



News Drop Extra 26<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Hello Friends,

Here's an extra news drop this week because there are some digital events happening this weekend for you to share with young people. Also: funding, training and other opportunities from our VYN network as usual.

Preparing to celebrate all the amazing volunteers with volunteers week 2020 - [#nevermoreneeded](#)

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**Who Cares? are having a digital festival this weekend -**

This weekend - 29th - 31st May!

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/share-the-love-2020-digital-festival-tickets-105936781766>



[Share the Love 2020 Digital Festival](#)

Are you Care Experienced? Then come along to our first ever digital festival for Care Experienced people - Share the Love 2020!

[www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)

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**Urgent! Anyone able to help a member club out?**



[#UllapoolSeaSavers](#) Are looking for someone with the skills to put a webpage together for them. They have secured some funding and think it might be a great lockdown project for the right person. If you can help or know someone who can please contact - <https://www.facebook.com/UllapoolSeaSavers/>

**This from Highland's & Islands Enterprise:**

## **North Atlantic Corona Challenge 2020 - Young people encouraged to take part**



The Chair of the Highlands and Islands European Partnership is encouraging young people to take part in a special challenge to come up with creative ideas to help the North Atlantic region. Sponsored by Highlands & Islands European Partnership, the North Atlantic Corona Challenge 2020 is looking for young people to develop their best idea to save lives, businesses and communities affected by the Corona virus in the North Atlantic region. This will take the form of a 48-hour online challenge to run from 29-31 May 2020 with monetary prizes for the top three ideas. The Highland Council's spokesman on Europe Cllr Jimmy Gray, Chair of the Highlands & Islands European Partnership welcomed the initiative. He said: "I know how creative and forward thinking our young people are so I'm sure there will be lots of constructive and imaginative suggestions put forward. This is a great opportunity, not only because of the financial prize money on offer for the top ideas, but Highlands & Islands Enterprise will provide entrepreneurship support to the winning team with a Highlands and Islands participant. It's a chance to get involved in finding solutions for the future so I hope as many young people as possible living across the Highlands and Islands take up the challenge."

Full details can be found at <https://www.coronachallenge.fo/> or on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/coronachallenge/> or Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/coronachallenge.fo/>  
Registration of entries closes on May 28<sup>th</sup>.

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**This from Youth Scotland:**



[View this email in your browser](#)



# The Youth Scotland Action Fund has reopened



**Across Scotland, community youth groups continue to make a vital difference to young people's lives during the unprecedented challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic.**

In recognition and support of this, we are delighted to be able to **reopen our Youth Scotland Action Fund.**

Thanks to the continued and generous support of our funders, and the additional support from the Scottish Government's Wellbeing Fund and Cattanach, we are [accepting new applications from today, Friday 15 May](#)

## **About the fund**

Youth Scotland's Action Fund has been established to help youth groups and youth workers meet the needs of young people in response to the Covid-19 Coronavirus. It is a Micro Grant fund that is being supported by some key

fundes: STV Appeal, The Robertson Trust, The Gannochy Trust, The Ponton House Trust, Cattnach and Scottish Government's Wellbeing Fund.  
The **maximum amount available per application is £500.**

## Who can apply?

This fund is prioritised for Youth Scotland Member groups meeting the criteria below.

- Volunteer run constituted youth groups who:
- Are based in, and working in local communities within Scotland
- Are universal access for all young people aged between 8 to 25 years old
- Will continue to provide support for young people (within government and NHS guidelines) throughout this period of social distancing
- Plan to spend the grant within 6 weeks of receiving it
- Are applying for up to £500. No match funding is required
- Have an annual turnover less than £200,000
- Can provide a bank statement in the name of their youth group into which the funds can be paid
- Priority will be given to Youth Scotland member groups. Other youth groups who meet the criteria, but who are not Uniformed Organisations can apply, providing they have appropriate quality operating, governance and safeguarding arrangements in place. See Terms and Conditions.

**To read about what we are able to fund and to apply, click the button below.**

[Apply now](#)

## In brief

### Take part in our survey of community-based youth groups during Covid-19

The Covid-19 coronavirus pandemic is causing major disruption to the lives of young people and youth workers. While 'normal' youth work in the community

has all but ceased for many practitioners, the prospect of lockdown changing or being lifted is something many are starting to plan for.

We are keen to hear from community-based youth workers and managers on your challenges and experiences during lockdown; your needs right now and in future; training needs and thoughts and plans about reopening in future.

[Take part in the survey here](#)

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### Some useful Free training on offer from SEA



It seems all third sector organisations are facing similar questions at present:

- how do I manage my organisation through this period of change?
- how do I lead my team or staff, directors or volunteers remotely?
- how do I rebuild our income streams, decimated by the pandemic?

