

Membership of Hull CVS

About Hull CVS

Hull Community and Voluntary Services (Hull CVS) was established in 1981 with the aim of supporting the development of voluntary and community groups and volunteering in Hull. Our aims are to:

- Promote the valuable work of voluntary and community groups and the importance of volunteering to the City;
- Support the development of new groups;
- Bring groups together to share information and good practice;
- Provide support services which help groups to improve their work for maximum impact;
- Enable groups to have a voice on issues of common concern.

Hull CVS is a membership organisation which means that eligible individuals and organisations are invited to become members and support the advancement of the above aims, and to be a voice and contributor to the development of the voluntary and community sector in Hull.

The services offered by Hull CVS is available to all groups and organisations within Hull's voluntary sector, however our support and discounted offers are prioritised to our membership.

Therefore by becoming a member of Hull CVS, you become part of an ever growing network of organisations dedicated to championing and advancing the sector, plus you gain access to a range of benefits for your own organisation.

Benefits of becoming a member of Hull CVS

We are constantly reviewing our offer to members, but as standard you will have access to:

Healthcheck – receive a comprehensive assessment to identify your organisation’s strengths, barriers and any support you can access, along with an individually tailored plan.

Information – access to members only information including a range of guides, fact sheets and resources to support the development and running of your organisation. You will also receive a copy of our annually updated brochure of services and contract portfolio and a copy of our VCS annual brochure.

Training – Being a member of Hull CVS enables you to benefit from discount on training courses and selected events.

Discount on Business Services – Members receive discounts on other CVS services such as room hire and business consultancy services.

Specialist Development Offers - Members will be given first access to a range of specialist development packages and other support that Hull CVS is able to negotiate the provision of with partners from time to time, which can include specialist training, marketing, and consultative support.

Raise your Profile – Promote your group’s work through our website which has over 2,000 unique visitor a month, and our monthly e-news service, which goes out to over 900 people in Hull.

Networking – Over the year we host various networking opportunities based on your feedback and the needs of the sector. The Volunteer Managers and Co-ordinators Network is an example of this which came from our members, and provides the opportunity for shared learning and best practice.

Influence – Membership enables you to form part of our consultative body, enabling you to find out from decision makers what is planned in your area and be able to more effectively influence this decision making

Vote – The ability to elect our Board of Trustees at our Annual General Meeting (AGM), apply to stand as a Trustee yourself and vote on important matters of the charity.

December 2020



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What commitment is required of CVS Members

We know how busy everyone is in today's climate and we want to make sure that your time is committed to fulfilling your charitable activities. Therefore, we do not ask a lot of your time, but we do ask that organisations see membership as a two way relationship and commit to our membership objectives, and in return we want to make sure you are getting the optimum support from us as an organisation. Therefore in return for the support and services our membership provides, we ask that members commit to the following:

- Healthcheck – this is recommended every three years and is undertaken by one of the Member Services Team who specialise in supporting the voluntary sector. This process helps your organisation conduct an internal audit of strengths and opportunities, and it enables us to support your needs.
- Confidentiality – Our membership will provide access to a range of additional resources, however we ask that these are not shared and protected to the membership.
- Contribution – from time to time we conduct surveys relevant to the local sector; the findings of which help us campaign on your behalf and attract funding to the area. In contributing to these surveys you will help maximise the evidence we put forward.
- Vote – help set the direction of our organisation by voting on matters at our AGM.
- Up-to-date – help us to ensure annually that your membership data remains up to date.

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What is the eligibility criteria for members?

Membership of Hull CVS is free and available to any voluntary organisation in Hull with charitable objectives. You will need to make sure your organisation qualifies to become a member. Your organisation will need to meet the following criteria:

1. You must be a voluntary organisation, i.e. that their affairs are managed by, and/or are ultimately accountable to, a group of people for no pecuniary advantage.
2. Your aims and objects are broadly charitable to the exclusion of private gain.
3. the organisation is conducted for the benefit of the public and is active in the community.
4. The organisation's activities principally benefit people in or around Hull, or has significant beneficiaries in Hull.
5. The organisation is committed to supporting the principle of equal opportunities and will not knowingly discriminate against anybody on the basis of their racial or ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation disability or age.
6. The organisation remains committed to fulfilling the commitments of membership.

Tiers of Membership

Our membership is tailored to the different needs and development stages of organisations as follows:

Charity Size	Charity Commission Threshold (annual income)	Membership Tier
Micro	£5001 - £10,000	Tier 1 – Early Years
Small	£10,001 - £100,000	
Medium	£500,001 - £1million	Tier 2 – Foundation
Large	£1 million - £10million	Tier 3 – Established
Major	£10 million plus	Tier 4 – Associate
Statutory/Private Sector	N/A	Tier 5 - Honorary

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In addition to charitable organisations, we do welcome membership from both public and private sector organisations, who can join our Honorary membership offer (in which case condition 1 above does not apply). Our Honorary members benefit from network opportunities and access to our professional services, but do not have voting rights. Please see Appendix 1 for the full services available to each tier.

Applications to become a member

To apply to be a member simply complete our application form along with supply supporting governing documents*, which will then be submitted to the Hull CVS Board of Trustees for approval against our membership criteria. Once approved one of our Member Services Team will send you a welcome pack and will arrange a Healthcheck with your organisation.

Please note, Hull CVS has the right to turn down an application for membership. In these circumstances we will provide an explanation for the decision to refuse or terminate membership.

*Applicants must supply with their application a copy of their governing instrument (constitution, trust deed, or memorandum and articles of association) together with details of any charity, company or other registration. Organisations that do not have these documents (eg because they have not been in existence for very long) may still apply for membership. In this case you will need to explain in writing how your group or organisation makes decisions. Hull CVS can help any existing or prospective group to develop any or all of these items if they do not have them.

Membership Term

The term of the membership offer is a lifetime or the duration of the membership organisation.

Membership can be cancelled following a notice period of 1 month. Termination of membership must be notified in writing.

Hull CVS has the right to revoke membership should the activities of the member association be irresponsible, unlawful, unethical, or should they act to cause detriment between them and Hull CVS.

Hull CVS also has the right to terminate membership, including associated support, for a 12 month period should a member not fulfil the commitments of membership as detailed above.

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