



Editors Introduction

Welcome to the thirtieth issue of the Dundee Partnership E-Bulletin.

One area of work that has been an ongoing concern for the Partnership as a whole is that of digital inclusion, as many of our citizens are unable or less able to engage online. Digital inclusion is broad, and includes not only having access to the technology and the skills to use it, but also the overall infrastructure being available and individuals having the money to access this through either mobile data or home internet packages.

Modern life is becoming more and more about being connected online, whether it is for finding information, paying bills or just keeping in touch with family & friends. This has been made even more the case as a result of covid-19 which has limited many of the face to face interactions we would normally take for granted, and driven many of the services that people depend on online too.

Home schooling has been one of the biggest concerns with many less well-off families lacking the technology for children and young people to use for online classes. Cases where a family with three or four children are having to share a single laptop are not uncommon. This has a big impact on the quality of learning that is able to take place, with potentially long-term negative outcomes as a result.

Older people often have not had the opportunity to develop digital skills and so can lack the confidence to make full use of digital technology, even when they can afford it. Many of those with disabilities, especially learning difficulties, will also face the same sorts of skills and confidence barriers. Some disabilities will also mean that specialist equipment is needed to enable access.

Covid-19 restrictions have left many people unable to attend social gatherings or access services that they would normally access in person and also unable to access digital alternatives. As a result, social isolation is an even bigger issue than prior to the pandemic.

To tackle the inequality in access to digital, there are a number of positive actions being taken, and some of these are outlined below.

[Connecting Scotland](#) is a national programme that aims to get 50,000 digitally excluded households online by the end of 2021. The latest round of activity focussed on older / disabled people, families with children, and care leavers. Care homes are also able to apply for a shared device and internet connectivity to enable their residents to be in touch with family and friends.

SCVO are supporting community organisations with grants to help embed digital skills development. There is an article below that provides more details on this. More locally, LEAD Scotland have developed a number of courses in the use of digital technologies as part of their [Dundee Learning Project](#).

The benefits of digital inclusion are many. As well as enabling learning & access to services, and contributing to reducing social isolation, it can help people to improve their employability (many jobs require digital skills) and reduce the cost of living (e.g. through being able to compare prices for services and purchases much more easily online). It can also help the Partnership to hear the voices of those who might otherwise not be heard – e.g. the recent Citizen's Assemblies, held online, have been well attended and provide another route for engagement and participation by Dundee residents.

Before I finish; yes, I am aware of the irony of discussing digital inclusion in an E-Bulletin, so please do pass on any of the information in it to someone who might otherwise miss out.

Until our next issue, please take care and stay safe.

Paul Davies
Senior Community Planning Officer
Dundee Partnership Team



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Covid-19: Scottish Government Framework Update

This sets out a plan to restore, in a phased way, greater normality to our everyday lives. The strategic intent is to, “suppress the virus to the lowest possible level and keep it there, while we strive to return to a more normal life for as many people as possible.” The framework gives details of the six main tools for achieving this and can be found [here](#).



Tayside Cares

The official portal for information, advice and assistance regarding coronavirus for citizens living in Angus, Dundee and Perth & Kinross. To access the site, click [here](#).

The logo for TaysideCares, with "Tayside" in white and "Cares" in blue, both in a sans-serif font, set against a dark blue rectangular background.

TaysideCares



Carers of Dundee – Learning & Sharing

Carers of Dundee have provided information on their new E-learning portal, the latest Carers Decide Groupwork programmes, and a 'save the date' for Young Carers Action Day later this month. For more information on all of these, click [here](#).



Chamber of Commerce Interactive Workshop

[Creating Clarity at a Time of Uncertainty](#)

Wednesday 10 March

We are delighted to team up with the Service Design Academy to bring you a 90-minute interactive workshop that will introduce you to the design methodology so you can reflect on how your business has been impacted by Covid, how you have adapted already and how you can creatively explore a sustainable way to move your business forward and thrive in 2021. For more information and to book a place, click the link above.



DUNDEE & ANGUS
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Dundee Law Centre

Demand for legal advice and services from some of the most vulnerable people in Dundee has grown dramatically over the past year. Victims of domestic abuse, families on low incomes or benefits and older people have increasingly struggled to access the justice system due to the coronavirus pandemic and restrictions. Formerly the Dundee North Law Centre, we are relaunching to cover the Tay City Region will be known as the Dundee Law Centre. To read more, click [here](#).



