

## **Argyll and Bute CPP Bulletin 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022**



Dear CPP bulletin distribution list members,

This bulletin contains links to resources and information for people in communities, community groups and the third sector in Argyll and Bute. We make every effort to ensure that any hyperlinks in the Bulletin work – some of them may take longer to load. **If you require printed copies of any of the documents attached in the Bulletin please contact [cppadmin@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:cppadmin@argyll-bute.gov.uk).**

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## **Partner Good News Stories**

### **Scottish Fire and Rescue**

**Volunteer Firefighter Gerry Ralston from Mull gets running for charity.** A volunteer firefighter, originally from Clydebank, and now based at Salen Fire Station on the Isle of Mull, Gerry is running 50 miles throughout April to raise money for NHS Charities. He's already ran 50 miles in January and raised £2,000 for Maggie's cancer charity. After he completes April's challenge he's planning to run the Glasgow 10K in October to raise money for the Firefighters Charity. His other fundraising efforts include donating £2,000 to light up Mull at Christmas with 20 trees and lights around the island. Gerry is pictured outside the Salen Hotel, which he runs, with his family. See more at: <https://www.facebook.com/donate/1538970176484833/>



#### **Local crews from Oban Community Fire Station**

are pictured engaging with members of the public on and around Loch

Awe. The team were promoting water Safety and Summer Outdoor Safety as well as raising awareness of the dangers and impact of wildfires on our local communities and environment. The team throughout the Argyll and





Bute Area will continue this work throughout the summer months. See: [Scottish Fire and Rescue Safety Campaigns](#)

**One of the Scotland's most rural fire stations** is leading the way for female firefighter recruitment. Campbeltown Fire Station - on the Kintyre peninsula in Argyll - now proudly counts five females among its crew of eighteen on call firefighters. This bucks the national trend which sees, on average, less than seven percent of all on call firefighter roles taken up by women. The five – who hold a range of occupations as their day jobs - are helping to break down the gender stereotype of what a modern firefighter is. What's more the youngest female member of the crew is also trained to drive the station's fire appliances – which is no surprise given her full-time job is as an HGV mechanic. Find out more by clicking on the following links [STV News Learn More About Our Campbeltown Firefighters](#) and to see if you have what it takes, find out more here <https://www.firescotland.gov.uk/careers/retained-volunteer>



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### **Scottish Fire and Rescue Safety Campaigns**

Scottish Fire and Rescue are running safety campaigns throughout the summer and this issue of the CPP Bulletin is highlighting the Water Safety and Wildfires Campaigns. As the weather warms up, more and more of us spend time in the outdoors and may be unaware of the dangers lurking in seemingly innocent activities. The SFRS Water Safety Leaflet can be found [here](#) and the Wildfires Leaflet can be found [here](#)

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### **Scottish Air Ambulance Re-procurement Project - Consultation**

The Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS) is undertaking a consultation and engagement exercise as part of the re-procurement of the national air ambulance service for Scotland.

SAS provides the air ambulance service to mainland Scotland and its islands. It is the only wholly publicly funded air ambulance service in the United Kingdom and is an invaluable resource to the Scottish public.

The aircraft used by the Air Ambulance Service are owned and operated by a private company on a contractual basis and the current contract is due to expire. To support the development of a new air ambulance contract, a project team has been established and an important task for the team is to consult with all stakeholders. Following the consultation exercise, the formal process of selecting a provider for the new air ambulance contract will be taken forward.

We want to ensure we gather opinions from everyone with a view on this important element of the Service before arrangements are renewed. If you wish to express any views or opinions about the aircraft, air ambulance staff, or quality of service, we would like to hear from you.

You can complete the online survey  
here: <https://www.formwize.com/run/survey3.cfm?idx=505d04080b0e0a08>

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## **Argyll and Bute Online Police Recruitment**

Live Local, Work Local. Police Scotland are hosting an online information event aimed at the residents from the Argyll & Bute area who would like to consider a career as a Police Officer and wish to work in the Argyll and Bute area.

During the event attendees will learn about the recruitment process, the training, the role of a police officer and the endless opportunities available once a career in the Police is embarked upon.

The event is being held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May at 6:30pm – 8pm on Microsoft Teams.

