

Drug & Alcohol Forum Skye, Lochalsh and Wester Ross Bulletin 10 July 2023

Welcome to the third Drug & Alcohol Forum Skye, Lochalsh and Wester Ross Bulletin. This is a couple of weeks early due to staff annual leave in July.

As you may be aware the Highland Alcohol & Drugs Partnership have awarded funds to Highland Third Sector Interface (HTSI), to distribute to third sector organisations. There are six grants of up to £50,000 to be awarded to third sector organisations between 2023-2025. I have spoken with the HTSI Funding officer about our forum and the potential collaboration between organisations in Skye and Lochalsh. We will be in a very good position after the Skye & Lochalsh Collaboration Sub-group workshop on the 18th July to put in an Expression of Interest. Lowri Richards the Tenant Engagement and Support for Lochalsh and Skye Housing Association and I have committed to completing the EOI (based on outcomes from the workshop) for the deadline of the 24th July 2023.

Jo-Anne Ford

Forum Chair and Chief Officer of Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations
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Update of Forum actions

Meeting notes from the 13th June include the Forums Action Plan. The plan will be updated after each forum meeting however, below are a few key actions with updates:

- **Webpage** It was agreed that to support this bulletin and make access to information easier for Forum members, SLCVO would create a webpage for the Forum where meeting notes and information can be shared. The webpage is now live <https://www.slcvo.org.uk/slwr-da-forum>
- **Directory of support, training and resources** Rather than updating information about resources, training and direct support in the bulletin, SLCVO have created a draft SLWR Drug and Alcohol Forum Directory. This directory is for the use of third sector groups, service providers and key workers. It includes information on organisations providing direct support, reporting criminal and antisocial behaviour, and resources/training. It is anticipated to be published in August 2023 however, you can access the draft version on the Drug and Alcohol Forum webpage https://www.slcvo.org.uk/files/ugd/Obe1a8_59844d34a3b14a28ade1fda07e1b7f0c.pdf
- **Posters showing how to report criminal activity** Nicholas Kelly is liaising with the local Police Scotland team to get agreement of a poster detailing the reporting pathways for criminal activity.

- **Information how to report criminal activity an antisocial behaviour** SLCVO were actioned to look at what information there is to reassure the public about the reporting of criminal activity. SLCVO have included a section in the new SLWR Drug & Alcohol Directory that signposts Forum members to websites and information they can use.

<p>Crimestoppers An independent charity that gives people the power to speak up and stop crime – 100% anonymously https://crimestoppers-uk.org/ 0800 555 111</p>
<p>Fearless Fearless is the dedicated youth service of Crimestoppers. Fearless is a site where you can access non-judgemental information and advice about crime and criminality. With information and guides for young people, parents/guardians and professionals https://crimestoppers-uk.org/fearless 0800 555 111</p>
<p>Highland Council Anti-social Behaviour Anti-social includes everything from dog fouling and littering to substance abuse and serious harassment. It damages people’s quality of life, and it damages our communities. Find more information about this and how to report it on the Highland Council Website https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/997/housing_advice/222/antisocial_behaviour</p>
<p>Police Scotland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always dial 999 in an emergency • By phone – 101 for non-emergencies • Online – for issues of a non-serious nature use the Contact Us form • In person – Find your local Police Stations and check the Public Counter opening hours • Text Relay - 18001101 for deaf, deafened, hard of hearing or speech-impaired callers • Support for British Sign Language users/speakers • In writing – to PO BOX 2460, Dalmarnock, Glasgow, G40 9BA
<p>Victim Support Victim Support are independent from the police, and our support is free and confidential. They are there to help anyone affected by crime. Not only those who experience it directly, but also their friends, family and any other people involved. It doesn’t matter when the crime took place, or whether you’ve reported it to the police. You can get help at any time, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/ 08 08 16 89 111</p>

- **Skye & Lochalsh collaboration sub-group workshop** SLCVO were actioned to host a workshop for the Skye & Lochalsh collaboration sub-group. This will be on the 18 July at Kyleakin hall between 10.30am and 1.00pm

The aim of the session is to look at how groups, services and businesses can work together to tackle the drug and alcohol challenges facing communities, families and individuals in Skye and Lochalsh.

One suggestion is the creation of a dedicated role for the area. This role could take on a number of tasks such as offering direct guidance and support, supporting groups to develop and fund targeted projects, co-ordinate activities in the area, developing prevention programmes for under 18s etc. However, before the Forum starts to develop a way forward, we first need to understand what challenges/issues affect our communities and what support there already is. We also want to expand forum membership to ensure we have the right organisations participating.

If you would like to take part in the workshop on the 18th July please let me know by email jo.ford@slcvo.org.uk

If you cannot make the workshop but would like to input into the conversation we have a short questionnaire here <https://forms.office.com/e/dzb0iX0qb9>

Confirmation of attendance as of 08 July 2023

- Lochalsh and Skye Housing Association
- Skye and Lochalsh Mental Health Association
- Living Hope
- Counselling Care Skye and Lochalsh
- Rag Tag and Textile
- Skye Connect (TBC)
- Dornie and District Community Council
- Befrienders Skye and Lochalsh
- Viewfield Garden Collective
- Skye and Lochalsh CAB
- Kyle & Lochalsh Community Trust
- Addictions Counselling Inverness
- Ward 10 Councillor
- Highland Council Housing Management Team
- Highland Council Employability Key Worker
- Plockton High School Head Teacher (TBC)
- NHS Highland Drug and Alcohol Recovery Services
- NHS Highland Public Health Directorate

- NHS Highland Health Improvement Specialist
- Highland Alcohol and Drug Partnership

Upcoming Training

This section details one-off training sessions. Information about e-learning and Toolkits is in the new SLWR Drug & Alcohol Directory.

