

***New FAIR Staff – Cost of Living Advice Workers***

FAIR would like to welcome Katy Baillie and Laura McWhinnie! They are FAIR’s new Cost of Living Advice Workers, funded by the National Lottery Community Fund.



With prices increasing, it is becoming harder to pay for essential living costs such as food, clothing, gas and electricity, rent, and travel.

Our Advice Workers will work with people with learning disabilities and their families during this difficult time. They will provide one to one support and advice that includes appointments at our office, telephone, online and/or home visits.

If you need help and advice, call FAIR on **0131 662 1962**.

***Universal Credit Migration Notices***

The DWP are sending notices to people on certain benefits to move to Universal Credit.

If you have been sent a notice, make sure you read the letter.

- You should **not** ignore this as it will have a deadline
- The deadlines are normally 3 months after the date the notice was sent
- Your old benefits will stop after this deadline.

It is important to make a claim for Universal Credit before the deadline. The timing of that claim can be important so you have no gap between claims.

If you are worried about this or want more information, call FAIR on **0131 662 1962**. We can tell you things like the best time to claim, what will happen to your existing benefits and extra help you can get.

## ***New Benefit to Replace Carer's Allowance in Scotland***

A new benefit, Carer Support Payment, is replacing Carer's Allowance in Scotland. Carer Support Payment is money for people in Scotland who provide regular care to someone who has a disability.



~~CARER'S ALLOWANCE~~  
**CARER SUPPORT  
PAYMENT**

The first applications are available only for people in Dundee City, Perth and Kinross, and the Western Isles for now. The transfer of existing Carer's Allowance to Carer Support Payment in Scotland began on 26th February 2024. Claimants who currently get Carer's Allowance do not need to take any action. Their claims will be transferred to Carer Support Payment between February 2024 and Spring 2025.

## ***FAIR & WELL Events – April and May***

The FAIR & WELL project aims to provide activities for people with learning disabilities and their carers. Part of the project involves a coffee morning, where you can come together for chit-chat, coffee and snacks!



There are several activities planned throughout April and May:

### **Events in April:**

Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Coffee morning at FAIR: 10.30am - 12.30pm</b>
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Coffee morning at FAIR: 10.30am - 12.30pm</b>
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Canal boat outing: 11.00am - 1.30pm</b>

### **Events in May:**

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Coffee morning at FAIR: 10.30am -12.30pm</b>
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Dr Neil's Garden: 11.00am -1.00pm</b>
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Coffee morning at FAIR: 10.30am -12.30pm</b>
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Craigmillar Castle: 11.00am - 1.00pm</b>

If you want to come along or find out more, please contact Tasneem:

Email [tasneem@fairadvice.org.uk](mailto:tasneem@fairadvice.org.uk)

Phone **0131 662 1962** or **07513824259**.

Don't forget, you can follow FAIR on Facebook for updates:

<https://www.facebook.com/FAIREdinburgh>

## ***Scottish Learning Disability Week 2024***

Scottish Learning Disability Week 2024 is nearly here. It is Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May.

Scottish Learning Disability Week provides an opportunity to raise awareness and change attitudes, making Scotland a better, fairer and more equal place for everyone.



‘**Digital Inclusion**’ is the theme for 2024. Use these hashtags to be part of the conversation:

**#ScotLDWeek24**  
**#MyRight2Digital**

‘Get Involved Packs’ are full of ideas with everything you need to get started including Conversation Café Cue Cards, Activity Sheets and Easy Read information.

To find out more and order a Get Involved Pack, you can phone SCLD on **0141 248 3733** or email **admin@sclد.co.uk**

## ***Grassmarket Community Project***

The Grassmarket Community Project (GCP) at the Grassmarket Centre, is a community of over 500 people, working together to support positive changes in peoples lives. They want an inclusive person-centred environment where people can develop skills, build positive relationships and enjoy a sense of belonging.

They have lots of public events, with something for everyone including screenings at their award-winning Community Cinema, live music and performance, and special events for special occasions.

To find out more and see the full programme of upcoming events, go to **[grassmarket.org/gcp-members-programme/](http://grassmarket.org/gcp-members-programme/)**

### ***FAIR Newsletter and Website***

To help us be environmentally friendly please let us know if you can receive the FAIR Newsletter by email.



We are also making a new FAIR website. We would like to hear from you What do you want to see on the FAIR website? How should it look?

If you want an email of the FAIR newsletter or give us your ideas about our website, call us now on **0131 662 1962** or email **Kimberley@fairadvice.org.uk**.

### ***Edinburgh Integrated Joint Board (EIJB) Savings and Recovery Plan***

It has been in the news that the EIJB have had to make cuts to funding for services and social care. FAIR are effected but we are trying to maintain our service so people can access our support.

If you receive a social care service you may be asked for this to be looked at and reviewed. If you are worried or need advice you can call FAIR on **0131 662 1962**.

### ***Edinburgh International Festival – More Access***

This year's Edinburgh International Festival aims to support more disabled people to experience the music, theatre, dance and opera performances available in their programme.

Their Access Pass is a free membership scheme that remembers audiences' access information, so you don't have to give it every time you book, and allows seats for free essential companions. Their Access Guide has detailed access information about all the venues used in the Festival. The Access Guide is available in large print, braille and audio formats.

To find out more, visit **www.eif.co.uk/access/access-pass** or email **callum.madge@eif.co.uk**



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