



# the hub - your community action centre

**Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021**

**Welcome to our weekly e-bulletin.**

**We are open to the public on an appointments basis so please contact us before coming to the hub.**

## News

### Help with your heating costs!

- Are you on a means tested benefit?
- Do you use a heating system that runs on oil or LPG?

If so, you may be eligible for a subsidy payment of up to £120 towards filling your oil or LPG tank.

For more info contact the hub on 01387 26916 or email [info@thehubdg.org.uk](mailto:info@thehubdg.org.uk)

**Warm Winter Clothes** Dumfries and Galloway Council is looking for donations of any types of warm winter clothes no longer needed. Jackets, jumpers, cardigans, hats, scarves, gloves, etc. in any sizes are requested – both children and adults. There are donations points throughout the region highlighted on the poster. It's an excellent excuse to clear out your cupboards and wardrobes knowing that everything that you will donate will be going to someone in need.

### You can donate at:

Tesco Metro, Charlotte Street Stranraer

Community Reuse Shop, Blackparks Industrial Estate, Stranraer

Re-Loved Clothing, Castle Street, Stranraer

Newton Stewart Initiative Community Shop, Dashwood Square, Newton Stewart

Stepping Stones Food Bank, King Street, Castle Douglas

Castle Douglas Primary School, Jenny's Loaning, Castle Douglas

The SCVS, The Johnson, St Mary Street, Kirkcudbright

Summerhill Community Centre, Dumfries

### The Hub, 24-26 Friars Vennel, Dumfries

River of Life Church, Railway Station, Dumfries

Action for Children, Kelloholm

Newstart Recycle, Queensberry Street, Annan

**Help available to tackle fuel poverty** there are a range of support mechanisms and organisations available to help anyone who is struggling to heat their home and may be worried about the future costs and how to cover these for the rest of the winter months:

The Scottish Government-Additional Winter Payments. Depending on your circumstances, you may be eligible to receive additional benefits during the winter months. Details on the various payments and schemes available can all be accessed through the Scottish Government website:

Winter Fuel Payment – <https://www.gov.uk/winter-fuel-payment>

Cold Weather Payment – <https://www.gov.uk/cold-weather-payment>

Warm Home Discount Scheme – <https://www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme>

### Information and assistance

**Dumfries and Galloway Citizens Advice Service** the services specialist advisors provide assistance and advice on fuel poverty as well as many other situations individuals and families may face, they offer: • support to those at risk of fuel poverty • support to tenants of private rental accommodation at risk of fuel poverty • support to those in short term homeless accommodation or in refuge facilities at risk of fuel poverty • help in significantly reducing utility bills and ensuring that you can access lower monthly bills moving forward • provide

benefit advice and financial assessment which may help towards making fuel payments • advise which benefits you and your family may be eligible for • help you to maximise your income • assist you in completing forms.

Call: 0300 303 4321 or go to website: <https://www.dagcas.org/>

**Home Energy Scotland** is an advice service funded by the Scottish Government and managed by Energy Saving Trust. People living in Scotland can get advice about: • creating a warmer, more energy efficient home • reducing energy bills • exploring greener energy options like home renewable • greener travel options like electric bikes and cars • financial support for all of the above, including grants and 0% loans. Call: 0808 808 2282 or go to website:

<https://www.homeenergyscotland.org/>

**Dumfries and Galloway Council Benefit Advice and Financial Assessments Team** can support residents over 60 years of age in completing a benefits overview, which may help to cover fuel bills. The team can advise you which benefits you and your family may be eligible for and maximise your income. They can give you more information and help you fill in forms:

Call: 030 33 33 3008 or email: [fiatreferrals@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:fiatreferrals@dumgal.gov.uk)

### **Funding**

#### **Covid 19 Emergency Fuel Top Up Funding for Tenants**

**Dumfries and Galloway Council** is working in partnership with the following registered social landlords within our region throughout the Covid 19 pandemic, to supply top up payments to any of their tenants who are struggling to cover their energy costs at this time. If you are a tenant of one of the Registered Social Landlords contact them directly and they will be able to help you with additional support at this time to top up your meters or provide help with your energy bills.

