

CVS STIRLING VOLUNTARY SECTOR DATABASE

CVS Stirling strives to maintain a constantly updated and comprehensive database of voluntary organisations in the Stirling area. This enables the production of several information publications, such as our **Essential Guide** - a booklet detailing the activities and contact information of our member groups. The information gathered is used to identify the needs of local groups and to draw up a plan to increase the capacity of the local Voluntary Sector. This includes identifying the need for training events and funding surgeries, and representing the Sector in Community Planning partnerships.

In order for this process to be effective, it is important for us to have as wide a membership as possible in the Stirling area, and gather up-to-date information on our member groups and their needs.

If your group has is not a member of CVS Stirling, then please fill in an application form or contact us about joining - in addition to the individual support that we can offer you, it is vital for voluntary groups to work together in order to form a strong community with a strong voice.

CVS STIRLING HELPS THE SECTOR BY

- Representing the interests of the community and voluntary sector at local, regional and national levels
- Participating in strategic and local Community Planning
- Working in partnership with a wide range of voluntary and statutory organisations
- Fostering partnership working among voluntary organisations and with other agencies
- And much, much more....



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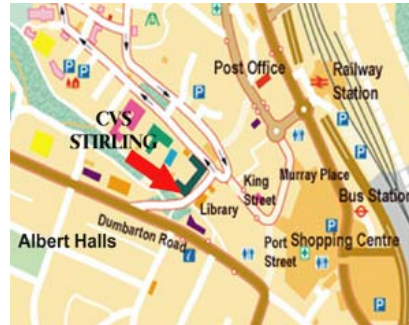
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INFORMATION LEAFLET

WHAT IS CVS STIRLING?



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SUPPORTING THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR IN THE STIRLING AREA

WHAT IS CVS STIRLING?

CVS STIRLING is the Council for Voluntary Services for the area covered by Stirling Council.

Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) is the generic name given to the local independent organisations supporting the voluntary sector in Scotland. They are themselves voluntary organisations and draw their membership from voluntary and community groups in their own area.

Voluntary groups are essential to our community, providing services in areas such as caring, recreation, housing, environment, employment, training, economic regeneration, education and health. Local Councils for Voluntary Service recognise their importance and work to support them.

CVS Stirling is an independent umbrella organisation whose role it is to provide support, information, advice and access to resources for all voluntary organisations in the Stirling area.

We also represent the interests of the Voluntary Sector at local, regional and national levels.

WHAT ARE OUR KEY AIMS?

- To help voluntary sector organisations to develop common aims and objectives
- To encourage representation of the sector
- To help provide services locally to address identified needs
- To preserve the integrity of the sector
- To stimulate participation and encourage active citizenship
- To encourage and support organisational development and sustainability

CVS STIRLING OFFERS HELP WITH

- Setting up new groups
- Grant and funding applications
- Writing and amending constitutions
- Information and advice on charitable and company status
- Support for developmental growth and change
- Legal issues
- Policy issues
- Preparation of annual reports
- Signposting to specialist sources of information and help

BENEFITS FOR MEMBERS

- Weekly LINK e-Bulletin – current events and breaking news by e-mail
- CVS Stirling Annual Report and vote at AGM
- Funding information and FunderFinder searches
- Access to photocopier and fax
- Library of books and periodicals
- Conference room facility
- Free advertisements in LINK e-Bulletin
- CVS Training Events
- Mailing facility
- Table/exhibition space at Charities Christmas Event
- Access to up-to-date information on all issues regarding the sector
- Administration services

MEMBERSHIP IS FREE

JUST FILL IN AN APPLICATION FORM OR
CONTACT US FOR DETAILS...

PARTNERSHIPS

Growing importance is being placed on partnership working and we aim to represent the collective interests of the Voluntary Sector in our partnerships.

We are involved in policy development in relation to the development of a wide range of services to communities.

CVS Stirling works in partnership with other voluntary and statutory organisations, including the Stirling Community Planning Partnership, Stirling Community Health Partnership, Forth Valley CVS Network, Community Learning and Development, the Volunteer Centre and others.

CVS Stirling aims to foster partnership working among our member organisations. This offers considerable scope for joint development work.

Our goal is to:

- Develop common aims and objectives
- Stimulate participation
- Keep abreast of current policies and practises
- Encourage representation at all levels
- Preserve the integrity and independence of the voluntary sector

e-Bulletin

Our weekly e-Bulletin is an excellent way to keep up to date with Voluntary Sector news. This electronic publication keeps you informed of the latest policies, funding news, training events, and developments at CVS. It also provides a forum for local groups to exchange information on their activities and events.

CVS Stirling welcomes all contributions, so if you'd like to let people know who you are and what you do, or have an event that you'd like to publicise, don't hesitate to contact us.