

CVS Stirling e-Bulletin 5th June 2009



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The ‘**Stronger Together**’ Third Sector Forum Event held on Friday 29th May fulfilled its organisers’ expectations and more. There was a substantial turnout, and delegates engaged with the issues articulately and with passion. Most importantly, the event demonstrated the unity of purpose among diverse groups that we believe is essential for the Sector to thrive, and in particular to achieve the goal of effective representation in decision making. After Friday, this goal appears to be a step nearer.

A full report on the event is being prepared. In the meantime, we have a brief outline of the proceedings on page 2.

Comments and suggestions for the [website](#) and e-Bulletin are welcome.

Emails to: lee.stevenson@cvs-stirling.org.uk or donald.saunders@cvs-stirling.org.uk

Deadline for contributions is the previous Monday. If you have any queries, please call 01786 469916 and ask for Lee or Donald.

CVS NEWS

Terry is Our New Chair



At a Board meeting on 1st June, Terry Barlow was confirmed as the new Chair of CVS Stirling. The position had become vacant following the sudden death of Colin Newman in April of this year.

Terry will bring a wealth of experience to the post. Not only has he been an active CVS Stirling Board member, he is also Chair of Stirling Area Access Panel (SAAP). The list of Terry’s contributions to civic life would be a long one. He has been a Stirling Councillor, is currently Secretary of

Bannockburn Community Council, Chair of Clackmannan and Stirling Environment Trust, Vice-Chair of the Area Forum... to name but a few.

“It was largely through SAAP that I became involved with CVS Stirling,” he explains. “CVS gave critical help and support in setting up and developing that organisation, and I became interested in its role and purpose.”

“I consider it a great honour to be Chair of CVS Stirling, particularly at this time of change and opportunity for the voluntary sector.”

Third Sector Forum Event Shows We're

Around 50 delegates from Third Sector organisations in the Stirling area attended 'Stronger Together' last Friday morning (29th May), for what would be a lively, constructive and extremely positive occasion.

In his **introduction**, CVS's Terry Barlow emphasised the 'unity is strength' theme, stressing how vital it was for Sector organisations to come together, not only in their own interests but also in the interests of their service users and the community as a whole.



Next, Marina Maguire, CVS Stirling Manager, gave a **presentation** setting out the background and context of the Event. She examined the role of Third Sector representation in the local Community Planning Partnership, and presented a diagrammatic model of how this might be achieved through a Third Sector Forum.



Following **question and answers** on the presentation, delegates split into groups for five **workshops** arranged around Stirling CPP's five Critical Partnerships - the committees which sit to address the topics of Health, Learning, Safety, Economics and Housing. In each workshop,

delegates discussed (a) the representational model

proposed in the presentation,

(b) the relevance of the

particular themed groups to

their own organisations, and (c)

how Third Sector 'Champions' might best be selected/elected to represent the Sector on the Critical Partnerships.



By the time the event concluded, we had been given much food for thought. Immediate impressions were overwhelmingly positive: delegates had demonstrated a basic consensus and a commitment to the way forward.

A full report on the 'Stronger Together' Event will soon be available to view on the CVS Stirling [Website](#).

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

‘Lunchlink’ Fundraising Lunch

Lesser Albert Halls, Stirling
Thursday, 11th June, 12 – 2.30 pm



Come along and support **Artlink Central** at this event! There will be homemade soup and buttered roll only £3.00, as well as Baking, Plants and Craft Tables.

Artlink Central is based in Stirling, and develops arts activities across the Forth Valley - primarily for people with mental health issues and disabled people. More information on the charity is available at www.artlinkcentral.org.

Information Session: Protection of Vulnerable Adults Legislation

CRBS, 10 Jubilee House, Forthside Way, Stirling
25th June, 4.45 – 7 pm

The **Central Registered Body in Scotland (CRBS)** invites you to join them to find out more about the current and future changes taking place with the Disclosures for persons working with Vulnerable Adults.



The Central Registered Body in Scotland (CRBS) is a service operated by Volunteer Development Scotland.

It was established by the Scottish Government to provide free Disclosures (police checks) for volunteers in the voluntary sector working with children, young people and adults at risk.

Both staff and Management Committee members will find this session useful in gaining a better understanding of the new scheme, and what can be done now to prepare for its introduction in 2010.

This information event is provided by CRBS to support the Scottish Government in its work to raise awareness of the vetting and barring scheme (PVG scheme) to be introduced through the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007.

It will give an overview of the new PVG scheme and detail how the scheme will work to ensure that those who have regular contact with children and protected adults through the work place do not have a history of harmful behaviour.

Recent Changes to Enhanced Disclosure Criteria

These events will also look at the current legislation, The Protection of Children (Scotland) Act, and cover the recent amendments that have been made to the criteria for accessing Enhanced Disclosures for “Adult at Risk” positions.

For more information on this event or to register to attend, contact jennifer.shearman@volunteerstirling.org.uk on 01786 446071.

