



GREC Services

Welcome back to the GREC Community Bulletin. This is our last edition of the year- and what a year it's been!

The big news from us this month is that our shiny new website launched last week! The GREC team would like to thank our colleague Myshele, who has worked incredibly hard to design and build the new site. And her hard work has definitely paid off- it looks amazing, if we do say so ourselves!

We shut up for the festive season last Friday, 18th December, and will reopen again on Wednesday, 6th January. In the mean time, you can check out the new website or keep up with us on social media using the links below!

[WEBSITE](#)

[FACEBOOK](#) | [TWITTER](#)

CONTACT:

Enquiries/Training:

info@grec.co.uk
01224 595505

InTrans:

in-trans@grec.co.uk
01224 576795

Casework:

casework@grec.co.uk
07857 180175

Counselling:

mthomson@grec.co.uk

English Classes:

language-cafe@grec.co.uk
01224 576797

AberdeenAIM:

mmccall@grec.co.uk
01224 576796

COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

All of mainland Scotland will enter Tier 4 from Saturday, 26th December.

- Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire are currently at Tier 3, while Moray is in Tier 1.
- However, from Boxing Day all areas of mainland Scotland will enter Tier 4, and will remain at this level for at least three weeks.
- Plans to relax restrictions for a five-day period over Christmas have also been cancelled.
- [Click here](#) for more information about the tier system from the Scottish Government, or [click here](#) for full details on Tier 4 restrictions.
- The Scottish Government table below shows some key Tier 4 restrictions. [Click here](#) to view the full table.



Remember FACTS for a safer Scotland



Face coverings



Avoid crowded places



Clean your hands regularly



Two metre distance



Self-isolate and book a test if you have symptoms

Socialising No in-home socialising (limited exceptions) 6 people from 2 households outdoors and in public places	Hospitality Closed
Shopping ✗ Non-essential retail closed ✓ Click and collect & outdoor retail permitted	Close contact services Closed ✗ Mobile close contact services
Travel Essential travel only to/from level 3 or 4 areas in Scotland, and to/from rest of UK Follow rules and advice on international travel	Transport Active travel ✗ No use of public transport, except for essential purposes
Support services Essential/online where possible	Places of Worship Open Restricted numbers 20

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

[Click here](#) for the latest coronavirus updates from the **Scottish Government**.

[Click here](#) for the latest coronavirus updates from **Aberdeen City Council**.

[Click here](#) for the latest coronavirus updates from **Aberdeenshire Council**.

[Click here](#) for the latest coronavirus updates from **Moray Council**.

COMMUNITIES

The **Grampian Coronavirus Assistance Hub** will remain open over the holiday period. The GCAH festive opening hours are as follows:

- 24th Dec: 9am – 5pm
- 25th Dec: 10am – 3pm
- 28th Dec: 10am – 3pm
- 29th: 31st Dec - 9am – 5pm
- 1st Jan: 12pm – 5pm
- 4th Jan: 10am – 3pm
- 5th – 8th Jan : 9am – 5pm

[Click here](#) to visit the GCAH website, or call the helpline on **0808 196 3384**.

Ja vajadzīga palīdzība koronavīrusa pandēmijas laikā, zvaniet uz **0808 196 3384** vai apmeklējiet www.gcah.org.uk

Dacă aveți nevoie de ajutor în privința epidemiei cu coronavirus, vă rugăm să sunați la numărul **0808 196 3384** sau intrați pe www.gcah.org.uk

Jeżeli potrzebowali będą Państwo pomocy w związku z pandemią koronawirusa, proszę dzwonić pod bezpłatny numer **0808 196 3384** lub odwiedzić stronę www.gcah.org.uk

Jeigu jums reikia pagalbos dėl koronaviruso pandemijos, skambinkite nemokamu numeriu **0808 196 3384** arba apsilankykite www.gcah.org.uk



HOW TO RECOGNISE A LOAN SHARK:

Did they offer you a cash loan upfront?

Have they refused to provide paperwork?

Have they been unwilling to discuss important details of the loan, such as its term or total repayable amount?