- Dumfries and Galloway Housing Partnership – <https://www.dgghp.org.uk/>
- Loreburn Housing – <https://loreburn.org.uk/about-us/great-service/d-g-homes/>
- Irvine Housing – <https://www.riversidescotland.org.uk/>

If you have any additional queries in relation to fuel poverty or any type of poverty, please contact the Tackling Poverty and Inequalities Team: Call: 0788 094 2909; Email: [ChallengePoverty@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:ChallengePoverty@dumgal.gov.uk)

**Discretionary Housing Payments** If you're struggling to live within your income, one phone call could change your life for better. For details of the services that could help you, for more information go to [www.dumgal.gov.uk/poverty](http://www.dumgal.gov.uk/poverty) If you're struggling with housing costs or rent, a Discretionary Housing Payment could help for more information go to [www.dumgal.gov.uk](http://www.dumgal.gov.uk)

**Hot Food Served Every Tuesday** at 6.30pm at St Georges Church Hall (George Street, Dumfries). A warm welcome and delicious hot food awaits you.

**D&G Disability Sport programme** help provide opportunities for people in Dumfries and Galloway with a physical, sensory or learning disability to take part in sports or physical activity. They work closely with their partners through the Dumfries and Galloway Disability Sport (DGDS) charity to support regular participation in sport and physical activity for disabled people. This extends to the development of regional squads and teams who compete at various local, regional and national competitions. For more information contact email [disabilitysport@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:disabilitysport@dumgal.gov.uk) Call 030 33 33 3000 or go to <https://dumgal.gov.uk/disabilitysport>

## **Events**

**Dumfries Winter Gaitherin' Friday 3 December, 3pm to 7.30pm** Fountain Square, High Street, Dumfries This year, the festive season will be welcomed to Dumfries with a wintery celebration, warming up the town centre with a variety of family friendly activities, such as creative workshops, live music, and performance. Come along between 3pm and 7.30pm to Fountain Square, beside the Midsteeple, where activities will be take place outdoors and indoors. There will be lots of opportunities for hands-on activity for all ages, as well as late evening shopping and catering options. The Dumfries Winter Gaitherin' is being

produced by The Stove Network, supported by Dumfries and Galloway Council. Check out The Stove's website for more info and the full programme at <https://thestove.org/event/dumfries-winter-gaitherin/>

**The Devorgilla Rotary Club** of Dumfries is holding a charity sale in the Loreburn Centre from 25 to 27 November, raising funds for local youth organisations and charities, including Samaritans

**Annual general meeting of Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway** with open invite to member organisations. Wednesday 24 November 2021 12:00 to 14:00. Location - Dumfries Baptist Church Centre, Gillbrae Road, Dumfries, DG1 4EJ

## Surveys and Consultations

**Planning for planning** Community groups and anyone else interested in development planning are being encouraged to respond to a Scottish Government consultation on a draft framework to inform day to day decision making in the planning system. When adopted (planned for summer 2022) NPF4 will have the status of the development plan for planning purposes. This means that its policies should inform day to day decision making in the planning system. It will also guide local development plans and will be relevant to regional spatial strategies and important for communities as they develop their Local Place Plans. Draft NPF4 is now subject to Parliamentary scrutiny for up to 120 days and the Scottish Government is inviting representations until 31 March 2022. The Government is encouraging the submission of responses through the Scottish Government's <https://consult.gov.scot/local-government-and-communities/draft-national-planning-framework-4/>

## Publications and reports

**Alcohol and Drugs Support South West Scotland** have published their annual report, you can read it here <https://www.adssws.co.uk/2021/11/17/ads-annual-report-2021/>

