

Community Resilience Group Weekly Briefing - 15 30 April 2021

Green Health Week – 8-16 May

Green Health Week is co-ordinated by the Highland Green Health Partnership. This year it coincides with Mental Health Awareness week. The Partnership are inviting people across the Highlands of all ages to take part in their Pop it on a Postcard challenge. They would like people to share “How nature helps my mental wellbeing...”

For any organisation with a venue, postcards and posters for staff or service users can be accessed by contacting: ailsa.villegas@nhs.scot

For further information and online versions of the postcard, please go to www.thinkhealththinknature.scot

Scottish Parliament Election – 6 May 2021

As outlined in this week’s virtual briefing, a video has been produced to help voters understand what to expect. The video covers all the hygiene and physical distancing measures that will be in place.

General risk assessments and specific covid risk assessments have been carried out at every polling station and extra staff have been recruited to help make sure the voting experience is as smooth as possible as things will look different. Changes include:

- There will be a limit on the number of people entering at one time so there may be queues at some polling stations at peak times
- Face coverings will be required
- Hand sanitiser will be available on entry and exit
- Polling station staff will be behind protective screens but still available to help and support voters
- There will be regular cleaning at polling stations throughout the day on a regular and frequent basis.
- Voters will be asked to take their own pen or pencil but if they don’t have one, one will be provided from a new box of pencils for their use only

There have been changes to the location of some polling stations for this election so voters are encouraged to check their polling cards

The video can be accessed at: <https://youtu.be/pwNhafMHPSM> and we would appreciate it if you could share this across your networks.

Vaccination Update

The latest update from NHS on the vaccine can be accessed at the following link:
www.nhsinform.scot/covid19vaccine

A stakeholder briefing from NHS Highland accompanies this briefing.

Food Support for Groups

We know that a number of you continue to provide support to the most vulnerable in your communities and that most of you already have well defined routes for accessing food to provide this support or are supporting individuals to access their shopping or community fridges/food tables.

If you are struggling to access food to continue support to vulnerable people locally, please do contact us through the policy mailbox and we can look at ways that we can support your group going forward.

Contact: policy6@highland.gov.uk

Resilience Network Contacts

Should any group not already be involved with these networks, the contact details for each is below.

- Caithness –If any groups aren't involved and wish to be please contact Alan Tait at Caithness Voluntary Groups allan@cvq.org.uk
- Sutherland – If any groups aren't involved and wish to be please contact Karina Ross at Highland and Islands Enterprise karina.ross@hient.co.uk
- East Ross – Helen Ross, Ward Manager, will facilitate this network. For future involvement in this network please contact policy6@highland.gov.uk
- Black Isle - If any groups aren't involved and wish to be please contact Asia Cielecka at communities@black-isle.info
- Wester Ross and Dingwall – Dot Ferguson, Ward Manager, will facilitate this network. For future involvement in this network please contact policy6@highland.gov.uk
- Skye and Raasay - If any groups aren't involved and wish to be please contact Fiona Thomson at Skye Community Response Development Team fiona@portreeandbraes.org
- Lochaber – Emma Tayler, Assistant Ward Manager, will facilitate this network. For future involvement in this network please contact policy6@highland.gov.uk
- B&S –If any groups aren't involved and wish to be please contact Karen Derrick enquires@vabs.org.uk
- Inverness City – David Haas, City Manager, will facilitate this network. For future involvement in this network please contact policy6@highland.gov.uk

- Inverness Rural – Charles Stephen, Ward Manager, will facilitate this network. For future involvement in this network please contact policy6@highland.gov.uk
- Nairn – Willie Munro, Ward Manager, will facilitate this network For future involvement in this network please contact policy6@highland.gov.uk

Helpful Links

Welfare Support Team - www.highland.gov.uk/directory_record/102970/benefit_advice

Self Isolation Support Grant - www.highland.gov.uk/info/20016/coronavirus/940/self-isolation_support_grant

Fuel Support Fund

www.highland.gov.uk/fuelsupportfund

Energy Advice

energyadvisors@hi.homeenergyscotland.org

AbilityNet - IT advice or support AbilityNet
Helpline 0800 048 7642.

Business Support Grants -

www.highland.gov.uk/info/20016/coronavirus/945/strategic_framework_business_fund

Covid Resilience Grant Support -

www.highland.gov.uk/directory_record/1422811/supporting_community_resilience/category/155/grants_for_community_groups

HTSI Community Group Helpline

Telephone Number 01349 808022

Winter Conditioning reports -

www.highland.gov.uk/news