

# VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



12 April 2024 Issue 4

## Round 3 UKSPF

By now most of you will be familiar with the UKSPF (United Kingdom Shared Prosperity Fund) Community Grant. [Round Three](#) of the grant is now open to applications until Friday 28 June.

The fund is open to North West Leicestershire parish and town councils, parish meetings, constituted voluntary and community groups, uniformed groups, Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) and not-for-profit organisations.

Each parish or area has been [allocated an amount](#) of between £3,000 and £10,000 based on population size.

Once again we are organising drop-in sessions across the district, so keep an eye out for emails inviting you to book a place to discuss your ideas.



## MECC Training

Join us to learn how to [Make Every Contact](#) Count (MECC). MECC is intended for anyone who has contact with people in day-to-day life and wants to make a difference.

Colleagues from our Health & Wellbeing team are kindly putting on some free training for us on Wed 15 May, from 1-3pm. This will be a face-to-face training session held at Stenson House, Coalville.

MECC (Making Every Contact Count) Booking Form -  
Wednesday 15th May 1pm-3pm



To book your place to learn new skills please either scan the QR code or click on the [booking link](#).

## Ashby Emergency Services Day

Are you a voluntary/community group that provides support and activities to the residents of Ashby and surrounding area?

If so you are invited to showcase your organisation as part of a volunteering village to those attending the Emergency Services' Open Day at Ashby Bath Grounds on Saturday 1 June 2024.



Coalville Emergency Services' Open Day attracts thousands of visitors and we expect the first of its kind for Ashby in the Bath grounds to be a huge success. We expect this to be a packed event with lots of families and residents of Ashby and further afield.

Leicestershire County Council (LCC), North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC), Voluntary Action Leicestershire (VAL) and Ashby de la Zouch Town Council are working together to deliver this opportunity for groups to showcase their organisation, encourage membership and, most importantly, recruit new volunteers.

If your organisation would like to take part, please [email VAL's helpline](#) and



register your interest by 30 April 2024. You will need to explain how you would like to showcase your work, fundraise, and give people a taste of what it is you do.

## Let There Be LED Light

Thanks to generous grants from East Midlands Airport and NWLDC, [Kegworth Village Hall](#) committee has been able to replace all the lights in the building with energy-efficient LED lights.

Jean Hayes, chair of the committee, has shared, "Kegworth Village Hall was built in 1964. It has a large hall with stage, a smaller hall and two other meeting rooms. Some of the light fittings in the hall date back to its origin and the main hall lights are so high up that they are very difficult to maintain. As many of the tubes were in need of replacing we looked at the lights in the whole building.



An energy audit by an external consultant and a report from an

electrician confirmed that some of the fittings are now obsolete, the tubes cannot be replaced and the energy performance was below standard. The grants allowed us to refit the entire building with energy-efficient LED lights. Not only are these cheaper to run but, because they are so much brighter, not all of the lights need to be switched on. We anticipate a lower energy consumption will be revealed on future bills."

## Village Hall Net Zero

Check out this [Net Zero Design Guide](#), a simple and practical resource for anyone managing a village or community hall. There is also a useful locally produced [net zero toolkit](#) for use.

## Events & Training

### Community Resilience Engagement

**Tues 16 April, 6.30 - 7.30pm, online**  
[LLR Prepared](#) is running this FREE event for communities to help raise awareness of cybercrime, phishing emails and social media messaging. Join via this [zoom link](#) on the evening.  
Meeting ID: 817 6419 0260  
Passcode: 143822

### NCT Nearly New Sale

**Sat 20 April, 10am - 12pm, Moira Village Hall**

Ashby, Burton & Coalville NCT invites you to come and browse their sale of clothing and shoes from ages new-born to 10 years.

