

Winter/Spring Bulletin 2018

Welcome to Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations new quarterly bulletin. Each issue we will bring you the latest news on changes that may impact your group and keep you updated on SLCVO training, projects and services.

SLCVO Kyle Outreach - Every Wednesday 10am-2pm at the Lighthouse Centre, Kyle

To enhance SLCVOs services in south Skye and Lochalsh every Wednesday between 10am – 2pm, Anne Sikorski, our Community Development consultant will be running an outreach session at the Lighthouse Centre in Kyle.

During these sessions Anne will provide support to individuals, groups and communities in all aspects of setting up and running a community group. From committee training to project planning; volunteer recruitment and funding support, we can help your group in many areas including marketing, financial planning, and group development.

In addition we will run two drop-in session at Broadford Service point on Wednesday 21st of February from 1.30pm-4.30pm and Wednesday 21st of March from 1.30pm-4.30pm

If you need help with any of these things or simply see a need in your community but don't know what to do about it, call into the Lighthouse Centre and chat to Anne. Alternatively If you would prefer to arrange a meeting, contact our office on 01478 612921 or info@slcvo.org.uk.

Open until 6pm every Wednesday Tigh Lisigarry, Bridge Road, Portree

To make SLCVO services more accessible to our communities the SLCVO office will be open until 6pm every Wednesday. We will close at 5pm Monday, Tuesday and Thursday and 3pm on Fridays.

For more information about how SLCVO can support your group please contact us on 01478 612921 or email info@slcvo.org.uk

Saturday Sessions - 10am-2pm once a month at Tigh Lisigarry, Bridge Road, Portree

As you will know, many volunteers also work and find it difficult to make meetings during the week, to ensure we can support groups at times good for them we are opening the Portree office once a month on a Saturday. Initially this will be a trial for three months however, if it proves to be of benefit to our communities we will look to continuing as standard operations.

Saturday Sessions opening times 10am-2pm on Saturday 20 January, 10 February, 03 March and 24 March.




If you would like to arrange a meeting during this time please contact our office on 01478 612921 or info@slcvo.org.uk.



Saturday Sessions
Skye and Lochalsh CVO


SLCVO Training January – March 2018

To help support local groups in their learning and development, we have developed a FREE training programme for anyone volunteering or working in the Third Sector. Sessions take place in Kyle of Lochalsh, Broadford and Portree. If you are interested in attending any of the session below please contact us on 01478 612921 or email infor@slcvo.org.uk to book a place.

January	
<p>Trustee Roles and Responsibilities This session looks at the legal responsibilities, duties and roles of committee members.</p> <p>Open to anyone who is a committee member or interested in becoming one.</p>	<p>Wednesday 24 January Broadford Service Point 10am-1pm</p> <p>This course is funded by HIE</p> 
<p>Good Governance Good governance is essential for all groups, no matter what size. This session looks at operational best practice and gives attendees a foundation on which they can review their own organisation or start to build a new one.</p> <p>Open to anyone interested in running or setting up a community group.</p>	<p>Wednesday 24 January Broadford Service Point 1.30pm-4.30pm</p> <p>This course is funded by HIE</p> 
February	
<p>Organisational Development and Strategic Planning Planning for the future and being ready for change will be explored in this session. Attendees will be given guidance on how they can step back from day to day operational running of a group and focus of longer term goals and development</p> <p>Open to anyone involved in the running or setting up a community group.</p>	<p>Wednesday 21 February Broadford Service Point 10am-1pm</p> <p>This course is funded by HIE</p> 
<p>Volunteer Recruitment and Policies Volunteers are a central ingredient for all community groups. This session will look at how you can increase volunteers by using different methods such as micro-volunteering and one-off events. As well as helping you understand what policies are required for your volunteers.</p> <p>Open to any organisation that works with volunteers.</p>	<p>Wednesday 21 February Lighthouse Centre, Kyle of Lochalsh 11am-12.30pm SLCVO office, Bridge road, Portree 5.30pm-7.00pm</p> <p>Thursday 22 February, SLCVO office, Bridge road, Portree 1.30pm-3.00pm</p>

Winter/Spring Training cont.

If you are interested in attending any of the courses below please contact us on 01478 612921 or email infor@slcvo.org.uk to book a place.

