



Annandale & Eskdale
Council for
Voluntary Service

AECVS News

February 2011

Annandale & Eskdale CVS Funding & Information Roadshow

Thursday 24 March 2011, Queens Hotel, Lockerbie from 1.00 pm—5.00 pm

It is the time of year again when AECVS holds its Funding & Information Roadshow. If your organisation is seeking funding, why not come along and meet funders face-to-face to see if they can help you? This year, some of the known attendees coming are Rural Direct, Heritage Lottery Fund, D&G Arts Association, A&E Federation of Village & Community Halls, Leader, Community Energy Scotland. A flyer is attached.

Our main presentation is an inspirational talk by **John Gold**, who will tell of his involvement in the challenges of funding and carrying out a major reconfiguration of the St. Bride's Centre in South Lanarkshire — assembling a £1.2million funding package! He will cover the critical success factors and key challenges involved in developing the project and demonstrate how a focus on delivering outcomes helped them to secure the required investment'

During the afternoon there will also be a "Café conversation" to learn more about the intermediary Interface coming into effect on 1 April 2011. The Interface body will cascade funding to the partnership of Councils for Voluntary Service and Volunteer Action, and be a link to the Community Planning Joint Board of D&G Council. This will be your opportunity to contribute to the priorities within the business plan of the new partnership body.

Do please put this date in your diaries.

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE GROUPS SCHEME (PVG)

This new Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme (PVG Scheme) commenced on **28 February 2011**. It has introduced new checks and charges for anyone working or volunteering with children and vulnerable adults.

The PVG Scheme, which delivers on the provisions outlined in the [Protection of Vulnerable Groups \(PVG\) \(Scotland\) Act 2007](#), will:



- ◇ help to ensure that those who have regular contact with children and protected adults through paid and unpaid work do not have a known history of harmful behaviour;
- ◇ be quick and easy to use, reducing the need for PVG Scheme members to complete a detailed application form every time a disclosure check is required;
- ◇ strike a balance between proportionate protection and robust regulation and make it easier for employers to determine who they should check to protect their client group.

The PVG Scheme is Scotland's response to the principal recommendation of the [Richard Inquiry Report](#) which was undertaken following the tragic murders in Soham in 2002. This recommendation called for a registration system for all those who work with children and vulnerable adults in the UK that would confirm that there is no known reason why an individual should not work with these client groups.

The Scottish Government is committed to helping local communities flourish and become stronger, safer places to live. It has built upon what has been learned from current disclosure and disqualification services in Scotland to develop an efficient membership scheme that will strengthen protection for vulnerable groups and reduce bureaucracy.

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY VOLUNTARY ACTION (DGVA)

Changes come into effect on 1 April 2011 whereby Scottish Government changes the way it funds Councils for Voluntary Service and Volunteer Centres. Scottish Government required that a single Interface be developed in each local authority and, further to months of negotiations, an Interface model was developed, endorsed by D&G Strategic Partnership and accepted by Scottish Government. The Interface created is entitled Dumfries & Galloway Voluntary Action, but the name may change. This development is part of a national shake-up of how voluntary and community organisations are supported, and the links between them and other sectors, particularly the public sector.

The Interface partnership will co-ordinate the work of existing organisations across the region including:-

- ◇ Annandale & Eskdale CVS
- ◇ Nithsdale CVS
- ◇ Stewartry CVS
- ◇ The Bridge (Dumfries & Galloway) {formerly Wigtown CVS and D&G Federation of CVS}
- ◇ Volunteer Action D&G

Be assured that even though changes to our funding may be afoot, we at Annandale & Eskdale CVS remain committed to supporting our communities/voluntary organisations. Remember we can help you with constitutions, company and charitable status, funding, training, independent examination of accounts, office services, equipment hire, and with setting up new groups.

We look forward to continuing to support our membership and working within the new partnership arrangement.

