# Local and National Training Opportunities, Conferences, Networking and Events

Last Updated: 7 March 2024

Date and Location	Detail
	MARCH 2024
Curious Minds Festival, <b>7 – 28 March</b> <b>2024</b> , Bath	A brand new arts festival coming to Bath that champions the importance of curiosity for all, with over 30 book talks, live performances, film screenings, writing workshops and walking tours.
	https://www.batharts.co.uk/curious-minds
National Lottery Open Week, 9 – 17 March 2024, Nationwide	To say thank you for the £30 million raised for Good Causes every week by players, National Lottery funded venues are offering free entry, discounts and special offers throughout National Lottery Open Week.
	With hundreds of venues to choose from across the UK, there are plenty of free and low-cost days out to look forward to.
	https://www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/open-week/offers
National Food and Drink Summit 2024, <b>12</b> <b>March 2024,</b> Nottingham	The Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has recently announced that registrations for the National Food and Drink Summit 2024 are now open.
	The summit brings together food and drink businesses with industry experts for a day of masterclasses, networking and pitching opportunities. The annual event is tailored to small and medium food and drink businesses looking to grow their business.
	Date: 12 March 2024 Time: 10am – 4.30pm Location: Albert Hall Conference Centre, North Circus Street Nottingham NG1 5AA Cost: Free but you need to register
	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/national-food-and-drink-summit-2024-tickets-696059872817?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl
BANES 3SG Leaders' Network, <b>12 March</b> <b>2024</b> , Bath	The 3SG (Third Sector Group) is a membership network of over 200 charities, social enterprises and community groups in Bath and North East Somerset (BaNES)
	As part of their work, theyprovide opportunities for organisations and individuals in Bath and North East Somerset (BaNES) to connect, share resources and collaborate through network meetings.

Their Leaders' Network meet quarterly for an informal catch up with friends from the sector with some refreshments provided. This is an opportunity to connect with others working or volunteering for a local charity, social enterprise, church or community group in Bath and North East Somerset. If you have any accessibility requirements, please email: contact@3sq.orq.uk Date: 12 March 2024 Time: 4.30pm – 6.30pm Location: Newark Works, 2 Foundry Ln, Bath BA2 3DZ Cost: Free for 3SG members. Small fee for non-members Newark Works is just off the Lower Bristol Road, and does not provide visitor parking, however it's just a short walk (less than 5 minutes) across the new Quays bridge from Green Park Road Car park and Avon Street Car Park. https://www.3sg.org.uk/event-details/3sg-third-sector-social-7 Hosted by PSJ Respect, this event is to provide insight into the drug Community Drug Awareness Workshop, use of young people, what support is available, and what parents 12 March 2024. can do. Please note that this event is for adults only. Peasedown St John The event is facilitated by Project 28; supported by Youth Connect South West Date: 12 March 2024 Time: 7.30pm – 9.30pm Location: Peasedown St John Primary School, Bath Road BA2 8DH Cost: Free For further information contact Shelagh Hetreed by email to shelaghh@live.co.uk ACH are offering a Bridge into Employment programme for refugees Bridge to Employment Programme, 13 March and migrants that would like to work in the hospitality sector. **- 5 April 2023**. Bath and Bristol The 'Bridge into Employment' programme runs between 13 March and 5 April and includes a 2 week part-time training in a hotel in Bath (includes English for hospitality, cultural awareness, employment rights, employability) followed by 2 week part-time placement opportunities in hotels in Bristol and Bath. After these placements, individuals have an opportunity to apply for job roles that are available. If anyone is interested, they can email Shirley.pitman@ach.org.uk to book onto an information session on the 5 or 7 of March. https://ach.org.uk/about-us Bath College To get a head start on your future career, come along and speak to Apprenticeship & a multitude of businesses to see what they can offer you.