MARCH	
<p>Introduction to Becoming More Enterprising Many groups are looking at alternative ways to generate income and support their services, this introduction session gives a high level overview as to how groups can do this.</p> <p>Open to any community group or organisation.</p>	<p>Wednesday 8 March SLCVO office, Bridge road, Portree 11am-12.30pm</p> <p>Monday 11 March Lighthouse Centre, Kyle of Lochalsh 11am-12.30pm</p>
<p>Understanding Finances This session is for anyone who deals with community group finances, from day to day bookkeeping to budgeting and project costing.</p> <p>Open to any community group or organisation or anyone interested in setting up a new group.</p>	<p>Wednesday 21 March Broadford Service Point 10am-1pm</p> <p>This course is funded by HIE</p> 
<p>Supporting Volunteers and Volunteering awards Ensuring your volunteers have a great volunteering experience will not only benefit your volunteers, it will also help make more of a difference.</p> <p>This session will look at ways to support volunteers using national awards such as Saltire Awards to volunteer quality standards and how to say thank you.</p> <p>Open to any organisation that works with volunteers.</p>	<p>Wednesday 21 March Lighthouse Centre, Kyle of Lochalsh 11am-12.30pm SLCVO office, Bridge road, Portree 5.30pm-7.00pm</p> <p>Thursday 22 March, 1.30pm-3.00pm SLCVO office, Bridge road, Portree</p>

If your group would like us to hold training session in other areas and subjects please contact us on 01478 612921 or email info@slcvo.org.uk and we will try to include them in the spring/summer training schedule.

For groups looking for direct one to one support please contact Sarah Morgan on 01478 612921 or email info@slcvo.org.uk

News and Important Information

Changes to NHS Third Sector Funding

The Highland Third Sector Interface (HTSI) are hosting a meeting on Tuesday 6th February 2018 at Old High Church Hall, Academy St, Inverness for anyone who has received a letter from the NHS in relation to Third Sector Delivery or Discretionary Funding and wishes to feed into the review process as well as anyone from a Third Sector Organisation who has an interest in the NHS funding process.

The purpose of the meeting will be in the first instance to gather feedback from everyone about their concerns, the main points they feel need to be taken account of within the review process and finally to consider what HTSI can do to support groups through these pending changes.

SLCVO will be attending this event to represent the views of groups and organisations from Skye and Lochalsh. Sarah Morgan SLCVO's newest member of staff who is specialising in health and social care will be contacting groups over the next couple of weeks to discuss how this will affect them. If you would like to speak to Sarah please contact her on 01478 612921 or email info@slcvo.org.uk.

If you would like to attend the HTSI meeting contact the HTSI to book your attendance, before the 29th of January either by phone on 01349 864289 or email info@highlandtsi.org.uk

Changes to Data Protection

On the 25th May this year the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will be changing. To help organisations understand the changes the Information Commissioners Office have published a 12 step guide which you can find on their website <https://ico.org.uk/media/1624219/preparing-for-the-gdpr-12-steps.pdf>. This highlights the key changes groups need to be aware of including:

Data Protection Officers

You should designate someone to take responsibility for data protection within your organisation's governance arrangements.

Information you hold

You should document what personal data you hold, where it came from and who you share it with. You may need to organise an information audit across to ensure compliance.

Consent

You should review and update how you seek, record and manage consent and whether you need to make any changes.

Individuals' rights

You should check your procedures to ensure they cover all the rights individuals have, including how you would delete personal data.

Communicating privacy information

When you collect personal data you need to give people certain information, such as your identity and how you intend to use their information

Children

You should start thinking now about whether you need to put systems in place to verify individuals' ages and to obtain parental or guardian consent.

Data breaches

You should make sure you have the right procedures in place to detect, report and investigate a personal data breach.

SLCVO have produced a handout that explains the changes in more detail. If you would like a copy or would like to chat to someone about how it affects your group please contact Sarah Morgan on 01478 612921 or email info@slcvo.org.uk



Changes to SLCVO Services and Funding

Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations have been supporting local communities and groups for almost 70 years. Established on the 23rd April 1949 as Skye Council for Social Services we worked with many committees and community groups looking at issues of Health and Social Care, Transport, Crofting, Tourism, and Community Development. 69 years on and we are still very active in these areas being funded by the Highland Third Sector Interface (HTSI), to deliver Third Sector Interface (TSI) services on a local level.

