

Skye & Lochalsh Community Outreach Hub

April 2026 - March 2028

The Skye & Lochalsh Community Outreach Hub is a two-year initiative (April 2026–March 2028) led by the Health, Wellbeing, Welfare and Social Care Collaboration, designed to deliver essential services to rural communities through a mobile, monthly outreach model. The hubs will operate in familiar community spaces, offering stigma-free access to health, wellbeing, welfare, and social care services.

Hub Facilitation

The hub will be managed by Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations (SLCVO), with a dedicated part-time officer working closely with local communities and groups. Their role is to ensure the services families need are identified and made accessible through the hub, bringing support directly to where it's needed most.

Group Participation

A core group of third sector organisations will deliver regular outreach services through the hubs, supported by funding sought by the HWWS Collaboration. The project will bring vital services directly to rural communities across Skye and Lochalsh. Public sector teams offering direct support will also be invited to participate at the hubs.

Features of the Monthly Outreach Hub

- **One-Stop Access Point**- health, wellbeing, welfare, social care, and community support in one place—reducing travel and increasing accessibility to services, in remote and rural areas.
- **Rotating Locations** - the hub will visit community spaces across Skye and Lochalsh, chosen for local need and accessibility.
- **Flexible Support Options** - services are available through drop-ins or pre-booked appointments, offering both spontaneous and planned support.
- **Safe spaces** - Safe, welcoming places to connect and stay warm
- **Engaging activities**, each hub session will include:
 - Social connection opportunities
 - Play sessions for children
 - Peer support groups
 - Wellbeing activities
 - Taster sessions
- **Co-Production Opportunities** - attendees will be invited to help shape future services through feedback. This ensures the hub evolves in response to community needs and builds trust between service providers and residents.

Range of Support Services the hub will offer

- Mental health support - Listening services, peer support, and referrals
- Support and community connections for people with disabilities, neurodivergent individuals, and those with long-term health conditions.
- Early intervention and prevention support
- Signposting to specialist services and organisations.
- Support for unpaid carers and those managing self-directed support.
- Early years support and family wellbeing.
- Health and wellbeing support - Taster sessions, practical advice, and preventative information
- Welfare & financial guidance
- Housing & employment support
- Daily living support - Help with food, essentials, and reducing financial hardship

How we will Measure Success

The success of the Community Outreach Hub will be measured against project outcomes outlined below. Progress will be reviewed every six months by the HWWS Steering Group and summarised annually in a Performance and Impact Report, which will support funder monitoring and evaluation requirements.

Community Outcomes

- Improved access to, and awareness, of local, regional and national services.
- Strengthened prevention and early intervention support pathways.
- Increased opportunities to connect with others and build relationships.

Adult Mental Health and Wellbeing Outcomes

- Improved range of locally accessible mental health and wellbeing support.
- Reduced mental health inequalities through improved support for priority groups.
- Better equipped communities to support people's mental health and wellbeing.

Family Wellbeing Outcomes

- Improved access to early years, family, and whole-family support services.
- Enhanced child development through structured play and early intervention activities.
- Strengthened family wellbeing and resilience through community learning and sharing experiences.

Welfare and Poverty Outcomes

- Improved access to financial education, debt support, and unclaimed benefit uptake.
- Increased engagement with welfare, financial, and employability support services.
- Greater public awareness of debt risks and improved ability to manage financial challenges.

Third Sector Outcomes

- Strengthened collaboration between third-sector and public-sector partners.
- Increased community engagement and co-production in service design.
- Improved third-sector capacity and workforce sustainability.

For more information visit www.slcvo.org.uk/hwvs-collaboration

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