Career Fair, 14 March 2024, Bath	They are aiming to have 100 different employers offering apprenticeship and career opportunities. Visit their Event Brite page to find out more and book.  Date: 14 March 2024 Time: 10am – 2pm Location: Apex Hotel, James Street West, Bath BA1 2DA Cost: Free
	https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bath-college-apprenticeship-careers-fair-tickets-771632462467
Bath Women's Fund Potluck Picnic, 18 March 2024, Bath	Bath Women's Fund's March potluck picnic will focus on supporting women back and into employment. You will hear from 1st Impressions about their work helping women to create confident first impressions at interview, and Women's Work Lab (awarded their 2021 main grant), on supporting mums by rebuilding confidence and helping them on their journey to find work that works for them and their families.
	Opportunities to get involved with both organisations to support local women - volunteering as mentors, donating clothes, hosting placements etc.
	They will also share an update on the 2024 Bath Women's Fund grant programme at the end of the evening.
	Date: 18 March 2024 Time: 6pm – 8pm Location: MBA Lounge, Bath School of Management, Convocation Avenue, Claverton Down, Bath BA2 7AZ Cost: Free
	Further information and book your place on Eventbrite
Knife Crime Awareness Event for Parents and Carers, 18 March 2024, Bath	The B&NES Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) are running a series of knife crime awareness events throughout February and March.
	These events will take place in schools across the area.
	22 February - Writhlington School 29 February – Hayesfield School 18 March – Cameley Primary
	The events are aimed at parents and carers who would like to know more about the dangers of knife crime or are concerned that their children are at risk. They aim to increase awareness of key issues surrounding knife crime, empowering you and your children to make informed and positive decisions to stay safe.

You will have the opportunity to hear from guest speakers with lived experience who have been personally affected by knife crime.

There will also be a presentation by Street Doctors followed by a panel discussion with the opportunity to ask questions.

The Bath & North East Somerset Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) is a multi-agency partnership that aims to prevent and reduce violence in the area. They work to understand and address the root causes of violence, to prevent further violent crimes from occurring in the future. They provide resources and support the work of professionals and community groups who help children at risk or involved in serious violence.

For queries, please email VRU\_Events@bathnes.gov.uk. Or book you ticket now on Eventbrite:

Cameley Primary School, 18 March, 18.00 - 20.00 https://KnifeCrimeAwarenessCameley.eventbrite.co.uk

https://bcssp.bathnes.gov.uk/bath-north-east-somerset-violence-reduction-unit-vru

#### Bath Social Impact Network, **19 March 202**4, Bath

Bath Social Impact Network brings together like-minded groups and individuals to improve and grow the social economy in Bath and North East Somerset. It's run in partnership with Bath Spa University and BANES 3SG.

At this in person meeting, they will be joined by Nichola McAvoy from Social Enterprise UK (SEUK), the biggest network of social enterprises in the UK. Nichola will be talking to us about the work SEUK do under their strapline of "Creating an environment for Social Enterprises to thrive."

You'll hear about the exciting role they're playing on the national stage and the role your organisation can play in working together to influence policy.

Nichola will also give an update on SEUK's Social Enterprise Place scheme, which recognises hot spots of Social Enterprise activity. The Network hopes to achieve this accreditation for BaNES within the next year, and needs your help!

Date: 19 March 2024 Time: 5.30pm – 7.30pm

Location: Newark Works, 2 Foundry Lane, Bath BA2 3DZ

Cost: Free but you do need to book

Drinks and light refreshments will be provided.

https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/tbc/newark-works/bath-social-impact-network-march-in-person-networking/e-ragqqa

#### Bath Construction Jobs and Careers Fair **20 March 2024**, Widcombe, Bath

People looking to get into a career in the construction industry can find out more about opportunities and training, as well having a go at some stonemasonry and virtual welding, at a free event.