The Highland Third Sector Interface

The Highland Third Sector Interface was established in 2012 by eight Highland partners, including SLCVO, as a result of the Scottish Government's introduction of TSI's whose remit was to provide a single point of support for the Third Sector within a local authority area. For community groups in Skye and Lochalsh there was very little change in the services they received. However, for SLCVO funding usually received direct from the Scottish Government was now through the HTSI and tied to the delivery of TSI Common Outcomes.

TSI Review and Imminent Changes to SLCVO

The introduction of TSI Common Outcomes helped to expand the range of services SLCVO provided in relation to Volunteer Development, Social Enterprise and Community Group support and involvement in regional strategic issues through the work of the HTSI. However, since the inception of TSI's, the environment in which they operate has changed compelling the Scottish Government to carry out a review of TSI's. This review is now complete and over the next six months TSI's will see a change in what they are funded to deliver.

In a letter to TSI's on the 12th December 2017, Helen Webster, Head of Volunteering, Charity Law and

Third Sector Infrastructure for the Scottish Government, sets out a plan for change through the introduction of new TSI National Outcomes. These outcomes will see TSI's become more focused on the strategic leadership and brokerage role they have within community planning and the removal of explicit reference to support in the form of Volunteer Development, Community Group support and Social Enterprise Development.

How this will affect local Third Sector support services we do not yet know however, alongside the Scottish Government review the HTSI have been reviewing how they deliver services across the region.

As an HTSI partner, Skye and Lochalsh CVO exclusively delivers TSI services in our area, this includes Volunteer Development, Community Group support and Social Enterprise Development. This relationship is changing and it is anticipated that from the 1st October 2018 the HTSI will commission specific areas of work rather than full delivery. This will probably result in a reduction in SLCVO's core funding and services we provide locally. The HTSI have committed to providing three months' notice of any changes to our contact and from the Scottish Government review timescale we anticipate this will be given by the end of June 2018.

During the next six months we will be consulting with our members and service users about these changes, as well as our future direction. If you would like to know more about the Scottish Government review of TSI's or would like to chat about what these changes may mean for your group please contact Jo Ford, SLCVO's Senior Officer on 01478 612921 or email Jo.Ford@slcvo.org.uk



During the last 12 months Skye and Lochalsh CVO have been astounded by the generosity and support of our communities and volunteers in relation to the Foodbank. Businesses such as Robertson's and communities for example Waternish have held events to raise funds and collect food. Christmas hampers have been donated by Portree High School Hostel and local churches, and we have had many donations of food, toys and clothing from individuals.



Christmas Food bank donation from Robertson's

To keep the Foodbank running we rely on our volunteers without whom there would be no service. Our core of ten volunteers collect donations, sort parcels and raise funds. We estimate many give at least one hour a week to the foodbank totalling over 500 hours a year.

Getting support to those who need it

In 2017, 370 support parcels to families and individuals were distributed through organisations such as Women's Aid, Social Work and New Start Highland. The ethos of the Skye and Lochalsh Community Foodbank is to ensure anyone who needs help can get it.

We work with organisations such as Rag Tag and Textile, Skye and Lochalsh CAB, Excel Church, St Columba's and Church of Scotland, as well as housing and welfare officers and health professionals. If you know of someone who needs help and are not too sure who they should contact call the SLCVO office on 01478 612921 and we can direct them to the best organisation.

Why do we need a Foodbank?

The seasonal nature of employment within our community plays a strong role in the use of the Foodbank, with high season months showing little to no activity for the Foodbank and low season reaching levels of over 70 support parcels a month. This effect has been compounded by the introduction of Universal Credit where families can wait up to six weeks for payments.

We know however, it is not just people on benefits who need extra help. People in employment who are receiving Statutory Sick Pay or are on casual contracts have used our service, as well as those who find themselves facing unexpected circumstances where they cannot meet all their financial commitments. The Scottish Governments 2016 publication 'Poverty in Scotland' defines living in poverty as 'being on a low income, compared to the average family in Scotland' and 'more than half of working-age adults in poverty (58%) lived in families where someone was in work'. Foodbanks are not just for people on benefits and the Skye and Lochalsh Community Foodbank is here to help all people in our communities in a confidential, non-judgemental way.

