTTISH FOOD COMMISSION

Closing 17th January 2025

The Scottish Food Commission is recruiting members. This is an exciting opportunity to shape and influence the development of a new non-departmental public body: The Scottish Food Commission. The Commission is being set up to provide an oversight role of provisions made in the Good Food Nation (Scotland) Act 2022.

It is expected that the Commission will be formally established by mid-2025. The Scottish Food Commission will play a significant role in reshaping the Scottish food system. The recommendations and advice provided by the Commission to Scottish Ministers and relevant authorities will be pivotal in ensuring that Good Food Nation Plans are continuously improved.

POLICE SCOTLAND: SPECIAL CONSTABLE VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Are you looking for a volunteering opportunity like no other? Then don't miss our online Special Constable Attraction events. **Sign-up today to guarantee your place.**

Being a Special Constable is not just about upholding the law and catching criminals, it's also about supporting communities by building trust, respect, and positive relationships. You will be there to make a difference to those who need it most.

If you want a volunteering role like no other and which is built around you, one that will improve the safety and wellbeing of the people, places, and communities of Scotland, one that upholds the law and our values of integrity, fairness, respect, and our commitment to upholding human rights. We want you to apply to become a Special Constable.

The benefits are:

- You will be part of a team of highly trained professionals.
- You will have identical powers to that of a police officer.
- You will receive excellent training and wellbeing support.
- You will find out if the job of a full-time police officer is for you.

QR codes for up-and-coming events

23rd January 2025, 2pm



23rd January 2025, 6pm



25th January 2025, 10am



VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES WITH OPEN

PEER EDUCATORS

This opportunity is for anyone aged 16-25. Peer educators develop and deliver workshops and training to other young people across Shetland. The issue-based training mainly focuses on Sexual Health and Relationships, Alcohol and Drug use, Mental Health and Online Safety.

As well as delivering the workshops to young people, peer educators meet weekly on Tuesdays 6pm-8:30pm (term time), where they develop workshops, undergo training and take part in discussions and any other opportunities identified!

If you want to find out more [click here](#) or you can either message our socials or email: Wayne.Leask@shetland.org

PEER MENTORS

This opportunity is for anyone aged 16-25. Peer mentors provide support and guidance for 14-21 year olds, to identify, set and work towards a series of goals important to them.

The mentors and mentees are matched together based on sharing similar backgrounds, experiences and interests. The young people build a meaningful and trusting relationship to support the mentee in developing a positive pathway.

For more information on peer mentoring [click here](#) or you can either message our socials or email: Wayne.Leask@shetland.org

PEER RESEARCHERS

This opportunity is for anyone aged 16-25. Peer researchers work alongside our Peer Research Development Worker and two professional researchers. Peer researchers are involved from the very beginning of the research project right till the very end!

As a peer researcher you will learn a variety of skills, planning and developing research projects, conducting research using different methods, analyzing research and presentation skills to name a few.

Peer researchers can also complete your participative democracy certificate as a Peer Researcher, this an SCQF level 5 qualification and can be done alongside you attending peer research team meetings.

For more information on peer research [click here](#) or you can either message our socials or email: Shannon.Boston@shetland.org

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT NEWS

REPORTS

DISABILITY COMMISSIONER (SCOTLAND) BILL REPORT

The [Equalities, Human Rights and Civil Justice Committee](#) published its [stage 1 report](#) on the Disability Commissioner (Scotland) Bill on 10 December. The report says that the Scottish Government should take strong and positive action to address the barriers that disabled people continue to face in realising their rights. A summary of the report is available in [easy read](#) and in [BSL](#).

[SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT - FINAL REPORT ON WOMEN'S HEALTH PLAN 2021-24](#)

The Scottish Government has published the [final report](#) on the Women's Health Plan 2021-24 and a [review of the data landscape](#) relating to the health of women and girls in Scotland. The final report is set out by priority and details the progress made against the 66 short, medium and long-term actions.

HM INSPECTORATE PUBLISHES [EVALUATION OF CLD IN SCOTLAND](#)

[This report](#) provides an overview of strengths in the sector and recommendations for local authorities, CLD partners, and the Scottish Government.

[EDUCATION \(SCOTLAND\) BILL REPORT](#)

The [Education, Children and Young People Committee](#) has published its [stage 1 report](#) on the [Education \(Scotland\) Bill](#).

LEGISLATION

CALLS FOR VIEWS: [THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT IS OPEN TO HEARING YOUR VIEWS ON A RANGE OF TOPICS:](#)

[PROPOSED YOUTH WORK \(SCOTLAND\) BILL](#)

Deadline: 21 February 2025

This legislation aims to embed youth work as a statutory service, ensuring equitable provision for all young people and addressing longstanding disparities in access and support. If enacted, the legislation would establish a legal right for all young people aged 11 to 25 to access high-quality youth work services, setting a new standard for equitable provision across Scotland.

[FUTURE OF FOSTER CARE CONSULTATION](#)

Closes: 6 Feb 2025