Bath & North East Somerset Council's Business and Skills team is hosting a Construction Jobs and Careers Fair. There will be number of local businesses and organisations attending including Halsalls, Curo, Hydrock, S&J Roofing, Wessex Water, Bath Property Maintenance, CITB, the Stone Masonry Training Board, Cliveden Conservation, Retrofit West, Bath College, West of England Combined Authority, Careers Service, B&NES Regeneration & Housing, UWE, Future Bright and the Employment & Skills Pod. Date: 20 March 2024 Time: 10am - 1pm Location: Widcombe Social Club, Widcombe Hill, Bath BA2 6AA Cost: Free Tickets can be booked here https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/constructing-bnes-construction-jobsand-careers-fair-tickets-745160102927?aff=oddtdtcreator 360Giving workshop -Free, online workshop to learn how to use GrantNav, 360Giving's Introduction to flagship online tool to explore, download and analyse UK grants GrantNav. 20 March data. **2024**, Online Date: 20 March 2024 Time: 10.30am - 11.45am Location: Online Cost: Free https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/360giving-workshop-introduction-tograntnav-tickets-700348911447 Support & Wellbeing This is a FREE drop in session organised the Council's Live Well for Adults, 20 March Team where you can chat to representatives from local groups, 2024, Keynsham organisations and services that help adults with wellbeing and support needs. Tea, coffee & biscuits provided. Date: 20 March 2024 Time: 2pm – 4pm Location: 1st Keynsham Scouts hut at the top of Ashton Way car park BS31 2UF Cost: Free https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=744785187752560&set=a.58 6979833533097 South West South West Fundraisers Forum organise free virtual networking and learning events on the topics that matter to fundraisers from across Fundraisers Forum, 22 March 2024, Online the South West and beyond. They provide an informal space to network, learn and be empowered to raise more.

At this session, Trybooking's Joan Lind will explore some of the great ways that all charities (but especially small charities) can use digital tools to make taking part in fundraising events and campaigns even more enjoyable for supporters.

Date: 22 March 2024 Time: 11am – 11.50am

Location: Online Cost: Free

https://www.thecharityknowledgehub.co.uk/events/swff-friday-re-connect-march-2024

#### Fundraising and Marketing Compliance - Lunch and Learn, 26 March 2024, Online

Does your charity know how to comply with data protection and privacy laws when fundraising and marketing? Join Bath Fundraisers and the 3SG for an informative Lunch and Learn with Claire Hall, Legal Director at local law firm, VWV.

Date: 26 March 2024 Time: 12pm – 1pm Location: Online Cost: Free

https://www.3sg.org.uk/event-details/fundraising-and-marketing-compliance-lunch-and-learn-with-vwv

#### Interagency Meetings -BANES wide (currently online)

A number of Interagency Network meetings take place across the district each year. They give service providers an opportunity to share information, promote projects or events and improve partnership working. Some of the meetings are organised by Bath & North East Somerset Council and others by partner organisations. The meetings are very informal (do feel free to bring your lunch) and are open to anyone working or volunteering for an organisation in the area.

#### **Forthcoming Meetings:**

All meetings are on a Tuesday and take place by Teams between 12pm and 2pm. Click on the link to take part.

- 26 March 2024
- 21 May 2024
- 23 July 2024
- 24 September 2024
- 26 November 2024

These meetings are currently taking place on-line and will be advertised via our Interagency Bulletin. Sign up to receive it here:

https://bathnes.us6.listmanage.com/subscribe?u=aaac7864bba59ea322ceb662d&id=ac43 65a3e8 Reconnecting communities through community transport **27 March 2024** (Online)

A National Association of Local Councils (NALC) event

The provision of community transport has become an increasingly important issue for local (parish and town) councils in recent years. With limited public transport options available in many areas, local councils must step up and support low-cost and sustainable community transport schemes to ensure their communities are connected and can access essential services.

Join us at this event, where we will showcase successful community transport programmes that local councils have implemented. We will also provide details into the national stakeholder scene and how local councils can collaborate with other organisations to improve transport options in their area.

