



SCOTTISH COUNCIL FOR
VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

www.scvo.org.uk

stronger together

SCVO
MEMBERSHIP
GUIDE

Working with our members for
the benefit of the voluntary
sector in Scotland.

About SCVO

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The Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) is a membership and representative body working with and for charities and voluntary organisations in Scotland.

Through our policy, development, and communication networks we provide support and services to the sector.

Our work is structured around five main themes:

- Promoting equality
- Developing active communities
- Growing the social economy
- Highlighting the rural dimension
- Building sustainability

By becoming a member of SCVO you will be joining a growing number of voluntary organisations that believe that acting together in our common interest is the best way forward. So get the strength of the voluntary sector around you and join now – we are stronger together.

Our Membership Package

SCVO Membership offers you:

- **OPPORTUNITIES TO WORK TOGETHER**
to represent the collective interests of the voluntary sector
- **UP TO THE MINUTE INFORMATION**
on the issues that matter to you
- **SUPPORT**
to help your organisation run more effectively
- **NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES**
to help build effective partnerships
- **A SIGNIFICANT RANGE OF SERVICES**
and deals designed to make a difference that matters, and save you money

Over 1,200 voluntary organisations across Scotland – from large national bodies to local community groups – are already enjoying the benefits of SCVO membership and for less than you think – our membership fees are banded according to your annual income and start from less than £4 per month.

By taking advantage of the great discounts on events, publications, training courses and our exclusive discounted products and services, you will soon see the value of membership.

Membership Benefits

**Members
of SCVO enjoy
access to a wide
range of benefits,
including:**

INFLUENCE

Our Policy and Parliamentary service offers a wealth of policy information and parliamentary advice relevant to the voluntary sector.

Our staff actively consult with the sector on key policy issues to ensure that the policy positions adopted by SCVO reflect the concerns of the sector. We also promote debates and discussions on the future policy direction of the voluntary sector and provide information on how the sector can engage with the political process and effectively present their views to decision makers.

Some recent examples of SCVO's influence on policy include:

- The passing of the Charities and Trustee Investment Act, delivering a modern regulatory framework for the sector
- Working to shape the future distribution of lottery funding through the new Big Lottery Fund
- Progress on the Strategic Funding Review and securing fair funding contracts
- Securing support for the transition period of Protection of Children (Scotland) Act
- Winning the case for Futurebuilders funding in Scotland

The support of the SCVO membership is crucial to the advocacy and representation role of SCVO and cannot be underestimated. The legitimacy this support confers is a major reason why our voice is listened to. Without it we could not fight for the sector's interests as effectively as we have been able to. Members have the opportunity to get further involved through:

- Seeking election to the SCVO Management Board or Policy Committee (full members only)
- Attending our regular policy briefing seminars

- Responding to consultations on a range of key policy issues where you can reflect a local, regional or national perspective
- Joining the Policy Officers Network
- Attending and voting (full members only) at our Annual General Meeting

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FACT FILE

ORGANISATION
**SCOTTISH YOUTH HOSTELS
ASSOCIATION**

SCVO MEMBER
LONG STANDING MEMBER

SERVICES USED
TFN
**CONFERENCES AND EVENTS
TRAINING
PENSION
PUBLICATIONS
INFORMATION
SOFTWARE DEALS
COMPUTER HARDWARE DEALS**

SCVO MEMBERSHIP GUIDE:
Membership Benefits

“Thanks very much for your email. It answers my questions in full. This is an invaluable service for organisations like mine.”

POSITIVE VOICE

INFORMATION

SCVO members can access expert help and information on all areas of running a voluntary organisation through;

- Regular targeted mailings and email briefings on the issues that matter to you
- Free information from our Information team on a range of topics from charity law and governance, to management and money
- News on the latest funding opportunities
- Free subscription to our weekly publication Third Force News
- Access to a wide range of publications covering topics such as funding sources, good employment practice and setting up charities
- Access to a number of conferences, seminars, workshops, briefings etc, which we hold throughout Scotland
- Access to special interest networks such as the Peer Support Network and Policy Officers Network
- Access to expert speakers for conferences and AGM's (subject to availability)
- Invitations to attend one of our members lunches which we hold throughout Scotland as a way of keeping in touch with our members

As a member of SCVO you will receive a discount on a range of products and services including:

THIRD FORCE NEWS (TFN)

Scotland's voluntary sector newspaper which covers all major stories affecting the sector.



Including: in-depth and cutting-edge features; interviews with key figures; crucial funding information; details of events and training courses; comment and opinion from the people who influence; and not least, the best jobs in the not-for-profit sector in Scotland.