Giving World Online - Register and be ready to receive

A national awareness campaign is being launched by the online charity Giving World Online over the next few weeks which will benefit charities and community groups around the UK.

Giving World Online is a charity set up to offer a simple solution for companies with surplus goods to dispose of. They register with Giving World Online and publicise their goods onto charities and community groups who can access the items free of charge to support the people they work with.

Efforts are being focused on engaging more businesses to use Giving World Online to directly help community groups in their locality access surplus stock. Television giant Discovery Networks UK are sponsoring a television advert to get the message out.

Now is the time for charities and community groups to register to be able to access those goods. As goods become available on the website, only those charities and community groups already registered will have immediate access.

Giving World Online director, Rama Bhalla, explained: "Often goods are snatched up as soon as we make them available online, which is great news for those already registered to receive but it means that others will miss out if they have still to register. By registering now, charities and community groups can be alerted as and when their desired items become available."

www.givingworldonline.com

DGC Application Workshops

Certain organisations took advantage of workshops Annandale & Eskdale CVS held in December and January that enabled them to complete application forms for funding (including applications to D&G Area Committee). The feedback from these workshops was very encouraging and positive. Some organisations' applications have even been successful since!

Thanks to those groups for their attendance.

Financial Protocol

A reminder to all groups about the change to be made to constitutions regards check signatories. Feedback from funders is that there are a lot of groups still out there that have not amended their constitutions yet. If you require any further information about this get in touch with us at the CVS or download the page at the link below

<http://www.dumgal.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=3970&p=0>



Funding

Information

Coming events ...

Cash-4-Clubs (UK)

Local grassroots community sports clubs in the UK that require funding for equipment, facilities or coaching can apply for grants of between £250 and £1,000 through Cash-4-Clubs. The Cash 4 Clubs scheme is funded by Betfair and is supported by SportsAid, the charity for sports people. No preference is given as to the types of sport or the age range accessing the activity; however clubs should play an active role in the community and encourage social interaction and fitness.

The fund is open to any sports club that is registered with its sports' National Governing body or local authority.

Applications can be submitted at any time.

www.cash-4-clubs.com/

Healthy Hearts Grants (UK)

Heart Research UK Healthy Heart Grants support innovative projects designed to promote heart health and to prevent or reduce the risks of heart disease in specific groups or communities. Grants of up to £10,000 are available to community groups, voluntary organisations and researchers who are spreading the healthy heart message.

The types of projects supported in the past have included: the Foresight Project in Grimsby which encourages visually impaired people to take regular exercise using tandem bicycles; the Ross-shire Bravehearts project in Inverness which educates adults with learning difficulties about heart health so they can take part in physical activities.

The next closing date is the 28th February 2011.

[www.heartresearch.org.uk/
healthy_heart_grants.htm](http://www.heartresearch.org.uk/healthy_heart_grants.htm)

Cash for your Group

The Voluntary Action Fund (VAF) is delighted to announce that the Community Chest small grant programme (CCP) is being extended for a further year. Between 2008-11 it has helped over 800 community groups and organisations across all local authority areas in Scotland to sustain and improve their activities.

Aimed at smaller community and voluntary groups the Community chest will provide grants of up to £1000 and free training to groups with an annual income under £25000.

Groups can apply for funding for a wide range of activities or operational costs. Applications are considered 3 times per year and should be submitted by 15 April 2011, 15 September 2011 or 15 January 2012.

For more information log on to:- www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk and follow the links.

Boiler Scrappage Scheme £400 voucher - OPEN NOW

This scheme was available last year (with a £2m fund of 5000 x £400 vouchers available). It was closed after a few days as all the vouchers had been used up due to very high demand.

This scheme is NOW OPEN FOR NEW APPLICATIONS with a fund of £1m available. 2,500 vouchers are available are available for the whole of Scotland. Note the timescales involved - installations must take place **by 25th March.**

NB—This is another option for people who do not get extra help for central heating through the Energy Assistance Package. People should always enquire with us first on 0800 512 012 to see if they will get help through the Energy Assistance Package. Please find further details at:

www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/scotland/Scotland-Welcome-page/At-Home/Home-Energy-Scotland/Scottish-Boiler-Scrappage-Scheme

Private Sector Landlords can also access the scheme for a £400 voucher— see above link.