Take advantage of this opportunity to learn about the benefits of community transport, how to establish partnerships and funding opportunities, and how your local council can make a difference in reconnecting your community through transport.

Date: 27 March 2024 Time: 12pm – 1.15pm Location: Online Cost: From £39.22

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/reconnecting-communities-through-community-transport-tickets-635390870197

#### **APRIL 2024**

## Midlife Review Event, **24 April 2024,** Bath

Are you over 45 and looking for support for the next stage of your employment?

Are you looking to support your 45+ workforce?

Then this is the event for you! It will provide information and advice on work, wealth and wellbeing for those aged 45+

Please contact rachel\_potter@bathnes.gov.uk if you would like to be added to the mailing list for this event or would like to represent your company with a stand on the day.

Date: 24 April 2024 Time: 10am – 3pm

Location: Apex Hotel, Bath

Cost: Free

https://www.achieveinbathnes.co.uk/

#### Emerging trends in Local Government finance 24 April 2024 (Online)

A National Association of Local Councils (NALC) event

As local government grapples with unprecedented financial challenges, with some principal authorities facing administration, engaging in a discourse that focuses on fortifying economic

resilience in the strategic planning of local (parish and town) councils is imperative.

This event will showcase a panel of finance experts representing different tiers of local government, offering insights into the shared financial risks confronting local councils and principal authorities.

Take advantage of this chance to gain practical knowledge on safeguarding local councils from prevalent financial threats anticipated to impact local government entities in the years ahead.

Date: 24 April 2024
Time: 12pm – 1.15pm
Location: Online
Cost: From £30

https://www.nalc.gov.uk/our-events/eventdetail/390/-/emerging-trends-in-local-government-finance

#### Team Games and Exercise, **26 April 2024**, Twerton, Bath

RICE offer free activities for people living with a mild to moderate memory condition, including Mild Cognitive Impairment and dementia. Join in to meet with others in a similar position and engage in a variety of exciting activities. Only twenty spaces are available per session, so make sure to get in contact if you are interested in attending.

On 26 April, enjoy some team games and exercise – try out indoor kurling – no experience necessary!

Date: 26 April 2024 Time: 10am – 12pm

Location: Twerton Village Hall, Landseer Rd, Twerton, Bath BA2

1DX

Cost: Free

Booking essential:

https://www.rice.org.uk/our-services/activities-and-events/

#### **MAY 2024**

#### Bath Digital Festival, 14 – 16 May 2024, Bath

Join techSPARK to celebrate our city with a focus on three internationally impactful themes with foundations in Bath & North East Somerset.

- Sports & Life Sciences
- Space
- Cities

Take part in a mix of keynotes, immersive panels, hands-on workshops, and engaging roundtable discussions!

https://techspark.co/bdf/

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#### **JUNE 2024**

## Tree Fun, Talks and Photography, **12 June 2024**, Bath

RICE offer free activities for people living with a mild to moderate memory condition, including Mild Cognitive Impairment and dementia. Join in to meet with others in a similar position and engage in a variety of exciting activities. Only twenty spaces are available per session, so make sure to get in contact if you are interested in attending.

On 12 June, take a relaxing walk in nature near The RICE Centre to discover more about varied tree species. Try your hand at photographing the beautiful scenery.

Date: 12 June 2024

Time: TBC

Location: Near the RICE Centre – Royal United Hospital, Combe

Park, Bath BA1 3NG

Booking essential:

https://www.rice.org.uk/our-services/activities-and-events/

# Unleashing the power of Local Councils to tackle the Climate Emergency 26 June 2024 (Online)

A National Association of Local Councils (NALC) event

Empower your local council to force change in the fight against climate change and biodiversity loss. Despite their potential, many smaller councils feel shackled by a lack of funding and disempowered in making a tangible impact. It's time to change that narrative.