EU Citizens Settlement Scheme

EU citizens and their families who want to stay here after June 2021 have to apply for settled status or pre-settled status to secure their rights to live, work and use public services in the UK. The deadline for applying is 30 June 2021. To find out more, click [here](#).



Scottish Mental Health Law Review – Seeking People With Lived Experience

The Executive Team already has two people with lived experience within it, and another is sought. If you think you can help find (or could be) the additional member, please click [here](#) for more information.

Scottish Mental Health
Law Review



Feeling Strong – Walk the Talk

Feeling Strong, a Dundee-based youth mental health charity, is launching their new buddy walking group, "Walk the Talk", aimed at anyone aged 16 to 26 who lives in the Dundee area. The participants will be able to choose their routes from a selection of locations including: The Law Hill, Broughty Ferry Beach and Balgay Park. The young person and their buddy will walk and have a chance to talk about anything the young person would like to discuss. To read more, click [here](#).



Foundation Apprenticeships



The College have extended the applications for our Pathways Apprenticeship Programme and are looking to try and target mums/dads/carers who can encourage their 16 to 18 year olds to apply for one of the pathways apprenticeships courses. These are short courses (around 4 to 6 months) and are 25 hours of training per week. To read more, click [here](#).

Growing the Healthy Minds Network



Dundee Healthy Minds Network is an engagement platform for anyone in Dundee with lived experience of mental health challenges who have an interest in formally or informally getting involved in giving an opinion about statutory service running, planning and development. The network seeks to influence and change the design of mental health services and supports to reflect the views and wishes of those with lived experience of mental health challenges in Dundee. To read more, click [here](#).

Hillcrest Drug & Alcohol Support

Hillcrest Adult Drug and Alcohol Service offers support for people contemplating, seeking or struggling with recovery from drug and alcohol use. We provide support with a worker to help you to address any issues you face that may be a barrier to your recovery. These could include: motivation, confidence building, housing and financial advice, general health advice, mental health and well-being, criminal convictions, as well as help to access volunteering, training, education and employment. We can also help you to access other activities and groups in your area that could help as part of your recovery, as well as Peer Mentor opportunities - A peer mentor is someone



Hillcrest



who has their own lived experience of recovery who volunteers to help support others. To find out more, click [here](#).

Living Well with Diabetes – Event

We know living with diabetes is difficult, there are so many factors to consider and it can be stressful just coping with normal everyday ups and downs at the best of times. During the current pandemic the most important thing anyone with diabetes can do is try their best to manage their condition carefully. Please Join Diabetes Scotland on Wednesday 18th March for an informative online session on how to live well with diabetes during the current pandemic. To read more, click [here](#).



Lochee Food Hubs

Staff from the Lochee Community Empowerment Team have been busy over the last few months as ongoing lockdown restrictions put pressure on local families. Staff support lots of local community groups, and the two local management groups for Charleston and Menzieshill community centres have been busy planning and operating local food hubs in their respective areas. To read more, click [here](#).

Nourish Scotland – Ending the Foodbank Era

The Scottish Community Alliance 'Local People Leading' briefing pages host an article from Nourish Scotland's Pete Ritchie on ending the foodbank era: The ubiquity of the food bank in our communities and the teams of local volunteers on hand to distribute food parcels has been praised and condemned in equal measure. To read the full article, click [here](#).



Penumbra POWWOWs

POWWOWs are Penumbra workshops on wellbeing. A group of people with a shared interest in a particular area of wellbeing come together to share knowledge and experience. The groups particularly focus on exploring tips, ideas and practical steps that can be taken to improve wellbeing in the chosen area. Workshops are facilitated by Peer Workers, who have their own lived experience of mental health recovery, and typically last between 1 – 1 ½ hours. All workshops are currently being delivered via Zoom. To read more, click [here](#).





Recovery Roadmap App

Dundee Recovery Road Map visually sets out a range of services available across the city of Dundee, including Mental Health, Addiction Support, Health & Wellbeing, Rehab Information, Peer Support, Family/Carer's Support, & Online Recovery Support. A new app is now available via these links for [Android](#) and [Apple](#) devices.



