

# involving, representing, supporting and developing the third sector in Aberdeen

As the third sector interface (TSI) for Aberdeen City, we have over 20 years experience working in Aberdeen as the central hub of knowledge relating to the local third sector which includes charities, community groups, development trusts, social enterprises and the volunteering sector.

Through our various strains of work we actively facilitate, support and promote volunteering; enable charitable organisations to develop and thrive through governance and funding support; represent the voice of Aberdeen's third sector at a local and national level; play a strategic role in third sector involvement with community planning, health and social care integration and in responding to local needs and outcomes; build capacity and provide platforms to celebrate and highlight achievements.



Our local and national partners



## Who are the third sector in Aberdeen?

The third sector consists of community groups, voluntary organisations, faith and equalities groups, charities, social enterprises, co-operatives, community interest companies, mutuals, housing associations and self-help groups.

Currently there are

# 1347



organisations who are part of  
the third sector in Aberdeen

ACVO has  
supported the  
establishment of

# 69

new organisations  
since the start of  
the Covid-19  
pandemic



Funding is crucial for the health and functionality of the third sector - securing finance and grants ensures organisations in Aberdeen can continue their vital work

As well as providing free help, advice and support around finding and applying for funding, ACVO TSI recently undertook the responsibility of working in partnership with the Scottish Government to distribute over £700,000 to grassroots organisations in the city with the Communities Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund.

The success of this relied on ACVO's knowledge of the sector and saw funds reach the organisations and communities who needed it most, demonstrating the value of using the Third Sector interface network as an effective means of fund distribution.

# Keeping our sector funded

Greyhope Bay - Clean Beach, Happy People

Supported by the Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund in Aberdeen



## Scottish Government Communities Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund

A Scotland wide £15million fund delivered and managed by Third Sector Interfaces (TSIs) across the country.

With a focus on bringing people back together after the pandemic, the fund supports grassroots and community groups to deliver a number of projects for adults with a focus on areas such as sport, outdoor initiatives, arts and crafts and nature. ACVO are currently working on a digital storytelling project to highlight the success of the fund in Aberdeen which is due to launch soon.



Watch the video



SCAN ME

88  
community  
projects

supported across  
Aberdeen City



More than  
700k

of funding distributed in  
Aberdeen between Nov 21 and  
March 22 with a further £500K  
due Summer 22 for year 2

44+

paid full time, part time and  
tutor roles created or funded  
in Aberdeen's third sector

## Communities Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund in numbers



“

Quite honestly, I couldn't have done the funding application without Claire [ACVO's Funding Officer] I feel that if you can access experts to help you then why not? We were so pleased with the support ACVO provided, it has made a tremendous difference in terms of what we can offer the community.

**Marjory D'Arcy**

Dyce and Stoneywood Community Association

Developed by ACVO and delivered in partnership with Aberdeen City Council and the Scottish Government, the Community Based Adult Learning Recovery Fund supported grassroots adult learning in Aberdeen by providing grants of £1000 to each of the 43 Community Centres, Learning Centres and Community Flats/Projects in the city.

The money provided by the scheme strengthened and increased opportunities for adult learners in Aberdeen by providing monetary support to involve and empower people and communities to work individually and collectively to make positive changes through learning, personal development and active citizenship.

## Community Based Adult Learning Recovery Fund



As well as supporting and developing the third sector in Aberdeen, ACVO actively work to involve and represent the city's organisations and groups in local and national conversations.

Third Sector organisations and groups with a governing document operating in the city of Aberdeen are eligible to become members of ACVO. In doing so they join 190+ organisations in our community that collectively represent the diversity of Aberdeen's third sector.

ACVO always works with the best interest of Aberdeen's third sector in mind and advocates on behalf of our city's organisations and communities in a variety of forums and creates beneficial partnerships, working closely with statutory bodies and governmental agencies. Our work also sees involvement in other areas such as supporting city wide emergency responses to situations like the Covid-19 pandemic and asylum seeker arrivals; ensuring that volunteering is impactful through facilitating volunteering locally and by informing national policy; providing platforms to inform the wider community about the work and importance of our city's third sector as well as many other strains of work that facilitate connections and help to further the reach of the third sector.

# Creating a Community

some of the our valued member organisations that make up our community of 190+ members

## ACVO Membership

Becoming an ACVO Member allows people to join a community of like minded individuals and organisations working with the best interests on Aberdeen in mind.

It presents the opportunity to be part of the collective voice of the third sector in Aberdeen and enables ACVO's work to greater reflect the needs and views of the sector when advocating for these to the public and private sectors alike.



SCAN ME



Browse our member directory for an an insight in to Aberdeen's Third Sector

## Supporting volunteering in Aberdeen

ACVO supports organisations to involve volunteers and facilitates volunteering for residents of the city...

The incredible 6.2 million hours of volunteering given to our city each year by volunteers impacts on every aspect of life in Aberdeen, providing lifelines to individuals, families and communities in the area.

The response seen during the Covid-19 where people and communities rallied together like never before, not only highlighted the importance of our volunteers but is also a testament to the care and kindness shown by residents of Aberdeen. Now, as we build back, their help and commitment remains invaluable.

ACVO facilitates volunteering in Aberdeen in a number of ways including the management of our public Volunteer Aberdeen database which at any one time holds over 490 opportunities for people to get involved and give back to their community; through the coordination of the Saltire Awards for young volunteers aged 12-25 years; by hosting the Aberdeen Volunteer Co-ordinators Network which helped shape the new Volunteer Friendly Quality Standards Pipeline for Volunteering in Scotland and through involvement in national processes of volunteer development such as the recently launched Volunteering Action Plan for Scotland.



more than

70,500

volunteers contribute their skills and time each year

490+

opportunities

available at Volunteer Aberdeen at any given time



6.2 million

hours of volunteering logged annually in Aberdeen

Aberdeen volunteering in numbers



443

participants involved in the Aberdeen Volunteer Co-ordinators Network

2,459 young volunteers

aged 12-25 engaged with the Saltire Award scheme



## ACVO News

ACVO News is our free digital magazine which is distributed monthly to our 2,250+ subscribers.

It provides a platform to highlight updates and news from Aberdeen's third sector, advertise opportunities to get involved with volunteering and charity work and keeps our community up to date with ACVO's recent developments and work.

Subscribe to ACVO News  
for free now!



SCAN ME



“Aberdeen is a  
hugely diverse city...

and one of things people do is to set up disparate organisations as their way of saying we are here, we are contributing to this city and we are part of the city. That's the part of my job that I enjoy; seeing what a wonderful vibrant and diverse city Aberdeen is.



**Sandy Mathers**  
Development Officer  
ACVO TSI

find out more about our work

discover more about the work we do, the support we offer,  
stories from the third sector and how to get involved at

# acvo.org.uk

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