For more information and to reserve a space, email:

[recruitmentpositiveactionteam@scotland.police.uk](mailto:recruitmentpositiveactionteam@scotland.police.uk)

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## **CPP Welcome Pack Updated**

The CPP Welcome Pack online has been updated and can be accessed [here](#).

This update includes details of :

- the 3 newly elected Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament - Ryan MacIntyre, Baileigh McIntyre and Chloe Meikle. Ryan is a mental health advocate and Chair of the Cowal Youth Forum. Baileigh helps to lead the Bute Action Group and has an interest in mental health and period poverty matters. Chloe is a COP26 Local Champion for Argyll and Bute and is passionate about young people's rights.
  - the new Area Community Planning Group Chairs for Bute and Cowal and Helensburgh and Lomond – Charles Dixon-Spain and David Moore, respectively. Charles's experience includes acting as Director and Chair of the Colintrave & Glendaruel Development Trust and Finance Director of the Walking Theatre Company in Argyll and David brings extensive experience from his career in the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service where he currently acts as Head of Prevention and Protection for the Argyll and Bute and East and West Dunbartonshire area.
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## **National Youth Justice Conference 2022 - Children's and Young People's Centre for Justice**

The Children and Young People's Centre for Justice (CYCJ), the National Youth Justice Advisory Group (NYJAG) and the Scottish Government are pleased to invite you to the National Youth Justice Conference 2022: 'Our Journey to Rights Respecting Justice'.



This year's conference will feature speakers from across the world, in addition to the work of Police Scotland, No Knives Better Lives, Our Hearings Our Voices, Youth Justice Voices and Blue Triangle, and enjoy a musical performance by Sistema Scotland's 'Big Noise' programme with young people.

Closing date for Applications: 30<sup>th</sup> May

[National Youth Justice Conference 2022 - Children's and Young People's Centre for Justice \(cycj.org.uk\)](https://cycj.org.uk)

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## **Let's Move Together Fund: Delivered by Versus Arthritis**

The *Let's Move Together Fund* has been set up to:

- Help aid recovery from COVID-19 and reduce the long-term impact
- Reduce the widening of the inequalities in sport and physical activity for people with musculoskeletal conditions
- Support specific activities to increase availability of exercise opportunities in local communities across Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland

Through *Let's Move Together*, Versus Arthritis want to address and prevent the likely reduction of marginalised communities driving sport and physical activity forward, by fostering and protecting community bodies, coaches, and volunteers.

Applications from organisations who support people with long-term health conditions, people from culturally diverse communities, disabled people and lower socio-economic groups are particularly welcomed.

Grants between £1,000 and £5,000 are being offered as part of the fund. Additional funding may be available above the £5,000 limit but would need to be discussed with a member of the Versus Arthritis team before submitting the application. Funding should be spent within six months of being awarded. It is expected that all funds would be awarded by 30th September 2022.

If you would like any further information about the Let's Move Together Fund, please contact: Sophie Priestley (Trusts Manager) or Ashleigh Ahlquist (Physical Activity Manager): e-mail: [physicalactivityVA@versusarthritis.org](mailto:physicalactivityVA@versusarthritis.org)

[Inspiring active communities \(versusarthritis.org\)](https://www.versusarthritis.org)

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## **SSEN encourages applications for its £1m Resilient Communities Fund**

With this year's funding pot increased to £1m, SSEN is urging communities across the north of Scotland to submit their applications for the latest round of its Resilient Communities Fund (RCF). The aim of the fund is to help communities become more resilient in the face of severe weather events and prolonged power interruptions and, following the severe storms which battered the country this winter, SSEN has increased the total amount available in the north of Scotland in 2022 to £1m.

Grants are available from £1,000 up to £20,000 however, in exceptional cases, multi-year and multi-community funding up to a maximum of £50,000 will be considered. The fund is looking to support projects which fall under these two categories:

**1. Resilience for Emergency Events** - To enhance community facilities, services and communication specifically to support the local response in the event of a significant emergency such as extended power loss.

**2. Vulnerability** - To protect the welfare of vulnerable community members particularly during significant emergency events such as extended power loss, through enhancing their resilience and improving community participation and effectiveness.

The SSEN Resilient Communities Fund Panel, which includes national community groups and organisations with expertise in community resilience planning, will review applications and determine which projects should receive funding, with the successful applications to be awarded this summer.