**Jobs that work: Paving the way for good jobs through participatory co-design** The latest report by Joseph Rowntree Foundation offer solutions to in-work poverty, developed alongside people who have direct experience of poor-quality work. This report outlines the process of a participatory co-design project: lessons learned, key reflections and how bringing together different forms of expertise has given us a richer understanding of the problems of in-work poverty and a set of solutions. Read their recommendations <https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/jobs-work-paving-way-good-jobs-through-participatory-co-design>

## Funding

**Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund** is administering by Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway for this region. The purpose of the fund is to 'promote the conditions for good mental health and well-being'. The fund is aimed at grassroots and community groups, as well as larger third sector organisations. They will be open for applications later in November. In the meantime, if you would like to express an interest in the fund and be added to their mailing list for future updates, please complete the simple form here: <https://forms.office.com/r/CUeTHFbsX6> For more about the Fund, click here: <https://www.tsdq.org.uk/communities-mental-health-wellbeing/>

**Old Luce Community Fund** This charitable fund is provided by Barlockhart Moor Wind Energy Ltd; Carscreugh Renewable Energy Park Ltd; Glenchamber Wind Energy Ltd, SSE, 2020 Renewables, Greencoat and ScottishPower Renewables, owners of nearby wind farms, who channel their community benefit funds through this single fund. The fund has been established by Old Luce Community Council, with the aspiration that all of the funds benefitting the Old Luce area can be administered through this single structure. The fund only supports projects

located within or directly benefiting the Old Luce Community Council area, including the communities of Glenluce, Dunragit and Auchenmalg. Grant Size: Standard Grant £500-£10,000 Large Grant over £10,000. For more information go to <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/apply-for-funding/funding-available/old-luce>

**Dumfries and Galloway Council's Community Led Economic Regeneration Fund (CLERF)** aims to provide grant funding to community led organisations so they can plan and develop economic and place-based capital regeneration projects that are locally led and have a strong fit with local needs and ambitions.

**What's the aim?** The purpose of the fund is to support the development of capital projects that will drive community led inclusive economic regeneration and growth and will transform our region's towns and neighbourhood places.

The aim of the CLERF is to assist community led organisations to fund the technical support they need - from professional architects, quantity surveyors, engineers, specialist technical surveys and reports etc. - to assess the technical feasibility of their project idea, and to progress their project through subsequent design stages. Applications are welcomed from community led not-for-profit groups and organisations within Dumfries & Galloway who must be formally constituted, with a clear governance and financial structure and have their own bank account. Further information on eligibility can be found in the application guidance notes linked below. **How to Apply:** CLERF 1st Round 2021/22 those interested in applying to the 1st Round of funding should first submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) form. The Fund will be open for EOI submissions from Monday 15 November 2021. For all enquiries about the Community Led Economic Regeneration Fund, please email [CLERF@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:CLERF@dumgal.gov.uk). For more information go to <https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/23665/Community-Led-Regeneration-Fund>

**Dumfries and Galloway Regional Arts Fund** THIS FUND IS NOW OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS. The purpose of this fund is to increase the number of high quality arts projects for public and economic benefit of Dumfries and Galloway. For 2022/23 there was a total of £50,000 available and successful applicants needed to demonstrate how their project would deliver at least one of the following outcomes: **Outcome 1 – Connecting** Arts organisations, venues and creative producers across all art forms have more opportunities to share and tour their products across Dumfries and Galloway and beyond. **Outcome 2 – Collaboration** Arts organisations (and individual creative practitioners associated with them) have more opportunities to make new partnerships, or strengthen existing ones, with other organisations from other creative disciplines or with other professional sectors e.g. health, young people, heritage. Who can apply Constituted Third Sector, community or voluntary groups, registered charities and social enterprises who meet the funding criteria can apply for project funding. This fund doesn't support individual artist led projects. DG Unlimited have a practice development fund called [Innovate Create Cultivate](#) for individuals across all art forms except for visual artists and craftmakers who can access the [Visual Artists and Craftmaker Awards Fund](#). For more information go to <https://www.dgunlimited.com/dumfries-and-galloway-regional-arts-fund.html>

