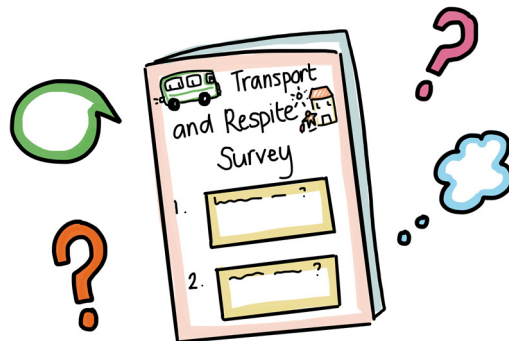




Transport and Respite Survey deadline extended



We recently sent out a survey produced by EVOC asking about your Day Services Transport and Respite experiences. Thank you to everyone who was able to complete it so far. EVOC have had a great initial response from 70 people who use services /their carers and 10 organisations – we really appreciate you taking the time to complete the surveys.

A few organisations asked EVOC if the deadline could be extended to reach as many people who use services and their carers as possible –

the survey deadline has now been extended to Monday 23rd August.

Survey for Organisations:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/K3QN56H>

Survey for Service Users and Carers:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/K3MBVDQ>

We have printed copies if you prefer to complete it that way, please call us on 0131 476 0522 to get a copy.

UK Benefits consultation - Give your view!



The UK Government are currently holding a consultation on **Shaping Future Support: The Health and Disability Green Paper**

They are seeking disabled peoples and carers views on changes to the benefit system:-

- Ways they can provide more support to help meet the needs of disabled people and people with health conditions and allow them to more easily access and use benefits?
- How they might be able to improve employment support for disabled people and people with health conditions, and how to encourage people to take up that support, where possible?
- How they might be able to make improvements to their current and future assessments and decision making and to improve the experience for disabled people and their carers?
- How might they change the structure of the main benefits claimed by working age disabled people and people with health conditions?

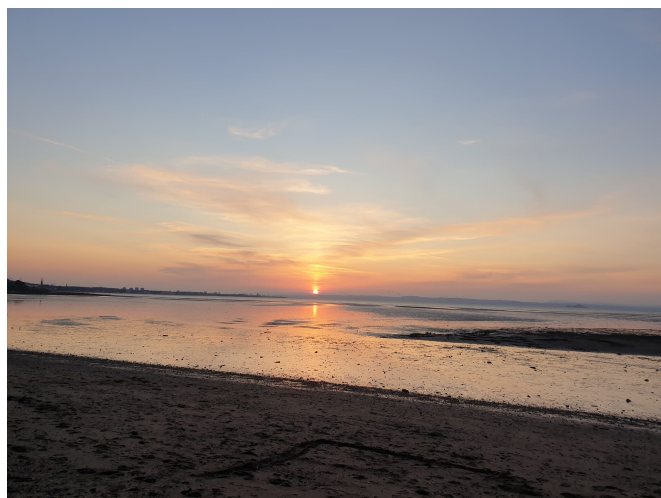
The consultation closes on 11th October 2021

If you would like to give your views. The link to the consultation is [Shaping Future Support: The Health and Disability Green Paper](#).

Please remember, In Scotland, some parts of the social security system are devolved (decided by the Scottish Government) . This includes PIP and DLA. So, any changes suggested in this green paper will not apply in Scotland.



Summer Days



We had some lovely sunny days in July this year. We are happy to share photos sent in to us and also some from members of the EDG team.

Maureen took this lovely sunset from the beach at Musselburgh.

Hels got this photo of the rail bridge on a beautiful day in Queensferry and is proud to show off her flowering pots.



Frances MacDonald took these fab photos of the ducks at the canal and the boats at Cramond.



To Lottery or not to Lottery?



EDG as you know is a charity. We receive most of our income via charitable trusts for specific short-life projects such as The Robertson Trust who fund our friendship network or Garfield Weston who pay for our core work. Sometimes we will receive grants or contracts for projects from Edinburgh Council such as Carer Strategy funding enabling us to support carers here in Edinburgh. We are able some years to earn income through person centred planning for individuals who pay for this through their Direct Payments or Independent Living Fund. Other ways we might raise money include selling EDG Christmas cards or sponsored walks or EDG events such as Ceilidhs. All these are a necessary and ongoing way for a charity like EDG to continue to run our services and pay the staff team, office costs etc. It is hard work and sometimes time consuming, but we have been successful managing our income raising this way.

Every year for the last few years we have managed to bring in sufficient funding to cover our costs and make a small surplus to ensure a healthy cashflow and bank for the hard times.

In recent years there has been an increase in charitable lotteries such as the Scottish Children's Lottery and Postcode lottery. Some large Charities are running their own televised lotteries such as the RNIB.

Edinburgh Voluntary Organisation Council (EVOC) is working with several charities to set up a Community Lottery for Edinburgh similar to the lotteries above. Each player must commit to £10 a month paid by Direct Debit or Debit card.

If EDG were to join, each pound raised by EDG would be divided up as follows. We would receive 50% of EDG ticket sold. 10% to other charities. 20% towards the cost of prizes and 20% for administration costs.

We would like your views as to whether EDG should join the charities who are signing up.

We have an unease about whether we should be asking you to help us raise funds this way. The main benefit for EDG would be receiving monthly donations. We see two main reasons why you might want to take part: 1. To support EDG as you believe we are a good charity doing important work. 2. To have a gamble and it's for a good cause, so why not.

So our questions to you?

- * Would you want to help EDG raise funds through a direct monthly donation without EDG signing up to Edinburgh Community Lottery? Yes / no
- * Would you want to sign up to Edinburgh Community Lottery and EDG receive monthly donation via your ticket purchase? Yes / no
- * Would you prefer EDG continue to fund raise as before this lottery idea? Yes / no

Please email Maureen at maureenmartin@edg-sco.org or call 476 0522.

Our Street Our Town Update



The core members of the Our Street Our Town group have been meeting regularly on Zoom and now in person with Claire and Lindsay. They are putting together a website and using social media as a way of sharing information about becoming a network and to reach potential new members. Do you live in South Queensferry and have an interest in sharing your skills or your business with the community as part of this network? If you would like to know more please contact Claire on 07713355460.



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EDG office update

The EDG team are continuing to work partly from home although there is now someone in the EDG office most days. You can contact the team by phone on 476 0522 or by email....

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hels@edg-sco.org

gillian@edg-sco.org



AUGUST 2021

Scottish Charity Number
SC020079

Please Note:
Views expressed in this
newsletter are not necessarily
those of the organisation
and staff

Frances defeats the stationery cupboard!



Well done to Frances for doing a great job of clearing out and organising our bulging stationery cupboard! A job that's been needing done for a long time!

Now we will be able to find everything when we need it.

Thanks Frances!