A SCVO member means:

- FREE subscription to TFN, which without membership costs £110 per year
- 50% discount on an additional subscription to Third Force News – a saving of £55
- Multiple copies for larger organisations



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ORGANISATION
CVS CLACKMANNANSHIRE

SCVO MEMBER
MEMBERS SINCE 2002

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SCVO MEMBERSHIP GUIDE:
Membership Benefits

“Guide to
Constitutions
– Thanks very much
for this information.
You just saved me
from paying nearly
£900 to a lawyer
to explain what it
all means to me.
You’re a star!”

COMMUNITY LINKS WEST
DUNBARTONSHIRE

PUBLICATIONS

SCVO produces a wide range of voluntary sector related publications, including workpacks, directories, conference reports, statistics and handbooks.

These publications cover a wide range of subjects from funding, to constitutions, to the roles and responsibilities of management committees, to organising an event.

As a member of SCVO you will receive a discount on any publication purchased.



CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

SCVO delivers a varied and successful programme of events each year for the voluntary sector in Scotland.

We run conferences, seminars, workshops, briefings etc. throughout Scotland to ensure the sector is well informed about the issues that matter.

SCVO each year hosts:

- The Gathering – the UK's largest voluntary sector event of its kind – 4,500 visitors, 180 exhibitors and 40 events taking place over 3 days in 2005

Some recent examples of other events we run are:

- Policy based conferences on topics such as Equalities and Rural Services
- Consultation events on topics such as Charity Law and Strategic Funding Review
- SCVO also run members briefings throughout the year and as part of our AGM

Members of SCVO will be entitled to receive:

- Discount on any bookings – up to 20% reduction, on average
- Early notice of key conferences and events



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ORGANISATION
THE ROCK TRUST

SCVO MEMBER
LONG STANDING MEMBER

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PHOTOCOPIER DEALS
SOFTWARE DEALS
COMPUTER HARDWARE DEALS

SCVO MEMBERSHIP GUIDE:
Membership Benefits

“Best course I’ve
been on for ages.
Very useful, simple
and easy to use”

SHETLAND COMMUNITY
DRUGS TEAM

TRAINING COURSES

The SCVO short course programme contains a series of open-access courses aimed at staff, committee members and volunteers.

The programme is primarily targeted at the voluntary sector but public and private sector organisations are also welcome to attend.

Courses covered include:

- Charity Legislation Changes
- Effect Governance
- Foundation in Fundraising
- Employment Legislation
- Microsoft Publisher 2000
- Effective Minute Taking

SCVO members are entitled to generous discounted rates of up to 30%.

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PENSION SCHEME

The Pensions Trust is one of the leading multi-employer occupational pension schemes for the charitable, social, educational, voluntary and not-for-profit sectors.

This pension scheme is available to any employee aged between 16 and 64 whose employer within the voluntary sector has an affiliation with SCVO.

“We are very happy with the Final Salary Pension Scheme administered by The Pensions Trust. Our employees, the members, are kept up to date with their benefits through their annual statements. Other recent communications include any changes to the scheme and useful information on the Pensions Act 2004 and the Finance Act 2004.”

THE FAMILY FUND TRUST

The scheme provides comprehensive benefits including:

- A pension of 1/60th of final pensionable salary for each year of pensionable service
- The option to receive a tax free cash sum in lieu of part of the pension
- Valuable death and ill-health benefits

Members pay 6% of salary and employer pays the balance (12%).



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ORGANISATION
CHEST, HEART AND STROKE SCOTLAND

SCVO MEMBER
LONG STANDING MEMBER

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SCVO MEMBERSHIP GUIDE:

Membership Benefits

“We would like to thank you for the service you have given us. You have been helpful, understanding and we have always felt that you valued us personally”

J & S WELSH,
DUNFERMLINE

CREDIT UNION

The SCVO Credit Union is a democratic mutual financial co-operative, which provides savings and loans.

The staff and volunteers of SCVO members can join the Credit Union and access the following benefits:

- The ability to save regularly
- Low cost borrowing
- Savings and loan repayments designed to suit your income
- Lifetime membership

MEETING ROOMS

Members receive a discount when booking one of our fully equipped rooms at SCVO offices in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Inverness.



FAIRWAYS HOUSE: THE NEW VOLUNTARY SECTOR CENTRE FOR THE NORTH OF SCOTLAND.

PAYROLL SERVICE

SCVO provides a full professional payroll service that is designed to keep you in control, without the worry.

- Low cost, high quality service
- Telephone Helpline facility
- Full compliance with Statutory Sick Pay, Statutory Maternity Pay, PAYE Tax and NIC legislation
- SCVO is a member of the Payroll Alliance

Members of SCVO receive an annual £10 discount on payroll services.