**Business Ventilation Fund** [Coronavirus in Scotland, Business, industry and innovation](#) Applications for £25 million fund to open. A £25 million fund to improve ventilation in business premises and reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission will open for applications next week. Small and medium-sized businesses such as restaurants, bars and gyms will be able to claim back costs of up to £2,500 to undertake work such as the installation of carbon dioxide monitors and remedial improvement work to windows and vents. Businesses will be able to fill in a self-assessment form to receive advice on improving their current ventilation systems and identify if they are eligible for financial support from their local authority. Effective ventilation is a key public health measure to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spreading and is of increasing importance during autumn and winter as people spend more time indoors. Further details of the

grants, including eligible sectors, is available at <https://findbusinesssupport.gov.scot/service/funding/business-ventilation->

**The Investing in Communities Fund (ICF)**, is anticipated to open for a second round of applications in spring next year. The fund aims to support community anchor organisations based in the places they serve by delivering activity across the following four areas for action in our most disadvantaged and fragile communities across Scotland: • tackling poverty and inequality; • sustaining place-based approaches; • community-led regeneration; • ensuring a just transition to net zero. The team which delivers the fund will be holding webinar sessions for interested stakeholders and prospective applicants to provide an overview of the fund's aims, eligibility criteria and the application process prior to its anticipated opening for applications next calendar year. The webinars will also include time for Q&A. The approach is also intended to provide time for interested organisations to develop quality collaborative place based proposals in conjunction with local partner organisations. The webinars will last one hour and are planned for 1030-1130 on Tuesday 30 November 2021 and 1400-1500 on Wednesday 8 December 2021, with links to the registration process as follows: [Tuesday 30 November 2021 - 10.30am - 11.30am - Register Now](#) [Wednesday 8 December 2021 - 2.00pm - 3.00pm - Register Now](#)

**Carbon Innovation Fund** launching 22 November The Co-op Foundation have launched a £3m Carbon Innovation Fund, funded through Co-op donations raised from the sale of compostable carrier bags in the UK and Co-op Foundation funds. The Foundation plans to award funding of between £75k and £100k to about 10 projects in year one. Eligible organisations include charities, social enterprises, co-operatives and local, regional and national governments worldwide. For more information go to [https://funding.scot/news/news/2021/11/12/carbon-innovation-fund-launching-22-november?utm\\_source=fundingscotland&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=alert](https://funding.scot/news/news/2021/11/12/carbon-innovation-fund-launching-22-november?utm_source=fundingscotland&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=alert)

**Chance to Flourish** is funded through the Scottish Children's Lottery. They support projects and activities in Scotland, with the aspiration of alleviating the impact of poverty or financial hardship, social exclusion, relative/multiple deprivation and disability or illness to young people. Projects or activities will work with the most vulnerable families with preschool children at a demonstrably high risk of being negatively impacted by poverty. For more information go to [https://funding.scot/funds/a0Rb000000J2vrGEAR/chance-to-flourish?utm\\_source=fundingscotland&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=alert](https://funding.scot/funds/a0Rb000000J2vrGEAR/chance-to-flourish?utm_source=fundingscotland&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=alert)

**Action Earth** grants for green projects To help community organisations do their part to respond to the climate emergency, Volunteering Matters Action Earth is currently offering grants of up to £500 to support voluntary environmental projects which benefit the local community. For more information go to [https://funding.scot/funds/a0Rb000000J2vrGEAR/chance-to-flourish?utm\\_source=fundingscotland&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=alert](https://funding.scot/funds/a0Rb000000J2vrGEAR/chance-to-flourish?utm_source=fundingscotland&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=alert)

## Jobs

**Scotland Census 2022 - Job opportunities** these posts are fixed term from March to May 2022, 25hrs per week. Full details here:

