

Connecting Scotland: Phase 3 Webinar



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Overview of Connecting Scotland

The Connecting Scotland programme was set up in response to the pandemic.

People on low incomes in the target groups are be provided with:

- Access to kit an appropriate internet enabled device (Chromebook or iPad)
- Access to connectivity a mobile hotspot and 24 months of data
- Support to develop skills and confidence online

Building on learning from existing activity to tackle digital exclusion, the programme will work through organisations (particularly local authorities and local third sector organisations) who are **already working with** the target groups to reach them and provide support.





The story so far...

Over the past year together we have reached **36,094** households to tackle digital exclusion, by providing:

- 17,676 Chromebooks
- 18,418 iPads
- 32,352 internet connections

Delivered through the partnership with:

- 32 Local Authorities
- 590 unique organisations across the public and voluntary sectors
- 1,740 projects

Alliance for Full Employment report: "[Connecting Scotland] has rapidly been recognised as one of the most well-designed and comprehensive digital inclusion programmes in the UK"... thank you to all the deliver partners!





Feedback

4

FACT @Forres_Area · 12h

Forres Online supporting the older members of the Forres Community.

Loving their IPADS from #ConnectingScotland #NeverMoreNeeded





africanchallengescot @acscotland · Apr 10

Today, we distributed Chromebooks and 24 months free internet connection to digitally excluded low-income families across Glasgow.

Thanks to **#ConnectingScotland** programme,@GlasgowCC @scvotweet @scotgov @digitalscots @DigiScot @ng_homes @acscotland

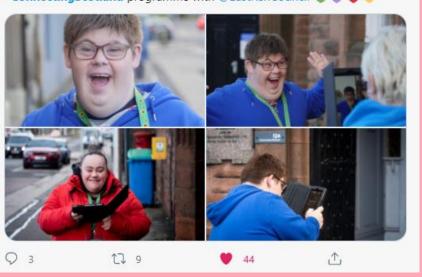






Include Me 2 Club @includeme2club · Oct 20, 2020

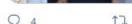
Our members having a great session learning about their new devices, exploring photography, google maps, finding their local shops, recording their journeys, all thanks to @ClydesdAileen @ScotGovFairer @scvotweet #ConnectingScotland programme with @EastRenCouncil





North Ayrshire Adult Learning @NAAdultLearning · Jan 15 · · · · Massive thank you to #ConnectingScotland. for providing laptops to our #ESOL learners and families. This is making a huge difference. Next challenge: building digital capacity! #digitalinclusion.













Feedback

"My clients are all delighted with their Chromebooks and straight away thinking about what having them and data will mean to them:

Not having to do college work on their phone, not stressing about data charges, being able to stay connected with family across the world and locally, having Near Me FNP contact, job applications, online ESOL courses, accessing Peppa Pig songs, Near Me medical clinic appointments, researching about pregnancy, thinking about college courses, local online PEEP Mum/ Baby groups....



Generally I have noted a sense of relief and shoulders dropping."

Thank you again, you can see the impact this project is having on the life course of our client."

Family Nurse Partnership



Phases & target groups

Phase 1 (April – July 2020)

£5m investment - 9,000 households

Clinically vulnerable to coronavirus (e.g. shielding)

Phase 2 (August 2020 – April 2021)

£15m investment – 23,000 households

- Households with children
- Care leavers up to the age of 26

Winter Support (December 2020 – March 2021)

£5m investment – 5,000 households

- Older people
- People with disabilities

Phase 3 (May 2021 - December 2021)

£23m – bringing total to 60,000 households by end of 2021

Care homes (November >)

Separate programme for education





Phase 3

Three open applications:

I. Main programme - employability

Aim to distribute 18,000 over two rounds — first closes on 5th July

2. Fast track - social isolation

Up to 10 devices for rapid distribution — particularly older people, disabled people & single parents



Same criteria as general fast track, but up to 100 devices for rapid distribution

The two fast track have a combined total of 5,000 devices available, assessed on a rolling basis





Who is this for?

- They are **digitally excluded** they currently do not have access to an appropriate device and/or internet connection at home.
- They are from a **low income household** they cannot afford to buy a device or pay for internet access from their household income (e.g. claiming or <u>eligible for Universal Credit</u>).
- They are actively taking steps to improve their employment prospects. This
 includes people furthest from the labour market who are not job ready but are <u>undertaking</u>
 activity to address any barriers to employment or training (e.g. confidence building,
 improving health or wellbeing, ESOL programmes)
- They are currently **unemployed** (with some discretion for people in short-term work placements or insecure employment)

Priority will be given to organisations working with people who are likely to have been affected most by the changes to the labour market over the past year.





Who can apply?

All public or third sector organisations that work to support people to address barriers to employment are eligible to apply. This includes, but is not limited to, organisations and teams working in:

- Employability
- Education and training
- Youth work
- Community learning and development
- Health and well-being
- Social work
- Financial advice and support

Government funded employability contractors can also apply.





Key considerations before applying

- You will have capacity to distribute the devices you are applying for during August and September
- You can apply for additional devices in a second application round, for distribution in November
- You will be required to do a basic needs assessment and submit details of the people you will support before the devices will be despatched to you (you can do this in batches)
- You have staff and/or volunteers who can deliver the devices to the people you support and act as Digital Champions





How do you apply?

Online at connecting.scot

One application per Council area

Key questions:

- How have you found people that need support?
- How do you currently work with these people?
- What barriers do these people face to using the internet effectively?
- What previous experience does your organisation have helping people get online?
- How will your organisation approach identifying specific individuals to receive devices, carrying out basic needs assessments and distributing devices?
- How will your organisation approach providing Digital Champion support to people over a sixmonth period?