Robertson Trust – Latest Funding & Other News



Just over £2.1 million was awarded to 44 organisations in the latest awards to be made under our new strategy which launched at the end of September. A new report on the poverty-related attainment gap has been published, and the Trust's 'Voices' series talks with the Venture Trust. To read more, click [here](#).

SCARF – Fuel Debt Rising

With recent news about rising fuel prices after OFGEM, the government regulator lifted the price cap on standard tariffs back to pre-pandemic levels, Scarf's advocacy and supplier switching services are in even more demand than usual. Always on hand to help householders who need help with fuel debt issues, Scarf offers free advice on how to save money on fuel bills across the North East of Scotland. To read more, click [here](#).



Scottish Apprenticeship Week, 1-5 March

Scottish Apprenticeship Week is a time to share the value apprenticeships can bring to individuals, employer and the economy. It's an opportunity for all those in Scotland benefiting from apprenticeships to join together and share their stories to encourage others to get involved. So, we wanted to share through this article our experiences and that of our young people and raise awareness among the Partnership around the 'family' of Apprenticeships on offer in Scotland. To read more, click [here](#).





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Scottish Mental Health
Law Review

SCVO – Digital Participation Funding

The Digital Participation Charter Fund invests in community digital inclusion projects across Scotland. It provides small grants to help a range of organisations tackle poverty, social isolation and other forms of inequality in society through embedding digital skills development work in day-to-day activity with their service users. The support given through the Fund enables groups and organisations to improve the digital skills of their members, digitise content and build networks so that they can continue to thrive in the digital world. To find out more, click [here](#).



Scottish Child Payment Has Started

This new benefit is unique to Scotland and will give eligible parents and carers £40 every four weeks for every child under six they look after. The first decisions and payments for those who are eligible will begin later this month. Social Security Scotland are working to ensure that everyone who applied before Monday 15 February will get a decision and, if eligible, their first payment by no later than the end of April. To read more, click [here](#).



Scottish Government Regeneration Funding Boost

More than £25 million is going to disadvantaged and remote communities around Scotland to support regeneration and employment projects. The money from the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF) will go to 26 projects to tackle inequalities and deliver inclusive growth. Over 400 business and organisations will benefit from the projects which will support or create more than 1,220 jobs as well as thousands of training places by refurbishing and bringing back into use 26 empty buildings to provide space for community enterprises. To read more (and find out what Dundee project is being supported) click [here](#).





Tayside Strategy for Parents - Consultation

The Tayside Strategy for Parents 2019-2024 want to hear views of parents & those with a parenting role on the draft delivery plan, parenting offer & proposal to establish a parent's panel. The consultation is [here](#) and closes 21st March. See flyer [here](#) for further information.



YYI – Victoria Garden Operations Manager Job



Yusuf Youth Initiative are looking for someone for the above post. This will include all aspects of project development at the site including engaging with partners, mainstream agencies and targeted client groups. To read more, click [here](#).

SURF E-Bulletin Links

The Scottish Urban Regeneration Forum E-Newsletter contains a range of links on all sorts of topics. Some of these that may be of interest are reproduced below, from the latest SURF E-newsletter. There are even a couple of specifically Dundee related ones.

- Children's design competition for the Hilltown Park ([link](#))
- Welcome to my home town: How Dundee went from 'Scumdee' to cultural heavyweight ([link](#))
- Tackling food insecurity and poverty ([link](#))
- One in five universal credit claimants to turn to food banks if uplift scrapped, report warns ([link](#))
- UK Poverty 2020/21 – Joseph Rowntree Foundation ([link](#))
- Are we just around the corner with 20-minute neighbourhoods? ([link](#))
- Creative ideas and resources for keeping well during lockdown ([link](#))
- Launch of £7 million Equality and Human Rights Fund ([link](#))
- Families face hunger if Universal Credit is cut ([link](#))
- New reports showcase housing, homelessness and health best practice during COVID-19 ([link](#))
- Shaping and influencing policy – Keep Scotland Beautiful ([link](#))
- The Future of the Minimum Wage ([link](#))
- Scottish Parliament report says reform of social care must better value care givers ([link](#))
- We all need a bit of hope and we all need enough to live on – JRF ([link](#))
- Funding - Apprentice Employer Grant ([link](#))
- Taking part in It's Your Neighbourhood – Keep Scotland Beautiful ([link](#))
- Investors turn to community projects during the pandemic ([link](#))
- If not now, when? Social Renewal Advisory Board reports ([link](#))
- The Promise Partnership Open Call ([link](#))
- Funding - New funds for drugs services ([link](#))
- Full range of National Lottery funding resumes with refocused priorities for 2021-22 ([link](#))
- Funding - Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods ([link](#))
- Advice for community groups, organisations and volunteer networks fighting Covid-19 ([link](#))
- Digital empowerment and leadership are now more important than ever ([link](#))
- Connecting Scotland – supporting everyone in Scotland to get online ([link](#))
- National Planning Framework 4: Key Agencies Group - position statement ([link](#))