Take advantage of this dynamic event that goes beyond rhetoric. Witness first-hand examples of impactful initiatives from around the country through the eyes of a national stakeholder championing climate action, a representative from a government department steering this crucial agenda, and a case study featuring a council that has successfully risen to the challenge.

This is not just another event – it's a call to action! Walk away with practical, actionable insights your council can implement to make a real change. The fight against climate change starts at the grassroots level, and your council can be a driving force. Seize this opportunity to transform your council into a catalyst for positive environmental change. Together, let's make a lasting impact on our planet's future.

Date: 26 June 2024 Time: 12pm – 1.15pm

Location: Online Cost: From £30

https://www.nalc.gov.uk/our-events/eventdetail/391/-/unleashing-the-power-of-local-councils-to-tackle-the-climate-emergency

#### **JULY 2024**

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Decoding the Future of Artificial Intelligence in Local Government 24 July 2024 (Online) A National Association of Local Councils (NALC) event

Dive into the world of artificial intelligence (AI) and explore the realm of predictive analytics in local council settings. While our initial thoughts about AI might drift towards HaI from 2001: A Space

Odyssey, the current focus is on predictive analytics and harnessing historical data to forecast new instances or cases.

In the realm of local government, predictive analytics is emerging as a game-changer, although its widespread adoption is still in its infancy. This session will take you beyond the surface, examining sophisticated examples of predictive analytics in various local public services. While some organisations have embraced this cutting-edge technology, most of the sector is just beginning to explore the opportunities and risks it presents.

Hear directly from experts who have conducted a groundbreaking report for the Local Government Association on AI in local government, a principal authority utilising assistive technology, and a communications stakeholder in the sector. Gain valuable insights into how predictive analytics could shape the future of local councils and grapple with the broader moral dilemma presented by AI.

Date: 24 July 2024
Time: 12pm – 1.15pm
Location: Online
Cost: From £30

https://www.nalc.gov.uk/our-events/eventdetail/392/-/decoding-the-future-of-artificial-intelligence-in-local-governance

#### **SEPTEMBER 2024**

#### The Future of Neighbourhood Plans **25 September 2024** (Online)

A National Association of Local Councils (NALC) event

This event aims to re-evaluate the continued significance of neighbourhood planning and make a case for its sustenance in the upcoming parliament, regardless of the government's composition. The focus is bridging the interest gap between developers, local councils, and local planning authorities.

Rediscover the passion for launching and shaping a neighbourhood plan in your area and access indispensable tips, guidance, and advice necessary to embark on this pivotal undertaking.

Date: 25 September 2024 Time: 12pm – 1.15pm Location: Online Cost: From £30

https://www.nalc.gov.uk/our-events/eventdetail/393/-/the-future-of-neighbourhood-plans

#### Interagency Meetings -BANES wide (currently online)

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#### **NOVEMBER 2024**

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#### **Ongoing Activities**

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Courses are free of charge for people who:		Courses are free of charge for people who:

Skills Connect -	<ul> <li>Are not currently in work and/or on benefits, and looking for new skills, ideas and advice</li> <li>Want to gain skills that will help with volunteering, improving confidence and working within their home and community</li> <li>Are earning less than £19,305 if a resident of B&amp;NES or £17,374 if outside of the area</li> <li>Have been a resident in the UK for 3 or more years</li> <li>https://www.bathcollege.ac.uk/acl</li> <li>Skills Connect is designed to make it easier for residents who want to</li> </ul>
WECA	find information about upskilling, reskilling, apprenticeships, and a wide range of other training and career support on offer.
	As well as resources available online, there are Skills Connect team advisors available on the phone who can provide tailored one-to-one support.
	https://www.skillsconnect.org.uk/
Cool Ventures Workshops and Webinars	Cool Ventures have been providing tailored, high quality business support and advice across the West of England for more than 10 years.
Weblilais	Having helped hundreds of small businesses to start, grow and thrive, they understand that one size of business support doesn't fit all. They are are dedicated to providing tailored business advice to every business and start-up they meet, taking time to listen and understand your aspirations and challenges before developing a programme of support with you to meet your needs.
	They also help support charities and community organisations. If you or your business is based in Bath & North East Somerset or South Gloucestershire, you are eligible to 12 hours of free business support.
	Check out their programme of practical workshops or get in touch with to find out how they can help!
	https://coolventures.co.uk/training/workshops/
Future Bright	If you want to feel better about your work life, Future Bright could offer you a personal career coach to help you develop and achieve your goals.
	Whether you want to progress and increase your salary, boost your confidence, change career or even just improve your mindset, having someone in your corner to offer support and guidance can make a huge difference.
	Future Bright is completely free, impartial and tailored towards you.
	https://www.westofengland-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/employment-skills/future-bright/
Creativity Works	Creativity Works is a local charity using creativity as a catalyst for personal and social development.