[Scotland's Census Enumerator Job In Scotland, \(pertemps.co.uk\)](#)

Also recruiting Team Leaders: [Work with us | Scotland's Census \(scotlandscensus.gov.uk\)](#) A newsletter is being produced for keeping up to date and you can sign up by emailing: [scotlandscensus@nrscotland.gov.uk](mailto:scotlandscensus@nrscotland.gov.uk)

**Youth Worker (7/01971) Moffat Academy** £1,607.29 - £1,724.58

You will be required to work 2.5 hours per week, 52.14 weeks per year

The Young Peoples Service in Dumfries and Galloway are offering an exciting opportunity for adults who have experience in working with young people to join an innovative and award winning youth work team to deliver a range of informal learning programmes across the Dumfries and Galloway area. You should be

motivated and interested in working with young people aged 12+ in an informal way. You will have experience in youth work, or perhaps consider yourself to be good with people and be willing to work evenings and weekends on a weekly basis. This challenging and stimulating post is part of a wider team of workers developing and supporting creative youth work activity and involvement across Dumfries and Galloway. All training required will be provided. Informal enquiries to: Carla Grant [Carla.grant@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:Carla.grant@dumgal.gov.uk)

**D&G LGBT Plus - Support Worker**, Part Time, Permanent dependent on future funding, Location: Dumfries or Stranraer, Salary: £23,896 Pro Rata on 21 Hours a week / 3 Days/ Flexible working, Hours: 21 Hours. This post represents a unique opportunity to play a key role in the ongoing development of the Service which works to promote the health, wellbeing, and equality of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (or questioning their gender identity or sexual orientation), Intersex, Asexual (or Allies) (LGBTQIA+) people across Dumfries and Galloway. The post holder will be required to work flexibly, including some evening and occasional weekend work. The Support Worker will integrate as part of a team delivering a Dumfries and Galloway region wide capacity building, working with LGBTQIA community, families and the agencies that exist to support them. The Role will specifically: • Provide face to face, online, and telephone advocacy and support • Support the delivery of short courses, workshops for LGBTQIA people, families, and partner agencies. • Support the delivery of the regional Drop in /Meet Up, health and wellbeing events. • Support the delivery of LGBT awareness training. For more information go to <https://lgbtplus.org.uk/jobs/> or email [info@lgbtplus.org.uk](mailto:info@lgbtplus.org.uk) for more information on the role. **Closing Date: 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

**Turning Point Scotland - Support Practitioners** Full Time/Part time, Permanent, Location: Lockerbie, Dumfries, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbright, Newton Stewart and Stranraer, Salary: £18,278 - £19,238 pro rata. £9.50 - £9.99 ph, Hours: A variety of contracted hours are available. Turning Point Scotland is a national social care charity providing services to adults with addictions, learning disabilities, mental health issues, those caught in the criminal justice system and those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Please note that these posts may involve supporting service users on holiday. These posts will include sleepovers, waking nights, weekends and unsocial hours. No experience required, full training is given. For further information and to apply online please visit their website [www.turningpointscotland.com/work-with-us/](http://www.turningpointscotland.com/work-with-us/)  
How to apply: <https://www.turningpointscotland.com/work-with-us/>  
**Closing Date: 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

## Volunteering Opportunities

**the hub – your community action centre** is a local charity based in Dumfries that develops and delivers a range of social inclusion projects. We are an Investing in Volunteers accredited organisation and our volunteers are much valued team members.

### Current Volunteering Opportunities!

#### Getting Connected Project Assistant

- Experienced at completing a range of online application forms?
- Experienced at updating 'e' forms and 'e' journals?
- Experienced at creating and updating CV's?
- Friendly, patient and approachable?
- Experienced at using computers and Windows 10?
- Can you spare a few hours on a regular basis?