What we also have in common, is that we're all best placed to answer these questions ourselves. Our role at Social Enterprise Academy is to help you to do this through:

**Coaching Support** – two x 60 minute coaching sessions, by telephone or zoom/skype, to help you understand your issues and plot the way forward

- <https://your.socialenterprise.academy/course/view.php?id=215>

Three online learning programmes, combining individual learning online and peer learning on zoom

**Managing Change** - <https://your.socialenterprise.academy/course/view.php?id=247>

**Leading Remotely** - <https://your.socialenterprise.academy/course/view.php?id=246>

**Rebuilding Income Streams** - <https://your.socialenterprise.academy/course/view.php?id=248>

**Inner Gold** blog series on Resilience and Self Care, from SEA facilitator, athlete and adventurer Karen Darke. Available in both text and audio formats - <https://www.socialenterprise.academy/scot/inner-gold-blog-1-to-be-an-explorer>

All this support is fully funded. **Please share these opportunities with your colleagues, clients and contacts.** And as always, please do get in touch if there is any other way we can support you and your work.

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### **This From Highland Children's Forum:**

We may be under lockdown but that hasn't stopped us working alongside the amazing young folks from Inspire Highland to keep them connected during these challenging times and have their voices heard.

### **Highland Children and Young People's Forum have moved our work online: we are now delivering digital youth work as part of our youth participation work.**

Despite the great challenges and tragedies of the pandemic, this has been an opportunity to reach out to young people in new and exciting ways.

We are having **virtual Inspire Highland meetings every 2 weeks**, as well as starting 'mini meetings' for those young folks who find the big meetings too overwhelming.

We have also done virtual **focus groups** with other organisations and are planning one with the Scottish Government on the new child disability benefit payments.

If you are working alongside any young folks with ASNs/disabilities who may like to connect virtually do get in touch.

**Take a look at our Facebook page and see at what we have been up to - especially our hoodies as they look amazing!**

<https://www.facebook.com/Highland-Childrens-Forum-200183650107294/>

### **And this question too -**

### **Developing a voice for children with ASNs/disabilities?**

Developing a voice for children with ASNs/disabilities (initially of primary school age) has been an important priority for Highland Children's and Young People's Forum since we established Inspire Highland for the older age group.

We have never moved forward with this - for a number of reasons including lack of staff time and wondering how on earth we do this!

The success of our move to **digital youth work** since lockdown, has made me think that perhaps a **virtual children's group** could be an initial way forward.

**I would greatly appreciate your views and comments on this - please take 5 - 10 minutes and share your views on the following points:**

**Do you think there is a need for a voice for primary age children with ASNs/disabilities?**

**If so, why?**

**What are the 3 things we would need to consider if we set up a virtual group?**

**What would be the 3 main benefits of a virtual group?**

It would be fab if you could email me back your response.

warm wishes

Emma Thomas

Participation Lead Email: [www.highlandchildrensforum.org](http://www.highlandchildrensforum.org) Find us on [Facebook](#) Twitter: @inspirehighland @HCForum

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### **This from Libertie Project:**

Libertie Project are currently accepting referrals for digital devices, wellbeing packs for adults and activity packs for families from keyworkers, organisations and Covid-19 response groups. Unfortunately we are unable to accept direct requests from beneficiaries.

To refer someone for these services please fill in the relevant form using the links provided.

[The Libertie Project - Digital Device request form.](#)

[The Libertie Project Creative Family Pack Request Form](#)

[The Libertie Project Creative Well-being Pack Request Form](#)

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### **This from Scottish Women's convention:**



The Scottish Women's Convention is delighted to announce we're on the road again... from the safety of our own homes!

Our Spring Calendar of Digital Roadshows will take us to locations across Scotland via video conference calls on Zoom, where we hope to engage with women and hear their views, issues and concerns both on local and national levels.

### **Highlands and Western Isles**

We will be meeting with women in your area on **Thursday 28th May from 3pm to 4pm.**

Each Roadshow will have a limited number of spaces, so get in quick to ensure your place!

[Grab your ticket through Eventbrite here.](#)

We'll send you Zoom Meeting details near the time, to the email you use while signing up.

### **Written Contributions**

We've created an easy space for women to contribute privately, if they cannot make the arranged date/time, don't have access to Zoom, or don't feel comfortable sharing their views in the video platform. You can write as much, or as little, as you'd like. We value and appreciate every contribution. [Click here to submit a written contribution.](#)

### **Your Invitation**

We'd be delighted to welcome you to the Roadshow! Due to limited numbers, we'd appreciate if organisations could reserve a maximum of two tickets for their representatives, to ensure we can gather information regarding a wide variety of positions and circumstances.

We would also greatly appreciate this invitation being forwarded and shared around your friends, family and work network! We have attached images that can be used for Instagram or Twitter if you wish.