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO)

The **Scottish charitable incorporated organisation (SCIO)** is a new legal form which will allow Scottish charities to incorporate without becoming companies. The SCIO is intended to help charities enjoy the benefits of incorporation, including limited liability and legal personality, without being subject to the complex apparatus of company law and dual regulation currently faced by charitable companies. SCIOs will be registered with and regulated by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).

Subject to the approval of the Scottish Parliament, the SCIO will be introduced in for new and unincorporated Scottish charities on **1 April 2011**. Provisions allowing charitable companies and industrial and provident societies to convert to become SCIOs will come into force on **1 January 2012**. SCIOs will make an important difference to small organisations in the future.

More information on them, and what exactly they mean in layman terms, will follow in a future newsletter.

Investing in Communities (Scotland)

The Big Lottery Fund in Scotland has announced that its Investing in Communities programme is open for applications. The aim of the programme is to support projects that help people, families and communities most in need. The new programme will build upon the previous funding programme. There are three investment areas which make up Investing in Communities. These are: **Growing Community Assets** which aims to help communities have more control and influence over their own future through ownership of assets; **Life Transitions** which aims to support projects that help people at key times of change, helping them to make their lives better for the future; and **Supporting 21st Century Life** aims to support projects that build stronger families and stronger communities. The fund is open to a wide range of organisations including voluntary and community organisations, local authorities and community councils, social enterprises and private companies (provided our grants do not contribute to the profits they distribute). Grants available can range from £10,000 - 1,000,000.

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_investing-in-communities

Funding for Youth Trips to Germany (UK)

UK schools, FE Colleges and youth groups within the UK can apply for grants of up to £750 through the Instant Impact Project Fund to support taster trips and visits to Germany for young people. The scheme is aimed at schools and youth groups that have not previously visited the other country, there is a sustainability element to the link, at least 75% of the time during the visit is spent taking part in interactive and educational joint activity between young people from the UK and German partner institutions', the trip includes young people who would otherwise not have the chance to take part., the main beneficiaries are young people and the trip includes a strong new element or significant development of the young people's contact with the other country.

Applications can be submitted at any time, however applications must be submitted at least 4 weeks in advance of the trip.

http://www.ukgermanconnection.org/pp_schools_instant_impact

Lloyds TSB Foundation (Charities only)

The Lloyds TSB Foundation has noticed a dip in the number of applications being received for their grant programmes and are very conscious that current economic uncertainties could be holding Scottish charities back from applying for funding support. This may be due in part to their criteria for funding support being more focused on disadvantaged people than has been the case in the past. However, it could also be a timing issue, with many charities still unsure about the effects of local authority funding. The Lloyds TSB Foundation urge as many charities as possible to consider applying to them for funding in the future.



The Foundation has launched a series of surgeries throughout the country for registered charities. The surgeries are intended to help make the application process as straightforward as possible for charities, and they are a great way for charities to get advice and discuss their projects face to face before applying. The Foundation will be in **Dumfries on Wednesday 9 March 2011**. Charities wishing to be represented at the surgeries are being urged to call 0131 444 4020 to arrange an appointment.





Find out how you can stay warm and save money this winter.