### Voluntary Action Leicestershire Events

Check out VAL's latest **FREE** training:

- [LLR VCSE Collaboration Event](#), Tues 23 April, 9.30am - 12.30pm, Market Harborough
- [Introduction to Funding Applications](#), Tues 30 April, 10am - 12pm, online
- [Introduction to Financial Management](#), Tues 14 May, 10am - 12pm, online

### An Introduction to Green and Social Prescribing (connecting with nature)

**Wed 24 April, 10am - 4pm, Shuttlewood Clarke Activity Centre**

This FREE training is open to any organisations located in or around the [Charnwood Forest Geopark](#). For further information [email](#) Alison Brand Barker or tel: 07890 067140.

### Graffiti by Numbers Workshop

**Mon 13 May, 10am - 12pm, Coalville**

This Multiply course blends mathematics with creating a graffiti mural. Call 0800 988 0308 and quote code 23SN550N to book your place.

### National Forest Walking Festival 2024

**Sat 18 - Thrs 30 May, National Forest**

This year's programme is now available to download. There are over 90 walks to choose from, ranging from 1 mile to 18.

### Tell us about your Events

Putting on an event in North West Leicestershire? We'd love to help you promote it to a wider audience. You can list your event for free on NWLDC's [What's On webpage](#) or [email](#) your story.

## Join the VCSE Alliance

Join [NHS Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland's VCSE Alliance](#)! The local NHS wants to create a genuine partnership arrangement with the voluntary and community sector, social enterprises, and individual communities. To help them deliver this they have co-produced a Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Alliance.

It's free to become a member and all VCSE organisations in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland are encouraged to join, no matter how small or big you are!

The [VCSE Alliance webspace](#) provides:

- A VCSE directory of contacts
- An 'applications and opportunities' hub, where local NHS funding opportunities are advertised
- A 'skills and resources' page, a mechanism to feed community insights into the Insights, Behaviour and Research Hub

Please [join the VCSE Alliance today!](#)

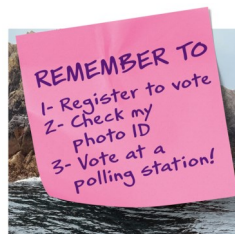
Once registered, add your organisation to the VCSE Alliance Directory. If you'd like to find out more, please email [llricb-llr.beinvolved@nhs.net](mailto:llricb-llr.beinvolved@nhs.net).

## OPCC Elections

Polling stations will open on Thursday 2 May to vote for the next [Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire](#).

- Make sure you [register to vote](#) by Tues 16 April
- Check out deadlines for [postal](#) and [proxy](#) votes

Please remember to take [photo ID](#) with you to vote or apply for a voter authority certificate [here](#).



## Nature Recovery Strategy

LCC's Local Nature Recovery Strategy aims to make space for nature and bring long-term benefits for people and the environment. [Have your say](#) about the proposals before Sunday 28 April.

## Funding

### NWL Community Grants

Visit our [grants' page](#) to find out about

- [Small Grant](#)
- [Zero Carbon Grant](#)
- [UKSPF Community Grant](#)
- [Supporting Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Grant](#) (opens Monday 15th April)



### Supporting Mental Health and Wellbeing Grant

This grant will open on Monday 15th April and uses Public Health England funding to support projects that help combat poor mental health and health inequalities that have arisen as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Grants of up to £1000 are available for new or existing projects or items of equipment.

### Climate Action Fund

New fund launched by the National Lottery Community Fund, this funding is for **formal partnership** working across sectors, led by community and voluntary organisations or public sector organisations. Grants of between £1 million and £1.5 million over three to five years are available. Applications will be accepted until 31 December. Information sessions will be held on Thrs 16 and Tues 21 May.

### Empowering Local Communities

This Asda Foundation grant for local groups aims to transform communities, improve lives and strengthen volunteering. Grants from £400 to £2,000. Closes Fri 24 May or earlier if budget cap is reached.

### Cost of Living Grant

Another Asda Foundation Grant from £400 - £2,000, this fund aims to support local groups with the increased running costs being faced as a result of the cost of living crisis. Closes Fri 24 May or earlier if budget cap is reached.

### Monthly Funding Bulletin

Leicestershire County Council continues to produce a really useful funding bulletin every month, with a list of grants and funding opportunities.