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**This from the Highland Council equality and diversity dept.**

### **Consultations**

**[Consultation on Highland Council propose network of safe walking and cycling routes in response to Coronavirus pandemic](#)** The Highland Council and NHS Highland have submitted an ambitious bid to the Scottish Government's Spaces for People fund seeking support to deliver rapid active travel interventions. The measures will include footpath widening, temporary bike lanes and other works that seek to ensure people can walk, wheel and cycle safely on essential journeys and taking daily exercise. You can comment on the interventions proposed here <https://consult.highland.gov.uk/kse/>.

### **[Police Scotland Your Police 2020-2021 – BSL version](#)**

A BSL version of the Police Scotland Your Police 2020-2021. This survey asks for the views of the public on policing particularly the police response during the Covid 19 pandemic. Please can you circulate and encourage participation by your local BSL community members and partners. Both the BSL and English versions are on the Police Scotland [Citizen Space page](#). The survey will remain open until 31st March 2021. Any queries can be sent to [consultations@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:consultations@scotland.pnn.police.uk)

### **Online events**

#### **[Free online information sessions for EU Citizens](#)**

The Citizens' Rights Project works with EU citizens across Scotland and had produced a series of free on-line information sessions with a focus on EU Settlement Scheme Application for settled or pre-settled status including information on the suitability test and the consequences of criminal convictions.

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### **This from NHS:**

Some recent information which may be of interest

- Department of Work and Pensions – Touchbase newsletter 15 May – see attached email
- Highland Council – support for bereaved families [https://www.highland.gov.uk/news/article/12507/council\\_support\\_to\\_families\\_in\\_time\\_of\\_need](https://www.highland.gov.uk/news/article/12507/council_support_to_families_in_time_of_need)
- **Supporting communities safely – advice for community groups, organisations and volunteer networks** advice put together by Scottish Community Development Centre (SCDC) and Public Health Scotland. Range of topics including hand hygiene, store to door, cash handling, preparing handling and delivering food, posting and collecting parcels <https://www.scdc.org.uk/supporting-communities-safely>
- **Covid-19 – guidance on domestic abuse** <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-domestic-abuse/>



## This from Waverley Care:



We're delighted to announce today's launch of [HIV Self-Test Scotland](#) – a new national self-testing service giving people a free quick and easy way to get an HIV test. That means no matter where you are in Scotland, you can get a discreet HIV test delivered to your door.

The [service](#), provided in partnership by Waverley Care and [HIV Scotland](#), is funded by [Gilead](#). It has been rapidly developed to give people in Scotland a way to get an HIV test during COVID-19.

### What is an HIV self-test?

An HIV self-test is a simple test you can take by yourself at home. It uses a spot of blood to find out if you have been exposed to HIV. HIV Self-Test Scotland uses the BioSure HIV self-test because it is a proven way of diagnosing HIV. It is 99.7% accurate at finding HIV, and 99.9% accurate at giving a negative test result. Find out more about the HIV self-test [here](#).

### Who is the HIV self-test for?

The HIV self-test is for anyone living in Scotland, who wants to get an HIV test in a place that's comfortable for them.

### Why is the HIV self-test needed in Scotland?

The HIV self-test is needed during COVID-19, as a way of making sure everyone can get a test in Scotland, no matter where they live. With travel restrictions in place, as well as limited NHS resources, people who are at risk of HIV are less able to get tested during this time. That means by giving people the chance to get a self-test, we can continue preventing new HIV infections during COVID-19.

### Where can I find out more information about the HIV Self-Test Scotland service?

You can find out more information about this service on the HIV Self-Test Scotland website [here](#).

### What happens if someone gets a positive result?

If someone gets a positive result, they will go for a second test to confirm the result at their local sexual health clinic. Whatever the test result, they can also get support to help guide them through the next steps. Find out more about the support encompassed in the HIV Self-Test Scotland service [here](#).

### Do you have feedback?

As this service has been rapidly developed responding to COVID-19, we'd love to hear any feedback or suggestions from you on how we can improve. Get in touch with us by email [here](#).

You can also contact:

- [Waverley Care's](#) project lead - [Rachel Hughes](#)
- [HIV Scotland's](#) project lead - [Nathan Sparling](#)



hivtest.scot

**Volunteers week 2020. Why not get involved!**

Next week, it's volunteers week 2020!!and it would be wonderful if you have a moment to celebrate all the amazing work you and volunteers are doing in your communities.

Why not share your stories by posting, making a wee video or just writing about it on social media using these #s - [#volunteersweek2020](#) [#youthworkchangeslives](#) [#itstimetosaythankshighland](#) [#investinyouthwork](#) and this [#nevermoreneeded](#) which SCVO are running to show councils and government exactly what communities have been doing since the start of Lockdown and why it's so important to fund community organisations.



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As ever, if you have any questions or need help - just get in touch and Youth Highland will do our best to help!

Warm regards,

**Jacquie Steel**

Network Support Officer, Youth Highland

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**If you want to be removed from my contact list, just let me know.**