If so then we have an interesting volunteering opportunity with our Getting Connected

Project that assists people without internet enabled devices complete online forms/applications. For more information contact **Sharon at**

**[volunteering@thehubdg.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@thehubdg.org.uk) or phone 07434 366130/01387 269161**

### **Reception/Office Support Assistant**

- Experience of dealing with the public in person and on the phone?
- Friendly, patient and approachable?
- Experienced at using computers and Windows 10?
- Organised with good attention to detail?
- Can you spare a few hours on a regular basis?

If so we have volunteering sessions available on Mon and Weds each week.

For more information contact **Sharon at [volunteering@thehubdg.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@thehubdg.org.uk) or phone 07434 366130/01387 269161**

Volunteers receive out of pocket travel expenses, a full induction and have an allocated member of staff to provide ongoing support and coaching.

We have implemented Covid-19 safety measures including PPE, floor and desk standing screens, hand sanitiser units. We operate an appointments system with intercom door entry to manage footfall to ensure social distancing for the safety of our staff, volunteers and the Public.

## **Hub Projects**

Some of our projects and services remain temporarily suspended until later in the year as follows:

- Free public access use of our computers/internet
- hire of our meeting/training rooms

Community Defibrillators Project

**Getting Connected Project** - we provide one-to-one supported appointments to assist people:

- Complete a range of application forms
- carry out online job searches and apply for jobs online
- update Universal Credit e-journals
- create or update CV's

We also offer additional **FREE Basic Computer Skills learning sessions**. These short sessions cover all the things you need to know to use computers in your day to day life. The sessions are friendly and informal allowing you to learn at your own pace. We also offer **Free Money Matters sessions** to assist you manage your household income using your new IT skills. We offer an iPad and free internet dongle loan scheme for those without internet enabled devices.

**Contact: 01387 269161** or email [info@thehubdg.org.uk](mailto:info@thehubdg.org.uk)

### **Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme**

- Do you need a deposit to rent a private rented sector tenancy in Dumfries and Galloway?
- Are you on a low wage or receive means tested benefits and live in Dumfries and Galloway?

Then the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme may be able to assist you!

**Contact: 01387 269161** or email [rdgs@thehubdg.org.uk](mailto:rdgs@thehubdg.org.uk)

**Winter Warmth for Older People Project**– please contact us for a registration form. Closing date to register is 1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2021. We provide free briquettes and kindling for older people in D & G who rely on open fires/multi-fuel stoves as their main source of heating.

To be eligible for the service people need to be:

- over 60 years of age
- not in paid work and have no other household member in paid work
- in receipt of a means-tested benefit or have extenuating circumstances e.g. long term health conditions.

**Contact: 01387 269161** or email [info@thehubdg.org.uk](mailto:info@thehubdg.org.uk)

**SPRING Social Prescribing Project** can help to address social, emotional and practical needs by supporting and connecting people to sources of support and opportunities available in their local community. People who experience social

isolation, low mood, mild depression, long term conditions, pain management or physical inactivity may benefit from this social prescribing so if you or someone you know would like to be referred to us please contact **01387 269161** or email [spring@thehubdg.org.uk](mailto:spring@thehubdg.org.uk)

### **Want to put an item in our e-bulletin?**

If you have items you would like included in our e-bulletin please email these to [info@thehubdg.org.uk](mailto:info@thehubdg.org.uk).

### **PRIVACY NOTICE**

You can view our Privacy Notice at [www.thehubdg.org.uk](http://www.thehubdg.org.uk)

The Hub Dumfries and Galloway (t/a the hub – your community action centre) is registered with the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO). You can ask us to remove and delete your data from our records at any time by contacting us at [info@thehubdg.org.uk](mailto:info@thehubdg.org.uk)

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[www.thehubdg.org.uk](http://www.thehubdg.org.uk)

**the hub – your community action centre provides affordable, accessible co-working space and development support for non-profit distributing groups and organisations. Meeting/training rooms and hot desking facilities are also available. We develop and deliver a range of projects and services that assist people and local communities. Working together - making a difference!**

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