

Voluntary Action Coventry

VCSE Alliance Membership Policy

Eligibility

VCSE Alliance membership is open to all voluntary, community organisations or social enterprises based (or active) in Coventry.

Subject to the restrictions below, VCSE membership is open to:

- social enterprises
- independent employee/member/retired persons social associations
- sports and leisure clubs and societies
- parent / teacher associations and out of school clubs
- independent 'Friends Of' associations or similar
- volunteering associations supporting public sector organisations such as hospitals, provided that such associations have full financial and decision-making independence from the public sector organisations they support
- Saturday / supplementary schools
- faith organisations

VCSE Membership is not open to:

- Private sector organisations
- Any organisation able to distribute profits to individual or corporate members or owners
- Public sector organisations including executive agencies and quangos
- Political parties, trade unions and party political organisations
- Organisations or projects owned or controlled by public or private sector organisations (e.g. local authority controlled companies)
- Subsidiary organisations of an existing VAC member (e.g. trading subsidiaries)
- Any organisation with objectives which contravene VAC's Equality & Diversity policy or which are, in the reasonable opinion of the VAC Board, inconsistent with the values of VAC.

Approval process

Approval of VCSE membership of VAC is based on meeting the above eligibility criteria. VAC does not vet organisations in any way nor their policies and procedures or working practices. VCSE Alliance membership is subject to the Chief Executive's approval. The Management Board of VAC will be notified of the approved groups at their subsequent meeting.

Organisations not deemed eligible may still be held on the database and receive VAC communications but will not have membership rights nor access to some benefits.

Renewal of membership

At the beginning of April each year, VAC will automatically renew VCSE Alliance membership unless otherwise notified by members. VAC will contact members to check that information held is still correct and to confirm that membership has been renewed.

Retention of membership information and Data Protection

Unless instructed otherwise membership forms will be retained by VAC for a period of three years after which time they will be securely destroyed. For further information regarding data protection please click on link <http://www.vacoventry.org.uk/privacy-policy>

If you would like a copy of VAC's Data Protection policy please email us at info@vacovertry.org.uk

Suspension or termination of membership

VAC reserves the right to suspend and/or terminate the membership of an organisation if its continued membership of the VCSE Alliance could potentially bring VAC into disrepute. Suspension can be immediate subject to authorisation by an officer of the Board and termination would be decided by a regular meeting of the Board having given the organisation reasonable opportunity to respond and to remedy the issue that has brought about their suspension. The decision of the VAC trustees shall be final.

Benefits of VCSE Alliance Membership

These services are included in membership.

Access to the volunteer brokerage service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your volunteering opportunities promoted on Simply Connect Volunteer enquirers with the skills you're looking for signposted to your organisation Targeted mailings to volunteers with the skills you're looking for
Volunteer Coordinator Support Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to regular meetings, peer support and guidance and event planning and delivery, specifically for those with responsibility for volunteers
Access to VCSE themed events/networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A variety of VCSE focused forums and networking events held throughout the year
Access to information via e-bulletin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to date information on policy development, new initiatives, funding opportunities and events relevant to the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector
Entry into VAC on-line Directories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information about your group/services included in the Voluntary Sector Directory on the VAC website
Your information included in e-bulletins/social media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information you wish to share with others in the Alliance included in editions of the e-bulletin (i.e. new services or projects) Your information shared through VAC social media
Voting rights at AGM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a member you will be able to vote at the AGM and join the management committee

Paid-for services

Type of support	Support available	Fee
Room and Equipment Hire	Hire of our training room, meeting room or small meeting room for 2-25 people. Refreshments and equipment options available with room hire.	See website for prices and options
Training	Access to a range of accredited/non-accredited training i.e. First Aid in the workplace, safeguarding, Fire Marshal training	Variable depending on course duration/accreditation
Communication	Tailored and targeted communication campaigns to a range of stakeholders i.e. promotion of paid vacancies	Variable depending on format and size of mailing.

*revised May 2022
Next review day March 2023*