Have they taken personal items such as your passport, bank cards or jewellery as "security"?

Have they become threatening, aggressive or violent?



AberdeenAIM provides support, advice and education to ethnic minority communities and individuals in Grampian at risk of being targeted by loan sharks.

CONTACT: 01224 576 796
mmccall@grec.co.uk

The **#NorthernLightsAppeal2020** launched in November and will run until Christmas Day. The Northern Lights Appeal is raising money for five local charities doing amazing work: AberNecessities, Cash for Kids, Cyrenians, Mental Health Aberdeen and Aberdeen North Foodbank (via the Trussel Trust). [Click here](#) for more information or to donate.

Mental Health Aberdeen are currently running their **31 Ways for 31 Days** campaign. Every day during December, MHA is sharing different tips and tricks for looking after yourself and your mental health during the festive season. [Click here](#) to view the MHA Facebook page and find out more.

The **Aberdeen Cyrenians Festive Trail** is now live. To download the map to take part in the trail, [click here](#). The map costs £3, and proceeds will go towards helping Cyrenians continue their vital work supporting Aberdeen's homeless residents.

OPPORTUNITIES



CFINE (Community Food Initiatives North East) are currently recruiting a number of new team members. There are Development Worker roles available in three projects:

- Cook at the Nook
- Mobile Pantry Aberdeen,
- Mobile Pantry Aberdeenshire.

The closing date for applications to all positions is **Friday, 8th January**, and interviews will be held in the second last week of January.

Please email ljenkins@cfine.org to request an application pack, or [click here](#) to visit the CFINE website and find out more.

The **NSPCC** is currently recruiting young people ages 13-16 to sit on it's **Young People's Board for Change**.

The deadline for applications is **Monday, 11th January**. [Click here](#) to find out more about the Board for Change project or to apply.

Who Cares? Scotland are currently recruiting a Development Worker to join their Youth Participation & Engagement Team. The deadline for applications is **Sunday, 10th January**. [Click here](#) for more information or to apply.

[CLICK HERE](#)

to respond to Police Scotland's Equality Outcomes consultation and help the Scottish Police plan their equality priorities for 2021-24.

THIRD SECTOR SUPPORT

The **Connecting Scotland** fund currently has three programmes open for applications. The closing date for this round of applications is **Monday, 18th January**. Connecting Scotland provides digital devices to vulnerable people via the organisations which support them. [Click here](#) for more information.

BEMIS is providing small grants of up to £3000 to ethnic minority community groups and organisations in Scotland through their **Resilient & Inclusive Communities Fund**. The fund is open now for applications, and closes in **March 2021**. [Click here](#) for more information or to download an application form.

Applications for the **Response, Recovery & Resilience Fund** will reopen on **Monday, 11th January**. This fund provides grants of between £1000-£5000 to support the work of charities and community organisations during the COVID crisis. [Click here](#) for more information about the fund.

The Robertson Trust have a number of grants of varying sizes available for charitable and constituted community organisations working to support people living with the effects of poverty and/or trauma. [Click here](#) for more information about funding from The Robertson Trust, or [click here](#) to use their funding checker tool.

EVENTS



The **Scottish Refugee Council** are hosting **Apart But Still Together**, a festive fundraising event, this **Tuesday 22nd December** from 7-8.30 p.m.

The event will be livestreamed, and will feature storytelling, music and poetry from a variety of performers from Scotland & across the world.

The suggested donation is £15, and all proceeds will go towards the Scottish Refugee Council's winter appeal. [Click here](#) for full details or to make a donation & book your ticket.

What do you have planned for 2021?

If your community group, charity or organisation has any projects or events planned for the New Year that you'd like to promote in the GREC Community Bulletin, let us know by emailing Molly at mmccall@grec.co.uk



Conversations For Change Finding a Home: A Migrant's Perspective

Our friends at **Progress in Dialogue** will be hosting their first Conversations for Change event of the year on **Friday, 15th January** from 6.30-8.30pm.

Please [click here](#) for more information about the event, or [click here](#) to visit the Progress in Dialogue website.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

AND

ALL THE BEST FOR 2021

grec