Digital and Financial Inclusion

Wayne Scorgie, Aberdeen Cyrenians

Main Aims

- enable people to develop digital and financial awareness, skills and wellbeing through a welcoming, accessible and personcentred approach.
- provide a supportive environment and access to online digital devices and coaching to reduce social isolation, to improve wellbeing, independence, and active involvement as citizens.

Why DFI

Latest statistics from the SCVO:

800,000 in Scotland with NO digital skills.

10% of UK adults have NO essential digital skills.

27% of UK adults have LOW essential digital skills.

59% of UK adults do not have the essential digital skills for work.

Cost of living impacts – reducing SIM data usage, cancelling broadband.

£659 per year more on goods and services without being digital – higher in rural areas.

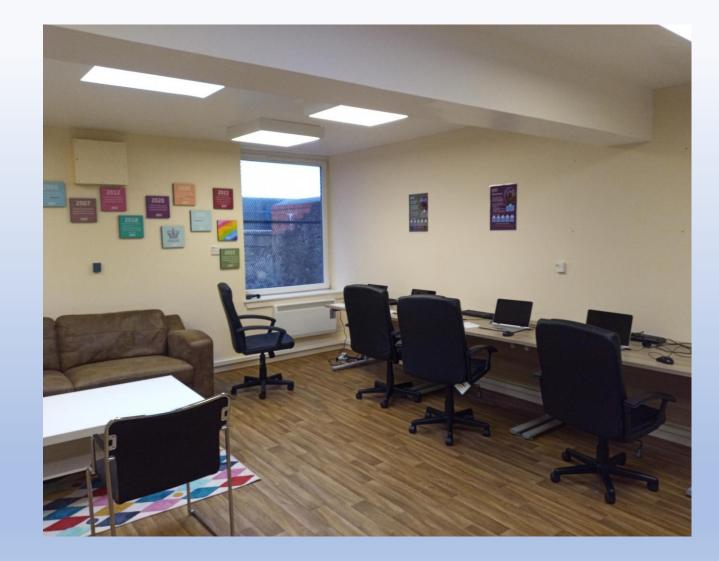
Objectives

- Provide access to digital devices and offer assistance to enable improved confidence with basic IT skills.

- Help with safe navigation and access of essential services such as Universal Credit, energy and data providers, banking, searching for jobs, voting or connecting with community resources

- Mentor and enable people to manage household budgeting and income maximisation.

- Empower people to access further learning, training and employment opportunities



Activities

- 1-1 appointments
- Digital drop in help
- CV workshops
- Interview skills
- Talk money sessions
- SIM databank support
- Learn My Way/I'm a learner short courses
- Fraud/scam awareness workshop

Future goals:

- Multi-agency collaboration with clear support pathways and relationships
- Expand from Databank to Device bank to provide hardware
- Capacity building for extra drop-in sessions including use of volunteers
- Maximise extra grant/revenue opportunities to address likely increase in digital and financial deficit

Contact details for referrals

Our service is open and available to anyone who is having difficulties with digital and financial exclusion. Referral form available online:

<u>Digital and Financial Inclusion Hub</u> — Aberdeen Cyrenians (weareac.org)

The Hub, 62 Summer Street, Aberdeen, AB10 1SD

0300 303 0903