Links

Partner Links

[Department for Work & Pensions](#)
[Dundee & Angus Chamber of Commerce](#)
[Dundee & Angus College](#)
[Dundee City Council](#)
[Dundee Health & Social Care Partnership](#)
[Dundee Partnership](#)
[Dundee Social Enterprise Network](#)
[Dundee University](#)
[Dundee Volunteer & Voluntary Action](#)
[Job Centre Plus](#)
[Leisure & Culture Dundee](#)

[NHS Tayside](#)
[My Wellbeing](#)
[Protecting People Dundee](#)
[Police Scotland](#)
[Scottish Enterprise](#)
[Scottish Fire & Rescue Service](#)
[Scottish Government](#)
[Skills Development Scotland](#)
[TACTRAN](#)
[Tayside Criminal Justice Authority](#)
[University of Abertay Dundee](#)

Local Links

[Active Schools Newsletter](#)
[Amina Muslim Women's Resource Centre](#)
[Boomerang Community Centre](#)
[Carers of Dundee](#)
[Citizen's Advice Bureau](#)
[DIAL-OP](#)
[Discovery Credit Union](#)
[Dundee Access Group](#)
[Dundee Blind & Partially Sighted Society](#)
[Dundee Carers Centre](#)
[Dundee Federation of Tenants Associations](#)
[Dundee International Women's Centre](#)
[Dundee Law Centre](#)
[Dundee Pensioners Forum](#)
[Dundee United Community Trust](#)
[Family Information Services](#)

[Funeral Link](#)
[Good Governance Award](#)
[Hillcrest Adult Drug & Alcohol Service](#)
[Independent Living Dundee & Angus](#)
[Lead Scotland](#)
[Parish Nursing](#)
[Penumbra](#)
[Positive Steps](#)
[Protecting People in Dundee \(multi-agency\)](#)
[Salvation Army](#)
[Shelter Scotland](#)
[Tay Cities Deal](#)
[Tayside Council on Alcohol](#)
[The Corner](#)
[Transform Furniture](#)
[Yusuf Youth Initiative](#)

National Links

[A Local Information System for Scotland \(ALISS\)](#)
[Action for Children](#)
[British Deaf Association](#)
[One Scotland](#)
[Parklives](#)
[Power of Attorney Campaign](#)
[Princes Trust](#)

[Royal National Institute for the Blind](#)
[Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations \(SCVO\)](#)
[Scottish Living Wage Accreditation Initiative](#)
[Scottish Urban Regeneration Forum \(SURF\)](#)
[Visit Scotland](#)

Useful Apps

Recovery Roadmap – [Android](#) - [Apple](#)



Submission Dates

We will issue an e-bulletin every two months. To enable us to compile articles and carry out formatting or editing, please submit any articles to us at:

Dundee.Partnership@dundeecity.gov.uk by the dates below.

Issue #	Submissions Deadline	Issue Date
31	23 rd April	May 2021
32	18 th June	July 2021
33	20 th August	September 2021

Feedback

We welcome any feedback on the e-bulletin so that we are able to make ongoing improvements in format and content that meets the needs of all who receive the bulletin.

Please send any comments to Dundee.Partnership@dundeecity.gov.uk

Mailing List

If you would like to be added to or removed from the mailing list for this e-bulletin please let us know by email to Dundee.Partnership@dundeecity.gov.uk. If asking to be added, please provide us with a full name, any agency, group or community with which you are associated, and your email address.

We also make occasional use of the mailing list to send out additional information and Dundee Partnership event invitations. If you do not wish to be contacted with these, please let us know.

If you know of anyone who would like to receive the e-bulletin, please feel free to pass this issue on to them and encourage them to contact us at the above email address.