Timescales

- Round I opens 7th June
- Round I closes 5th July
- Council assessment panels 6th 24th July
- Grant agreements issued 2nd August
- Claiming and distribution of devices up to 17th September
- Round 2 opens 30th August
- Round 2 closes 27th September
- Council assessment panels 28th September to 16th October
- Contracting and distribution 26th October to 6th December





What happens after we are successful?

- Accept your grant agreement
- Sign up and undertake Digital Champion Training
- Carry out basic needs assessment and submit information to request devices
- Receive your devices make a note of the device serial numbers and SIM card phone numbers so you can keep track of who receives what
- Issue devices
- Confirm delivery date within 30 days of receiving devices
- Provide Digital Champion support
- Undertake the welcome survey with the User





Who is this for?

- They are **digitally excluded** they currently do not have access to an appropriate device and/or internet connection at home.
- They are from a **low income household** they cannot afford to buy a device or pay for internet access from their household income.
- They are at risk of social isolation or loneliness.

The three priority target groups are:

- Older people (aged 60+)
- Disabled people
- Single parents

Applications may also be accepted for other people where strong evidence of a risk of social isolation is provided.





Who can apply?

Public or third sector organisations that work with the target groups in Scotland – with a focus on 'front line' workers. Individuals and private sector organisations cannot apply.

You can apply for a **maximum of 10** devices in each application (or 100 if a social housing provider).

You must have identified specific people you are currently working with that meet the criteria for support.

Organisations may submit multiple applications from different team members. It is preferrable, but not essential, for the applicant to be the same person that will deliver the devices and support to the beneficiary.





Key considerations before applying

- You have identified specific people you are working with that meet the criteria for support
- You have capacity to distribute devices and provide information on who has received them within 14 days of them being delivered to you
- You can provide support and act as a Digital Champion to enable them to use the device confidently and safely





How do you apply?

Online at connecting.scot

One application per Council area – maximum of 10 people per application

Key questions:

- Tell us about the people you want to support: what are their needs and what difference will it make to have access to a device an internet connection? Names or specific personal data is not required at this stage.
- Tell us how you currently work with these people and how you will support them to get the most from their devices and connectivity as part of this work?
- Social housing only tell us about your previous experience and approach to providing Digital Champion support





What happens when we are successful?

- Accept your grant agreement
- Sign up and undertake Digital Champion Training
- Receive your devices make a note of the device serial numbers and SIM card phone numbers so you can keep track of who receives what
- Issue devices make sure you provide those you're supporting with a User Agreement so they understand what's involved
- Input user data within 14 days of receiving devices
- Provide Digital Champion support
- Undertake the welcome survey with the User





Timescales

- Weekly assessments
- Maximum of 14 days from application to award
- Maximum of 14 days from receiving devices to issuing them





Digital Champions

You don't need to be a tech expert - being a Digital Champion is more about people than it is about digital

It's about adding to your existing relationship – it's not a new role

It's about understanding what motivates them, what they want to achieve and guiding them to be confident and safe online

- 2.5 hour online training sessions. Core session to help:
- Understand and explain the benefits of being online
- Understand how to engage a new learner who has limited or no digital skills/confidence
- Demonstrate how a Digital Champion can support a new learner remotely
- Create a structured approach for delivering digital skills support

Dedicated children and family sessions. Employability session under development. Additional topic-based resources and community.





Digital Champions help people who get devices through Connecting Scotland to do things

. connecting a device to the internet using the Wi-Fi settings, and putting in the password

· sharing documents by attaching them to an email

online like:

Digital Champion Support

children_and_families

housing_and_homel..

mental health

workforce_support

▼ Channels

accessibility

covid-19 # general # health

Dovetail

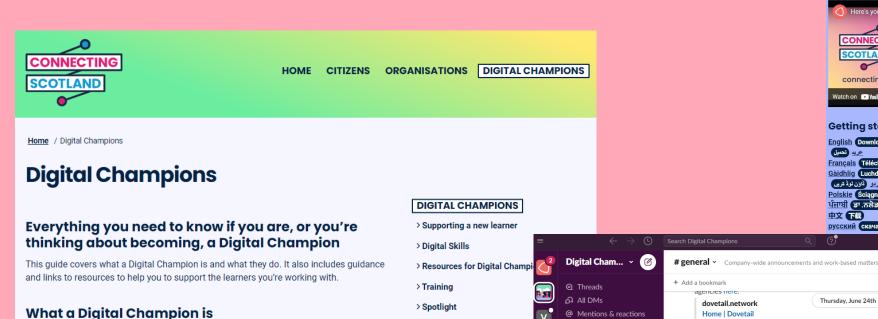
Juliana Amaral 6:42 PM @Kathleen Travers

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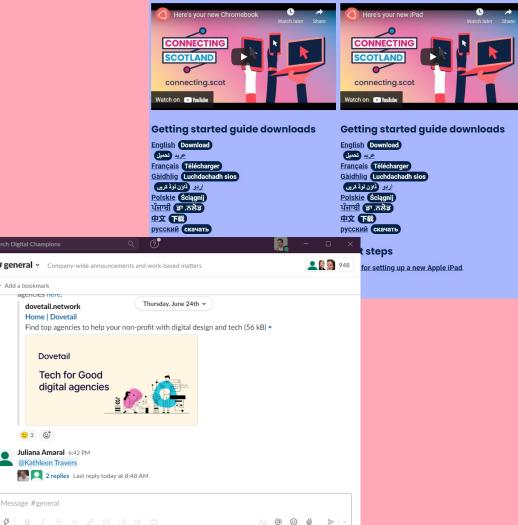
Message #general

Tech for Good

digital agencies



> Share your stories



Apple iPad

Google Chromebook



Q&A



Thank you!

connecting.scot

help@connecting.scot