Participants can join a range of free weekly groups which cover creative and social interests such as photography and rambling, writing, textiles and cooking. This provides a chance for people experiencing anxiety, depression or other mental health issues to build confidence, learn new skills and make friends.

If the participants want a group to continue beyond the initial stage, Creativity Works helps them to move towards independence, providing help with the practicalities such as budgets and planning. Creativity Works remains on hand to provide support, but independence is the goal.

For their latest opportunities, visit their website:

https://www.creativityworks.org.uk/

You can also see their March 2023 Wellbeing Activities list here:

https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/march\_2023\_creative\_well\_being\_activities\_across\_bnes.pdf

#### Somerset Skills and Learning Courses and Workshops, (online)

Somerset Skills and Learning offer a range of free courses for learners aged 19+, who live in Somerset or BANES, and have lived in the UK for the last three years.

Learners must be able to access Zoom and will need to bring a pen and paper to the online workshop.

Somerset Skills and Learning also offer bespoke courses and workshops, which can be tailored to the needs of your service users/community. To find out more, contact Lucy Hill by e-mail to Ihill@sslcic.co.uk

You can find the Somerset Skills and Learning Website here:

https://www.sslcourses.co.uk/

### Community Farm – Chew Magna

Wellbeing activities on a working vegetable farm overlooking Chew Valley Lake. Find out more about how to grow food, look after wildlife and connect with your wider environment. Activities include:

- Lakeside Wellbeing therapeutic mindfulness, movement and creativity programme, 10am - 3pm on Mondays.
- Grow and Make therapeutic horticulture programme, 10am -3pm on Wednesdays.
- Wild Steps therapeutic conservation programme, 11am-3pm on Thursdays.

Other, volunteering opportunities, available too:

https://www.thecommunityfarm.co.uk/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=3044&Itemid=190

Eco-Wild	EcoWild aims to enhance people's relationship with the environment, offering inspiring opportunities for engaging with the natural world.  Many of their activities take place at Greyfield Woods in High Littleton.
	For information on all their activities, and to sign up for their monthly newsletter, visit <a href="https://www.ecowild.org.uk">www.ecowild.org.uk</a>
Courses in England – Free Online Training for Training courses for businesses & organisations - All sectors, all sizes	Are you looking to upskill and develop your team? Could your employees or volunteers benefit from some staff training? Free Courses in England is a government-funded scheme offering free, online training courses to organisations of all sizes, and it's worth checking out.
	Taking advantage of the Free Courses in England scheme can allow third sector organisations to offer learning and development opportunities to their staff, and enhance their in-house skill sets.
	Courses are delivered online by market-leading training providers, offering nationally recognised qualifications in a wide range of subjects across Mental Health, Business, Digital Skills and Health & Social Care. There are currently 63 training courses available.
	https://freecoursesinengland.co.uk/training-courses-for-businesses-and- organisations-2/
Bright Start Children's Centres, B&NES	Bright Start Children's Centres' family support workers can support families, if they have at least one child under five years old and will visit clients at home or at one of their Children's Centres. Clients can either be referred by others working with them, or for some courses, clients can approach the team directly. They offer general family support, personal and employment skills support, as well as home learning services.
	https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/childrens-centre-services
Healthy Eating and Wellbeing Courses for Families	The Children's Healthy Weight team offers a series of free courses to support children, young people and their families reach and maintain a healthier lifestyle, as well as a healthy weight. The service is provided by HCRG Care Group's B&NES Wellbeing Service, ran within the Community Wellbeing Hub. The courses provided by this service include Cook It!, Leap and HENRY (including Starting Solids and Fussy Eaters)-please see below for more information and upcoming course dates.
	To book, refer or find out more contact the Community Wellbeing Hub on 0300 247 0050 or email BATHNES.thehub@hcrgcaregroup.com
	https://bathneshealthandcare.nhs.uk/childrens/childrenshealthyweight/
Energy Advice, First Wednesday of the month, Bath	Residents wanting to reduce their bills or insulate their homes will be able to get guidance from trained energy experts at a monthly pop-up event in Bath.
	Staff from the Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE) will be manning a stall outside Bath Central Library on the first Wednesday of every month