Islamic Centre Open Day

Central Scotland Islamic Centre, Burghmuir Road,
Stirling

Sunday, 21st June, 11 am - 4 pm.

Everyone is welcome to this event, which features

- Meet the Imam
- Guided Tours
- Muslim Culture
- Food & Refreshment
- Stalls & Displays
- Interfaith & Islamic Faith



The Central Scotland Islamic Centre (CSIC) in Stirling is the Central Islamic centre for the Muslim community.

If you're interested in learning more about Islam and Islamic culture, or just fancy a day out with a difference, why not come along?

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TRAINING & RESOURCES

Evaluation: Training & Resources

Evaluation is about working out what difference you are making through your services or activities. This can often seem to be a complicated process! However, **Evaluation Support Scotland** can help.



Evaluation Support Scotland (ESS) works with voluntary organisations and funders so they can measure the impact of their work. We provide practical support and access to resources and tools. We take action to build evaluation and learning into funding and policy-making processes.

The ESS website www.evaluationsupportscotland.org.uk contains a large number of resources about aspects of evaluation; these include a series of ESS Support Guides and a range of publications from other organisations.

ESS offers a range of training courses that run throughout the year, each of which can be booked online, by following the links below:

- [What are my Outcomes](#) – next date 3rd September
- [Collecting Information to report on outcomes](#) – next date 18th September
- [Using Visual Approaches to evaluate your project](#) – next date 1st October

We are also able to offer a limited amount of one to one evaluation support for organisations requiring it, most frequently for people who have already attended one of our training courses.

To subscribe to the ESS quarterly e-newsletter and hear what ESS have been up to, please email info@evaluationsupportscotland.org.uk with the word 'subscribe' in the subject line.

Carers Scotland Training Courses

Carers Scotland Training Suite, 91 Mitchell Street, Glasgow

Carers Scotland provides training to health and social care professionals, advice workers, employers, carers and those who work with carers. The following one-day courses take place this month:

- ⇒ 16th June - **Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000**
- ⇒ 24th June - **Carers and their rights**
- ⇒ 30th June - **Black and Minority Ethnic Carers**

The Training Calendar 2009 has full details of times, venues and costs, and can be downloaded at www.carerscotland.org/Policyandpractice/Training/TrainingCalendar2009

Reserve your space on any of these courses by going to www.carerscotland.org/Policyandpractice/Training/Bookhere

VHS Research Documents

Voluntary Health Scotland has recently published two pieces of research highlighting Third Sector participation in Scotland's health policy agenda and how well the NHS is engaging with the Third Sector. (Click to download the PDF files):

- ⇒ [The role of the third sector in health improvement within Community Health Partnerships: a sector perspective.](#) This report looks at the planning and delivery contribution of the third sector to health improvement within CHPs and articulates the unique value brought to health improvement by the sector.
- ⇒ [Improving CHP engagement with the third sector.](#) This document reports on a survey of CHP General Managers carried out by Voluntary Health Scotland to identify where supports could be targeted for building more effective partnerships with the third sector.

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FUNDING

Fundraising Standards Board – *Use It or Lose It!*

The Fundraising Standards Board (FRSB) champions best practice in fundraising, and aims to help charities fundraise with confidence.

"The Scottish Government supports the work of the Fundraising Standards Board in Scotland and provided funding to help its establishment. We fully support membership of the scheme which allows charities and voluntary organisations who fundraise to provide greater transparency and reassurance to the public."

**Fergus Ewing,
Minister for Community
Safety**

But if the FRSB scheme is to succeed, more of those organisations (like yours?) that ask people and funders for money to support their work, need to join. FRSB scheme membership will help you achieve and maintain the highest standards of fundraising practice. This will help ensure the sector continues to grow and that public trust is enhanced.

Time is Running Out

But we need you to join now. Without enough members, the FRSB scheme simply can't survive.

The alternative would be statutory regulation, introduced by government, which could cost more, be more prescriptive and be less flexible.

So don't delay - join today!

You can now join online at www.frsb.org.uk.

Charity Street Collections

Collecting donations in the street is a very familiar form of charity fundraising. It can produce effective results and, if well organised, can help increase the profile of the organisation.

There are three types of street collection, those done door-to-door, those where collectors stand on pitches in shopping streets, and those where collectors stand in or visit individual commercial premises, such as supermarkets or pubs.

Street collections, now known as 'public benevolent collections' under the Charities and Trustee Investment Act (Scotland) 2005, are regulated by law, and to undertake them the permission of the local authority must usually be obtained.

Regulations about the new fundraising regime are being drafted by the Scottish Government. (Further details on fundraising under the new law can be found on the SCVO website www.scvo.org.uk under the section entitled 'Charitable Status after April 2006'.)

Professional fund-raising firms, who themselves operate for profit, do provide services to charities to organise public collecting campaigns. If an organisation chooses to use such a service, the arrangement *must* now be governed by a formal agreement.

The Institute of Fundraising has a wealth of information on its website, www.institute-of-fundraising.org.uk including where to source professional fundraisers and promotional products (badges, T-shirts and so on).