Or call the Home Energy Scotland Helpline free* on
0800 512 012
or visit homeenergyscotland.org.uk

*Calls from landlines on the Peak or within the 0800 512 012 to the charges of long distance calls. 0800 512 012 Energy Saving Trust Scotland 014 036

STAY WARM, SAVE MONEY

Events being held at:-

Thursday 10 March 2011
Former Bakers Oven, Dumfries
Friday 11 March 2011
Lockerbie Library, Lockerbie
Wednesday 16 March 2011
Annan Town Hall, Annan

All from 11.00 am—3.00 pm



Dumfries and Galloway Child Protection Committee

TIER 1: A Child Protection Training event has been arranged for third sector/voluntary sector organisations on

**27th April 2011, 10 am—12.30 pm
Lockerbie Town Hall**

For more information, contact:-

Anne.oneill@dumgal.gov.uk

2011: European Year of Volunteering (EYV)

Volunteers contribute to a better Scotland for us all by helping to support the most vulnerable people in our society. The Voluntary Action Fund (VAF) is committed to raise the profile of volunteering in Scotland and encourage even more people to get involved.

To help celebrate EYV, the VAF—with funding from Scottish Government—is dedicating small grants to promote and celebrate the work of volunteers in Scotland. Grants will be awarded for activities that clearly contribute to:-

- ◇ increasing the number of people engaged in volunteering;
- ◇ increasing the diversity of volunteers especially those from disadvantaged groups;
- ◇ volunteers feeling valued and supported.

The grant is open to community groups and voluntary organisations with an annual income below £250,000; however groups with an income below £100,000 will be considered a priority.

It is expected that the majority of grants made will be around £500, although grants of up to £1,000 may be awarded for exceptional projects.

In addition, free training to help increase the skills of members, staff etc will be offered to groups applying for a grant.

For application form and guidance notes from the VAF website: www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk

Last reminders

Scottish Women's Convention Saturday 12 March 2011, 12.30 pm – 4.00 pm

This event is being held in the Scottish Parliament.

The event is free.

To register, call 0141 248 8186 or e-mail mary@scottishwomensconvention.org

Finance Workshops

In November 2010 and February 2011 two Finance workshops, funded by the Fairer Scotland Fund, were held at the Somerton Hotel in Lockerbie.

The first workshop provided basic skills and confidence to help with organisational finances; the second looked at how to achieve sustainability and growth.



The feedback evaluation sheets showed that the workshops were beneficial.

Funding workshops were also held in December 2010 and January 2011 giving advice on completing funding applications forms.

Thanks to all those who attended.



Walk for your Charity — Sunday 22 May 2011

If you need to raise funds, then this is how to do it!

Organised by Lockerbie & District Rotary Club for all clubs, organisations and groups in the Rotary Club area.

Start and finish at Queens Hotel, Lockerbie.

What to do?

Contact the Organising Committee on in-damair@gmail.com to register.

(Administration fee of only £5.00 to the Rotary Club). All sponsorship monies raised will be retained by the organisation, group or charity each walker supports.



Volunteering in the Scottish Health Council

The Scottish Health Council was established in April 2005 to promote public involvement and a patient-centred approach in the NHS in Scotland. In April 2010, the organisation revised its core functions and structure to reflect key priorities for the future. The new structure is based on three functions:

- Community Engagement and Improvement Support
- Participation Review
- Participation Network.

A discussion document which describes a new role for volunteering within the Scottish Health Council has been issued for feedback and comment. The document is available on the Scottish Health Council's website: www.scottishhealthcouncil.org/shc/about/Local_Advisory_Councils

The document can also be downloaded via a link to the online questionnaire, Survey Monkey, and the associated feedback questions which is <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KTRS898>.

You can provide feedback until **20 March 2011**.

Scottish Mental Health First Aid

SMHFA is a 2-day training course that teaches how to give initial help to someone experiencing mental health problems and how to deal with a mental health crisis situation or the first signs of someone developing mental ill health.

Places on the course are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

For organisations, places will be limited to a maximum of 4 per course unless by agreement.

Mon 14th & Feb 15th March

Browne House, Crichton Royal, Dumfries
9.15 am registration for 9.30 am to 4.30 pm

Subsidised by Choose Life there is no cost to participants.