You can find out more about the Resilient Communities Fund and read SSEN's annual fund reports and apply for funding [here](#). **The deadline for applications has been extended to 13 May 2022.**

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## **Police Scotland - Spotlight on Scams**

This week, Police Scotland have had at least 3 reports of scams from people making purchases through online Marketplaces affecting people in Argyll and Bute and West Dunbartonshire.

An incident in Dunoon has seen someone purchase a hot tub from what they believed was a genuine selling site on Facebook. The hot tub was paid for with delivery agreed, however it has never turned up.

A similar incident in Oban has seen the victim purchase a vehicle online, however after paying for this and travelling to uplift it, it has transpired the address provided was not that of the seller.

Finally a victim in Clydebank has been defrauded after buying jewellery from a Facebook shop however it appears this has been a fraudulent site created to copy a genuine store.

Please remember, that when you purchase an item online through a private sale, you are risking being defrauded unless you physically see the item beforehand. It is easy for scammers to create fake profiles and offer goods for sale.

Here are some signs to look for:

- Ideally meet in a public place to view an item before you part with your money.
- If prices are significantly below what similar items are selling for elsewhere, be suspicious.
- If using Facebook marketplace, look at the sellers profile – is this a new profile, do they have a history of selling other goods and does their profile page seem genuine.

Don't part with your money if you're in any doubt.

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## **Consultation - Scottish Carer's Assistance - Closes 23 May 2022**

The Scottish Government has launched a consultation on proposals for Scottish Carer's Assistance. This is a new Scottish benefit, which will replace Carer's Allowance and will be delivered by Social Security Scotland. Proposed changes include:

- Improving how support is provided to carers, and making links to wider services.
- Introducing new payments to better recognise the different impacts of different caring situations
- Extending support further after launch to help carers access opportunities outside of caring where they wish to do so, provide more financial stability, and better recognise different caring situations than the current benefit.

The purpose of this consultation is to gather views on these changes from unpaid carers, the people they care for, support organisations and the wider public.

For further information and to respond, visit the [Scottish Carer's Assistance: consultation website](#)

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## **New Open Government Action Plan will strengthen public participation in decisions on health and climate change**

Openness, transparency and citizen participation are at the heart of a new National Action Plan to strengthen co-operation between government and wider society.

Scotland's Open Government Action Plan 2021-25 will focus on involving people in decisions on making data open and accessible across key areas of government and understanding how public finances work. It will also allow people to participate in decision making on tackling the climate emergency and improving health and social care. For further information see

[The Scottish Government's Open Government Action Plan 2021-25.](#)

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### **Argyll and Bute Council Weekly News Round Up**

You can sign up to receive the Argyll and Bute Weekly News Round Up which is full of useful information, guidance, surveys and vacancies [here](#).

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## **COVID-19 Safety Measures update from Scottish Government**

The latest Covid advice from the Scottish Government can be found here:

[Coronavirus in Scotland - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot)



Please help by sharing the videos and accompanying messaging on your social media channels and you can follow Scottish Government channels across [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) to share and retweet content.

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## **Coronavirus (COVID-19): Distance Aware scheme**

Distance Aware is a scheme being rolled out across Scotland to prompt people to respect the space of others where possible. The scheme, developed by the Bevan Commission, and endorsed by the Scottish Government offers people an easily recognisable shield symbol which can be worn to signify to others that they'd appreciate some extra distance and care around them. Free badges and lanyards featuring the Distance Aware shield are now available for individuals to collect in libraries across Scotland. Badges are also available in ASDA stores and can be ordered online through participating charities. Details can be found [here](#) and the Distance Aware Toolkit can be found [here](#).

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## **Coronavirus Caring for People Helpline – Test and Protect**

Scottish Government Covid Advice has now changed and Domestic Assistance while infected with Covid is no longer provided by Argyll and Bute Council; and all Covid related Business Grants have ended.

**Please note that the Test and Protect helpline closed at the end of April. From May onwards callers to this number will be redirected to appropriate services.**

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## **Scottish Government Guidance on Covid Restrictions**

The Scottish Government has produced [updated guidance](#) containing the current Covid lockdown restrictions by council area. Please share this as appropriate.