The Scottish Drugs Forum free on-line training [Training - Scottish Drugs Forum \(sdftraining.org.uk\)](https://www.sdftraining.org.uk)

- HIV and Harm Reduction 11/07/2023 and 08/08/2023
- Online Staying Alive: Preventing Drug Related Deaths 12/07/2023, 19/09/2023
- Drugs and Bugs - Bacterial Infection Outbreaks – 19/07/2023 and 17/08/2023
- Understanding Stigma: Promoting inclusive attitudes and practice – 20/07/2023, 28/09/2023
- What's the Harm? - Polysubstance Use and Overdose – 20/07/2023, 08/08/2023, 24/08/2023, 05/09/2023, 19/09/2023
- Trauma and Substance Use – 08/08/2023
- Everyone Has a Story: Children Affected by Parental Substance Use – 09/08/2023
- Peer led Overdose Prevention, Intervention and Naloxone for People who use/used drugs – 30/08/2023, 25/10/2023, 27/12/2023

The Scottish Drugs Forum <https://www.sdf.org.uk/what-we-do/addiction-worker-training-project/>

- Addiction Worker Training Project

Alcohol Focus Scotland [Events | Alcohol Focus Scotland \(alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk\)](https://www.alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk)

- Training on Children Harmed by Alcohol Toolkit – 24/08/2024, 14/09/2023 Glasgow £160.00
- Alcohol Affects Us All (enhanced Alcohol Awareness) – 29/08/2023, 29/09/2023 Glasgow £55.00
- Alcohol Awareness – 31/08/2023, 27/09/2023 Glasgow £30.00

Scottish Families affected by Alcohol and drugs

- A collection of webinars <https://www.sfad.org.uk/resources/webinars>
- Information Leaflets <https://www.sfad.org.uk/resources/information-leaflets>
- Learning Hub <https://www.sfad.org.uk/learning-hub>

Highland Activity

Planet Youth The Highland Alcohol and Drugs Partnership are working with Winning Scotland who collaborate with a range of partners to develop innovative resources and practical solutions that improve outcomes for children in Scotland. In Highland HADP are piloting the Planet Youth model. This evidence-based, international programme, originated in Iceland, and has been carried out in many other countries around the world.

It helps reduce substance use in young people by tackling the underlying issues that lead to substance use. Another benefit of this model is that it can improve the mental and physical wellbeing of young people. The model works in three key ways:

- The programme will aim to increase opportunities for young people, this will include many different activities such as sport, music, art, dance and others.
- Working with communities, parental co-operation, local ownership and a proactive approach to tackle local issues.
- Evidence based practice, implementing interventions based on data from your own community which will be collected from a school survey.

You can find out more information here [Planet Youth model \(scot.nhs.uk\)](https://www.scot.nhs.uk/planet-youth-model/)

Members of the project team will be at the Skye & Lochalsh collaboration sub-group workshop on the 18th July

Further Information/support



SACC – could we be helpful to your organisation?

Over the past decade many local frontline alcohol counselling services across Scotland have closed – yet the impact of alcohol-related harm is increasing. SACC realises that other local counselling and support agencies are now working with individuals and families affected by alcohol use.

SACC is a consortium of local alcohol support agencies from across Scotland. We are funded by the Scottish Government and other grant funds to provide a free alcohol counselling training pathway to member organisations who use volunteer counsellors.

We also provide on-line training for qualified counsellors who want to become more skilled in working with people with alcohol /addiction issues - and ongoing professional development sessions related to working with people affected by alcohol use.

We work in partnership with other agencies to provide occasional national seminars and learning opportunities for workers dealing with alcohol related harm.

We also aim to ensure that the views and experiences of our member organisations and the people who use their services - many of whom are not known to other recovery or addiction services - are heard and understood at the national level.

Our members support each other by sharing knowledge, experience and information.

We would like to understand if and how we could perhaps better support an increased network of local, voluntary sector agencies.

If you are interested in anything you've read above - please take a couple of minutes to complete the survey below. This will help SACC plan future support to a wider network across Scotland.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/22MHQTG>

You can also get in touch with SACC via our website www.scotacc.org or by contacting our co-ordinator vivienne.brown@scotacc.org

Report on alcohol in rural areas <https://www.shaap.org.uk/downloads/278-rural-matters/viewdocument/278.html>

NHS Highland Adult Health and Wellbeing partnership profiles [Public health profiles | NHS Highland \(scot.nhs.uk\)](#),

Next Forum meeting

The next Forum meeting will be Tuesday the 25th July 1pm – 2.30pm using Microsoft Teams

- **Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer, mobile app or room device**
- [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Meeting ID: 324 143 777 060 Passcode: 8PtrRb
- [Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)
- [Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

SLCVO Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations

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