To book or for more information please phone Carole Reed on 01387 247215 or e-mail: carolereed2010@btinternet.com

New Social Opportunity

Dumfries & Galloway LGBT Centre, Age Scotland, the Seniors' Forum and DG Voice have come together to develop a new social opportunity for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people over 50 living in Dumfries & Galloway. The new group will initially meet in the Stewartry and will provide a critical source of social support for isolated individuals. It will aim to create more social opportunities for LGBT people over 50 to make contact with each other in a safe and confidential setting, including regular activities such as coffee meetings; meals out; cinema trips and walking outings.



Anyone interested in coming along to this or future meetings should contact Dumfries and Galloway LGBT Centre in confidence on 01387 255 058 or email grace.cardozo@lgbtyouth.org.uk

Annandale & Eskdale Ward Forums

(Both start 7.00 pm)

East & Eskdale

22 March within Canonbie Village Hall -
(Canonbie, Langholm, Westerkirk, Ewes & Eskdalemuir)

South

19 May Nelson House, Eastriggs

Update of Organisational Details

Owing to changing office bearers in organisations, it can be difficult to keep our contact details up-to-date. If we have not got the correct details for you/your organisation, please let us know by telephoning 01387 810974 or e-mailing:

Nancy.Hannah@aecvs.org.uk Thank you!

International Women's Day

Tuesday 8 March 2011

at the STUC, 333 Woodlands Road, Glasgow G3 6NG

This year is the centenary year and you are invited to take along a small memento such as a badge, photo, poem or item that has a special memory. Your story, or that of another woman or event, is wanted for their International Women's Day display.

A publication is being prepared as 'a book of inspiration', to mark and to celebrate the achievements of women, with a particular focus on the labour movement and trade union women in Scotland.

If you would like to attend this event, contact Helen Carson at the STUC on hcarson@stuc.org.uk

A&E3SF

Annandale & Eskdale Third Sector Forum

Why not consider joining?

What is the Third Sector Forum?

Annandale & Eskdale Third Sector Forum (A&E3SF) has been established to enable voluntary organisations to work together to:

- ◇ improve communications between organisations;
- ◇ address issues of common interest and respond as a collective voice to the Community Planning Joint Board or appropriate organisation/agency;
- ◇ build on existing partnerships with external agencies;
- ◇ contribute more effectively to Community Planning;
- ◇ demonstrate the value of the work of voluntary organisations to regional services and the regional economy;
- ◇ reduce the isolation which may be experienced by individual voluntary organisations.

What are the benefits of being a member?

Examples of the benefits are:

- ◇ A collective voice for members.
- ◇ An opportunity for smaller organisations to be a part of a group that can challenge and lobby statutory organisations.
- ◇ Sharing information, knowledge and experience.
- ◇ Getting to know what other voluntary organisations operate in Annandale & Eskdale.
- ◇ Opportunities for partnership working.
- ◇ Receiving communications on issues of interest and consultations.
- ◇ The opportunity to contribute to Community Planning.
- ◇ Opportunities for sharing resources.

Who can be involved?

Membership is open to all voluntary organisations operating in Annandale & Eskdale, including community councils.

Organisations can register their membership by contacting Annandale & Eskdale Council for Voluntary Service (see contact details overleaf) and nominating someone as their point of contact.

When and where does it meet?

The Forum meets quarterly. Meetings will be held centrally, most likely in Lockerbie.

How does it operate?

The Forum will work within the aims and aspirations of the Dumfries and Galloway Compact, which is a partnership agreement between voluntary, community and public sector bodies.

Members will receive copies of the notes of the other area 3SF meetings and the regional 3SF meetings, as well as information on issues of interest.

Members will also have access to the contact details for other members of the A&E 3SF.

How can we get more information and/or join?

Please contact Nancy Hannah, Annandale & Eskdale Council for Voluntary Service, 16 High Street, Lochmaben, Lockerbie, DG11 1NH. Telephone 01387 810974 or e-mail Nancy.Hannah@aecvs.org.uk.