“Being able to outsource our payroll to SCVO has benefited us a great deal. It has helped us reach tight deadlines and lift some of the pressure from a heavy workload. The wealth of knowledge in the team is second to none and our queries are always dealt with speedily and efficiently”

GLASGOW SIMON COMMUNITY

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FACT FILE

ORGANISATION
CITIZENS ADVICE SCOTLAND

SCVO MEMBER
LONG STANDING MEMBER

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Discounted Services

**Savings
galore for our
members...**

SCVO has negotiated a range of discounts with external suppliers on key products and services that meet the needs of our members.

COMPUTER HARDWARE AND IT PERIPHERALS

Save up to 70% on a range of IT supplies from the world's leading computer manufacturers.

COMPUTER SOFTWARE

Save up to 50% on selected software. The range includes Microsoft, Symantec, Novell, Adobe and McAfee. In some cases charitable status is also required.

PHOTOCOPIERS

Save up to 55% on photocopiers from Panasonic and Hewlett Packard.

“Having just set up a brand new online ticketing service for the Highlands we needed to purchase lots of software for the website. We used 3rdforcebuying.com to purchase all the essentials. On one product alone we paid just £70 instead of the normal price of over £500! We were delighted with the fabulous savings”

HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS ARTS LTD

“We were delighted to find that SCVO members are able to benefit from reduced cost office supplies. This has been a bonus to our organisation and we are extremely grateful to benefit from the buying power of SCVO”

SHOPMOBILITY PAISLEY & DISTRICT

TELEPHONY

The SCVO Telephone scheme offers savings on a full range of discounted telecom solutions.

OFFICE SUPPLIES

Save up to 60% for SCVO members from OyezStraker (Scotland) Office supplies (over 20,000 products).

MARKETING & PROMOTION

Save up to 40% on a range of exhibition display systems.

Discounts available on large format printing and design.

INSURANCE SERVICES

SCVO in partnership with Keegan and Pennykid Ltd (Insurance Brokers) and Royal & SunAlliance have designed a bespoke insurance policy for the Voluntary sector – the Encompass policy.

- Over 1,000 organisations already covered
- Premiums start from as low as £50
- 24 hour legal helpline
- Advice on risk assessment, claims and valuations
- Cover can be tailored to your needs

Details of all SCVO approved deals are found at www.3rdForceBuying.com



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ORGANISATION
SHOPMOBILITY PAISLEY & DISTRICT

SCVO MEMBER
MEMBERS SINCE 1998

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Membership Criteria and Categories

Membership of SCVO is available to a wide range of organisations and individuals.

There is no size restriction on who can join and our fees are set on a sliding scale according to your organisation's annual income to ensure that membership is accessible to everyone.

“Becoming a member of SCVO has opened up a whole range of new opportunities to us. In addition to financial savings on a range of services, we also have access to an enhanced information service. By electing representatives to the Policy Committee we can help to influence the collective agenda of the sector”

EDINBURGH VOLUNTEER CENTRE

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Full member

The following groups are eligible to apply for full membership and will have access to all member benefits, be able to seek election to the SCVO Management Board or Policy Committee and may vote at general meetings:

- All Voluntary Organisations in Scotland
- Scottish branches of UK wide charities
- Scottish branches of international charities

Associate member

Associate members have access to most members' benefits but have no voting rights, nor can they stand for election to the Management Board or Policy Committee.

Associate membership of SCVO is open to:

- Public sector bodies
- Private sector organisations
- Voluntary organisations based out with Scotland
- Individuals
- Professional associations
- Network members
- Branch members

Network members

Network groups/intermediary organisations may be interested in making the benefits of SCVO membership available to their own members. If you would like further information on this please contact the Membership Administrator on 0131 474 8035.

Branch members

National voluntary organisations with multiple premises or branches may be interested in making the benefits of SCVO membership available to local branches by registering them as branch members. If you would like further information on this please contact the Membership Administrator on 0131 474 8035.



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ORGANISATION
VOLUNTEER CENTRE EDINBURGH

SCVO MEMBER
MEMBERS SINCE 2002

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How to apply

ORGANISATIONS

Please complete the enclosed application form and send it along with a copy of your constitution, a copy of your latest Annual Report, and a copy of your latest Accounts to the address listed at the bottom of this page.

INDIVIDUALS

Please complete the enclosed application form and return to the address listed at bottom of this page.

Do not send your subscription now – you will be invoiced after the SCVO Management Board has approved your application. Don't worry – you still have access to the SCVO Member Benefits whilst awaiting membership approval.

You can find these details and an application form online at www.scvo.org.uk

If you have any further questions please contact the:

Membership Administrator
SCOTTISH COUNCIL FOR
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0131 474 8035
membership@scvo.org.uk



SCOTTISH COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

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[W WWW.SCVO.ORG.UK](http://WWW.SCVO.ORG.UK)

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