**Updates for Sector 3 bulletin – 22nd March**

**Devices and data for people on low income**

If you work with people who could benefit from the free loan of a laptop or smartphone, the DigiKnow Device Lending Library currently has no waiting list! Free data (sim cards) are also available from the National Databank. Call the DigiKnow Helpline on 077724 217888 or contact James at Starting Point on 0161 494 9947 or by email james@startpoint.org.uk, for information on both offers.

**‘Find a Grant’ digital service launched**

The Cabinet Office has launched a ‘Find a Grant’ digital service, a single place for eligible individuals and organisations to find and apply for government grants and gain access to financial support. Central government departments and their arms-length bodies must advertise their competitive grant schemes via the service from 1 April. The Cabinet Office is also offering councils the opportunity to advertise their grants on the service.

Visit the [‘Find a Grant’](https://www.find-government-grants.service.gov.uk/) web page, view the [video guidance](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a4zCHnAvjkI) or download the [user manual](https://gcoe.civilservice.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/2023-01-12-The-Find-a-Grant-Manual_-How-to-register-1.pdf).

**Got a spare room?**

House owners in Stockport are being invited to open their doors and offer short term care to help free up vital hospital beds and relieve pressure on the NHS. All you need is a spare room and time for a cup of tea and a chat with Guests who may be with you for a short stay of up to 14 nights. Hosts can work flexibly around their existing commitments but are asked to serve three meals a day (provided by CareRooms.com so no cooking involved). More on the [council’s newsroom](https://www.stockport.gov.uk/news/got-a-spare-room-then-stockport-needs-you). If you’d like to become a Host or to find out more information, please contact: 0333 121 2227 or email support@carerooms.com.

**Update to** **Stockport Council’s Adult Social Care Direct Payments Policy**

Stockport Council’s Adult Social Care Direct Payments Policy has been completely rewritten following last year’s consultation to make it more accessible and easier to understand.  View it on the [council web site](https://www.stockport.gov.uk/direct-payments).