Supported by:





The NHS Board are touring the region with a series of sessions held in a town near you. Why not go along and meet members of the local NHS Board to:-

- ◇ Discuss your issues.
- ◇ Check on their performance.
- ◇ Find out more about health services in your local area.
- ◇ Receive information on waiting times, finance, staffing, health improvement, infection control and much more!

Wed 16 March 2011, 6-8 pm
NW Resource Centre, Lochside, **Dumfries**.

Wed 13 April 2011, 6-8 pm
Hospital Dining Room, Annan Hospital, **Annan**

Introduction to Infant and Adolescent Mental Health



FREE 2-day course
Lockerbie Town Hall
Wed 9th and Thurs 10 March 2011
9.15 am—4.30 pm both days

The course is being provided through a Partnership with Health Improvement Annandale & Eskdale and the Primary Mental Health Team (CAMHS) and is funded by Choose Life, Dumfries & Galloway.

For booking forms please contact Gail Copeland or Yvonne McGregor on 01461 207728.
Booking form required.

Places are limited and early booking is advised.

Results of consultation exercise for changing the closing date for Village Halls Improvement Scheme (VHIS) applications from financial year 2011/12

The voting results from the recent consultation exercise clearly showed that 31 May was, overwhelmingly, the preferred closing date for receipt of VHIS applications.

The new closing date for VHIS applications will be 31 May as from 2011/12.

This date will allow applications to be scored, moderated and presented to Resources Committee for consideration in August. Successful applicants to VHIS 2011/12 will now have nineteen months to complete their project, i.e. up to March 2013. Application forms and corresponding guidance material for this year's applications will be made available at <http://www.dumgal.gov.uk/vhis> in early April.

Learning For All



Dumfries & Galloway College are offering FREE short courses and you can choose from over 60 wide ranging subjects. No need to attend College, just learn at home or work (with employer consent). The courses are short, easy to manage and with many progression opportunities available.

Courses must be completed within 3 months of enrolment. A completion certificate can be provided, which is ideal for your CV.

For further information:-

Telephone: Howard Williamson on 01387 734188
or
E-mail: williamsonh@dumgal.ac.uk

ANNANDALE & ESKDALE COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE (AECVS)

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AECVS is a member of the Scottish Council of Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) and a partner in the South of Scotland Network of Councils of Voluntary Service. AECVS is a charity registered in Scotland, Scottish Charity No. SC013763 and a company limited by guarantee registered in Scotland, No SC176394.





VOLUNTARY SECTOR FUNDING and INFORMATION ROADSHOW



COME ALONG AND FIND OUT MORE!

A&E Federation of Village & Community Halls	RSABI
D&G Council Education and Community Services	SHAP
Community Energy Scotland	Leader+
Hollywood Trust	Rural Direct
D&G Arts Association	Heritage Lottery Fund
D&G Council Area Management	

THURSDAY 24 MARCH 2011
QUEENS HOTEL, LOCKERBIE, 1.00 pm UNTIL 5.00 pm

1.00 pm	Welcome and introduction
1.00 pm - 5.00 pm	Marketplace
1.30 pm - 2.00 pm	Presentation by John Gold, ^{1*}
2.00 pm - 4.00 pm	World café
5.00 pm	Close

* St. Bride's Centre – Investing in Outcomes' Volunteer directors from Douglas St. Bride's Community Group will share their experiences of assembling a £1.2million funding package to carry out a major reconfiguration of St. Bride's Centre, a local community facility in rural South Lanarkshire.

Refreshments provided.

The funders and organisations attending will be able to provide advice on a range of issues to help voluntary and community organisations in the work they do. A&E Council for Voluntary Service will be available to answer queries and provide advice on a number of topics, including constitutions, funding, and charity regulations eg. accounts, OSCR returns, SCIO's

This is a chance for voluntary and community organisations to access a range of information and we look forward to seeing you there.

Please note there is no need to book –
just turn up at any point during the afternoon.

If you require further information, please call A&E Council for Voluntary Service on 01387 810974.