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## **Changes to Covid Testing**

Advice on coronavirus (COVID-19) testing and self-isolation changed on 1 May 2022. Individuals mid-way through a self-isolation period should follow the revised guidance from 1 May. If you've tested positive you should follow the revised guidance to stay at home for 3 days if you're 18 years and under, or for 5 days if you're over 18 years. The way that we count these days has changed. Day 1 is the day after you took your test. If you were identified as a close contact, you should end daily LFD testing on 1 May. You may leave self-isolation if you feel well. If you later develop a temperature or feel unwell with respiratory symptoms, you should follow the revised guidance to stay at home.

The following advice is taken from the Scottish Government's website you can find out more about the changes to testing [here](#)

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## **Important Covid-19 information in other formats and languages**

[BSL videos](#) are available explaining steps you can take to help avoid infection from coronavirus (COVID-19); what to do if you think you have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms; self-isolation and shielding advice and helpline information.

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## **Volunteering safely and local community groups providing a response**

The current Scottish Government guidance on Covid-19 and phasing out of lockdown is such that everyone can, in-keeping with safety guidelines, access food and other domestic support.

Therefore, Argyll and Bute Council's main response is stepping down and we are on standby if needed for the future. See the Volunteering Safely Guidance [here](#).

If you have any comments or additional information for this webpage, please contact [communitydevelopment@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:communitydevelopment@argyll-bute.gov.uk).

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## **Argyll and Bute Flexible Food Fund**

The Flexible Food Fund is having a really positive impact in communities across Argyll & Bute, putting cash in the pockets of those with no financial buffer. Bute Advice and Allenergy have worked successfully to provide welfare rights, money and energy advice to over 200 households across Argyll and Bute. This holistic approach is supporting households to become financially stable and helps bring peace of mind to families across Argyll and Bute.



Applications to the fund can be made via the [online claim form](#) available on the council's website. If you need help or support to complete the form please call us on 01700 502784 and ask about the Argyll and Bute Flexible Food Fund.

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## **Worrying about Money Leaflet**

Please find attached a copy of a Worrying about Money leaflet that was produced by Independent Food Aid Network and the Community Food Forum for Argyll and Bute. Please share this widely as required. Please see the Leaflet: [here](#)

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## **Argyll and Bute Third Sector Interface Funding Update**

The TSI's latest Funding Update can be found [here](#).

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## **Funding for Communities**

Funds to support communities at this time can be found at [here](#).

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## **Sign up to Funding Alert**

You can sign up to receive the Argyll and Bute Council monthly Funding Alert [here](#).

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## **Grantnet – Funding Search Tool**

GRANTnet is a straightforward free to use service which can help you identify suitable funding for your activity or project across a wide range of funding sources.

### **What is GRANTnet?**

- Up-to-date information on over 7,000 grants and other incentives,
- Rapid identification of funding sources specific to need,
- Data sourced from EC and UK Government sources, including Government departments, local authorities, charitable trusts and corporate sponsors.

### **How to access GRANTnet**

You can access the Grantnet home page [here](#).

When using the system for the first time, go to the '**Log in / Register**' page [here](#) and enter your details including your e-mail address (this will become the username), name, organisation, postal address and telephone number. Clicking on the 'Register' button will generate an e-mail providing a password.

**Using GRANTnet** - When you log into the system you must answer some questions about your organisation and the project which you wish to undertake. GRANTnet will then provide an overview of all the funds available.

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## **Funding help available for businesses**

Funds to support businesses at this time can be found at [here](#).

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## **Other Partners Covid 19 information**

Here is our partner websites with other useful information :-

[Police Scotland](#) - Information about how the Police is responding to COVID 19.

[Fire Scotland](#) - Latest news and details of how they are providing an emergency response during COVID 19.

[Highlands and Islands Enterprise](#) – Advice for businesses, communities and third sector organisations.

[Scottish Natural Heritage](#) – Tips to support and enjoy local wildlife while socially distancing and virtual tours via podcast.

[Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park](#) – Details of facilities and helpful advice for visitors and businesses.

[Argyll College UHI](#) – Student support and advice.

[Argyll & Bute Council](#) – Help and advice for residents, businesses, communities on Covid 19 and changes to council services.

[Scottish Enterprise](#) – Business continuity advice.

If you have information that you wish to share from your organisation please send this to [cppadmin@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:cppadmin@argyll-bute.gov.uk)



Argyll and Bute's economic success is built on a growing population

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