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GROUP NEWS

Macmillan Helps Cancer Patients Secure £42m

More than £42m in welfare benefits and hardship grants has been paid out to cancer patients as part of a project run by a leading charity.

Around 16,000 people in Scotland have received payments after being helped by Macmillan Cancer Support to claim benefits they are entitled to while living with the disease.

The charity said that almost three-quarters of patients who applied for help in the five years since its benefits advice service was set up were given extra money, much of which would otherwise have gone unclaimed.

Around 30,000 people in Scotland are diagnosed with cancer every year. Nine out of 10 patients experience a drop in income and an increase in daily living costs because of their diagnosis, and cancer patients in Scotland spend an average of £636 on travel and parking throughout the course of their treatment.

City Centre Chaplaincy Appeal

For three years **The Rock Community Project** has been piloting a part-time workplace chaplaincy in Stirling city centre. Now that the chaplain for the trial period has retired, the charity wants to appoint a full-time successor.

But to do this, they need cash.

Donald Black, one of the charity's directors, said, "*The depths of a recession may be a great time to try to provide a workplace chaplain but it's a terrible time to be looking for money. Some people think that chaplains are irrelevant nowadays in multi-faith and no-faith Britain but experience in Stirling and elsewhere doesn't bear this out. In the first place a chaplain does not promote any particular faith but simply meets people where they are.*"

The charity hopes that funding will come from 'local sources with a heart for Stirling.' Stirling Baptist Church has already committed to match up to 50 per cent of the cost. If you can help, contact The Rock Community Project at 01786 462647 or e-mail admin@rockcommunityproject.org.uk .

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OTHER NEWS

Third Sector Presentation to Scottish Cabinet

"Working together to ensure that Scotland is well equipped to deal with the current recession and emerge from it strongly"

Representatives of the Third Sector will meet with the Scottish Cabinet on **June 9th** to brief the Government directly on the contribution sector organisations can make to helping Scotland out of recession. SCVO is co-ordinating input to the presentation to the Cabinet and senior Government officials. **They would welcome any relevant input to this delegation from SCVO members.**

This opportunity builds on the Government's expressed intention to work with 'social partners'. For some time SCVO has been promoting the concept of social partnership, where key sectors (employers, unions, faith groups and voluntary organisations) engage routinely with government. The belief is that effective social partnership will allow the Third Sector to work in partnership with government to create a better Scotland.

This briefing is an opportunity to raise current issues and concerns, and hopefully set a pattern for future working relationships.

If you wish to contribute relevant ideas to the briefing for this meeting, contact Peter McColl at SCVO on 0131 474 6179 or peter.mccoll@scvo.org.uk.

Surveying Support for Scotland's Third Sector



Ekos been commissioned by the Big Lottery's **Dynamic Inclusive Communities Forum (DInC)** to undertake a study into the support (advice, guidance, signposting, training) available to the Third Sector in Scotland.

The DInC Forum was established in 2007 to provide ongoing, independent advice to the **Big Lottery, SCVO and Scottish Government**. Its focus is on ensuring the best possible investment in the services and networks that support the third sector.

As part of this study we recently held a series of group discussions across Scotland. To follow this up we are undertaking **a survey to be directed towards frontline third sector groups and organisations**. There are two ways for groups to respond:

1. They can register views online at:
<http://www.ekosonlineresearch.co.uk/dinc.htm> ; or
2. They can request a copy of the questionnaire (from Lorna Bryson at EKOS on 0141 3531994 or lorna.bryson@ekos.co.uk) to complete and return.

The closing date for the survey is 15 June.

Freedom of Information Survey

The University of Strathclyde is undertaking a three-year study looking at the extent to which campaign groups and voluntary organisations in Scotland make use of Freedom of Information (FOI) legislation.

FOI could be a valuable tool for many voluntary organisations, but to date the Scottish Information Commissioner has reported surprisingly low rates of appeals (4%) to his office from the sector. To help understand some of the barriers encountered by voluntary organisations seeking information from public authorities, Strathclyde University is conducting this short survey and would like to find out your views.

Voluntary organisations of all shapes and sizes are invited to take part, regardless of whether or not they have previously requested information.

Please click here: <http://tinyurl.com/strathclyde-survey> to go to the survey, or visit www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=8Or_2b2yyIrP_2bV_2flxnI20EnA_3d_3d



Showcase your Health Projects

Voluntary Health Scotland is offering to promote your successful local projects on a dedicated area of their website. If you have any initiatives that have made an impact on **tackling health inequalities** or **health improvement**, they would be delighted to hear from you.

This is a key opportunity to publicise your recent achievements to the Third Sector, NHS Scotland and the Scottish Government. To take part in this showcase, just provide a short description addressing the following points and VHS will work with you to design a page detailing your achievements.

- Project background
- Key achievements
- Impact on the Third Sector

There is space for up to six initiatives every few months. Please send your comments to phil.mcandrew@vhscotland.org.uk

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