For more information contact Sarah Morgan at SLCVO on 01478 612921 or info@slcvo.org.uk



Befrienders project and volunteers

Skye & Lochalsh Neighbours and Friends is a pilot volunteer befriending service run by Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations in partnership with Highland Hospice. Our aim is to reduce loneliness and isolation experienced by people in Skye and Lochalsh by providing a regular volunteer befriending visit in a person's home environment.

Since promoting our volunteer befriending opportunities in August 2017, we have had around 25 enquiries of which 16 are now volunteers and nine are all fully trained and ready to be matched.



Volunteers and Directors at our Christmas Lunch

Anyone in the community aged over 18 is able to be receive the service. So if you know of someone who would like someone to pop in and visit them for a cuppa and a chat please get in touch. This service is also available to people in Care homes and can be at places other than their home environment.

The referral process is very straight forward. Any medical professional can refer a person to us and we also accept self-referrals or referrals from a family member/friend. Once we have received a referral request our Project Co-ordinator, Samantha-Jo McArthur, will contact the person to chat about what they are looking for and arrange a visit to

discuss the person's interests and needs to ensure we make the best possible match.

As our matching service is centred on both the individual and volunteer interests, we hold an initial meeting before the service starts. This for them to get to know each other and ensure we have a good match.

If you would like to receive more information on this service or to make a referral please contact Samantha-Jo McArthur on 01478 612921 or email volunteerofficer@slcvo.org.uk

Helping to set-up a new community groups

Helping new groups and project set-up is one of the most rewarding aspects of our work at SLCVO. The next few months will see us work with possible new groups in Struan who are looking to establish a centre and Portree where around 15 people want to set-up a First Responders group.

We help new groups write Governing Documents such as constitutions and volunteering policies, complete applications to become Charities and Incorporated Organisations, as well as develop plans for the long and short term.

The Portree First responders group is in its very early days but with support and training from the Scottish Ambulance Service and already established schemes in the area the group are confident they will succeed in raising the funds required for the equipment as well as getting the volunteers needed to not only provide the service but support its running.

If you have an idea for a new group or project then contact Jo Ford at SLCVO on 01478 612921 or email Jo.Ford@slcvo.org.uk

Community Justice Fund

In November 2017 SLCVO attended a new Highland funding event for Community Justice. The team, pictured below, pitched their project to a room of over 100 people who voted in the Small Change for Community Justice Fund.



SLCVO Team, Jo Ford, Paul Spence and Anne Sikorski at Community Justice Funding Event November 2017

The grant of £4,000 will be used to work with people on Community Payback orders in a pilot project that will use Coaching and Emotional Intelligence techniques, as well as unpaid work placements in community groups, to support people in making positive changes in their lives and communities.

Support from Lochalsh and Skye Housing Association

Skye and Lochalsh Mental Well-being Forum was established in 2017 and meets every two months to bring together community groups and agencies in the development of projects that help support people in our communities.

Working with groups such as Skye and Lochalsh Counselling Care, Rag Tag and Textile, CAB and Skye and Lochalsh Mental Health Association the Forum has already produced a signposting leaflet for Universal Credit, is helping support the set-up of community cafes and is working with groups such as HUG in raising the profile of mental well-being support services here in Skye and Lochalsh.

To help the group in its development, Skye and Lochalsh Housing Association have awarded a grant of £500. This will be used to support project sand develop ideas. If you would like to be involved in the forum or know more about what we are doing please contact Sarah Morgan at Skye and Lochalsh CVO on 01478 612921 or email info@SLCVO.org.uk

How SLCVO can help you

Skye and Lochalsh CVO provide a wide range of support to communities and groups including:

- Advising on starting a group, legal structures and supporting legal structure transition
- Identifying appropriate funders and supporting applications
- Providing training and one to one support in subjects such as Governance, Running a Group and Strategic Planning
- Organising and facilitating Community Engagement and Events
- Identifying volunteers and promoting opportunities
- Helping groups to meet regulations and develop key policies
- Supporting joint working between Community Groups and Agencies through our work with the local Community Planning Partnership
- Business Development for Third Sector organisations
- Administration Services for local groups
- Room Hire and Printing Services

If you would like to talk to one of our support team about how we can help your group or project please contact us on 01478 612921 or email info@slcvo.org.uk.