The Centre for Sustainable Energy, based in Bristol, is a national charity supporting people and organisations across the UK to tackle the climate emergency and end the suffering caused by cold homes. Their Home Energy Team provides residents in B&NES with free, local and impartial energy advice.

The CSE staff can answer questions and provide information about saving energy in the home, keeping warm in winter and lowering fuel bills. They can also explain how to adjust your thermostat, the best way to use electric storage heaters or how to draught proof or insulate your home.

Residents can also get help managing their gas and electricity bills and find out about any financial assistance which may be available. Residents on low incomes can find out if they are eligible for energy related home improvement grant schemes such as Bright Green Homes, which could fund the installation of insulation, glazing, heat pumps or solar panels.

The CES stall will be in place on the first Wednesday of every month, at the top of the stairs in the Podium, from 11am to 2pm.

Further information on can be found on the CSE website, which contains plenty of information about saving energy around the home.

#### https://www.cse.org.uk/advice

Residents unable to visit the pop-up stall can call the CSE freephone home energy advice line for help on 0800 082 2234, or email info@cse.org.uk.

The council's Energy at Home website has information on energy related home improvement grant schemes for B&NES residents on low incomes.

#### https://www.energyathome.org.uk/

#### Retrofit Skills Bootcamps, WECA

A new training programme to provide West of England residents with retrofit skills to power the region's net-zero drive has been launched by WECA.

Skills Bootcamps offer free flexible courses up to 16 weeks, giving people the opportunity to build up sector-specific skills and fast track or launch their career in retrofit. They are designed to ensure adults are able to retrain and upskill whatever their starting point, providing clear line of site to a new role, opportunity or contract.

As long as you are over 19 and live or work in areas offering Bootcamps you will be eligible. That includes unemployed, employed and self-employed. The bootcamps are flexible and will involve online guided learning designed to work around your schedule, workshops and assignments.

https://retrofitacademy.org/funded-bristol-bath/

#### We Find Any This organisation offers opportunities to gain a free Level 2 qualification. Learner The courses they offer take around 30 to 60 hours in total to complete online. You will be given up to 12 weeks to complete your course. You will have tutor support throughout your learning journey. On completion you will be awarded a nationally recognised certificate from CACHE or NCFE. To be eligible, you simply need to be: Over 19 as of the 31 August 2022 Living in England Not on an Apprenticeship If this is of interest or you would like further information, then please register your interest by following this link https://www.wefindanylearner.com/course-list/ or call 01226 958 888. Somerset Farmers' A great place to promote your group or activity. Farmers Markets take place in Midsomer Norton on the first Saturday of the month and in Markets Keynsham on the Second Saturday of the month.

https://www.somersetfarmersmarkets.co.uk/