

## CVS Inverclyde – Organisation Information

**Our Vision** is of communities leading their own success through volunteering, shared goals and a strong third sector

**Our Mission** is to strengthen the capacity of communities and the third sector; improve understanding of the sector and its role and to create connections that result in better outcomes for the third sector and local people

### About the Third Sector

Local people have the skills, knowledge and energy to change their communities for the better. When they come together to form a community group or voluntary organisation these strengths can be realised and the result is communities that are better places to live.

We call these community groups and voluntary organisations the ‘third sector’ and there are over 600 of them in Inverclyde. The sector includes both small teams of volunteers and large organisations employing staff.

Politicians and the public sector are increasingly recognising that the old assumption that the state is the solution to our challenges is flawed and that involving communities and third sector organisations effectively in the planning and delivery of services will increase their effectiveness.

### Our Projects

In order to realise our mission and best support the sector we have a number of connected programmes of work.

- **Community Wealth** – building the assets, wealth and income of local people, communities and third sector organisations to challenge to poverty and deprivation
- **Inverclyde 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector Forum** – networking for third sector organisations and their partners to build relationships and foster collaboration
- **Inverclyde Community Awards** – celebrating and championing the very best of community and voluntary action within Inverclyde
- **Inverclyde Community Hub** - a physical space to support collaboration and efficient working by third sector organisations
- **Inverclyde Life** – connecting Inverclyde’s citizens to the local activities and services that will best enable them to achieve their desired outcomes. This includes both a portal and a team of Community Link Workers based within GP surgeries.
- **Our Place Our Future** – community engagement and development approaches that build the capacity of communities to take action on their own priorities
- **Voluntary Action** – support to third sector organisations so that they have the right foundations in place to deliver quality services.
- **Volunteer Inverclyde** – encouraging and supporting volunteering throughout Inverclyde. Our online portal enables organisations to recruit and manage volunteers.

We also work closely with public sector bodies to respond to local priorities – bringing an understanding of the areas of our work – such as community action and volunteering – and how it can contribute to creating positive outcomes.

### **Our Key Partners**

We work closely in partnership with a number of agencies. Our key partnerships are with:

**Inverclyde Alliance** the local Community Planning Partnership. CVS is a member of the Alliance alongside all public sector agencies and the private sector. Community Planning agrees the local priorities for the area and creates structures for partners to work together to achieve them.

**Inverclyde HSCP** who are responsible for the delivery of public funded health and social care services locally. The HSCP is the single biggest commissioner of third sector services locally and is a partnership of Inverclyde Council and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

CVS also has two connected organisations. **Inverclyde Community Fund** is a charity established by CVS to provide small grants to local community groups. **Inverclyde Community Trading Limited** is CVS' trading subsidiary, profits from its work are used by CVS to develop our services.

### **Working at CVS Inverclyde**

The organisation is committed to its people and is accredited with Disability Confident, Flexible Working, Healthy Working Lives, Carer Friendly and the Living Wage.

The Board	CVS is a third sector organisation itself and is strategically driven by the Board of Directors. Our Board currently includes 12 members representing mainly our customers (third sector organisations) but also including some other key stakeholders.
The Team	CVS is a very small staff team that work together closely to deliver services. The organisation has a flat management structure in order to have suitably inclusive decision making and we together with colleagues working to support each other.
Flexible Working	CVS is committed to providing a flexible working environment that enables employees to enjoy a life/work balance while continuing to deliver great results for the organisation. Options for flexible working include the right to request part time hours, choosing your own working hours, Time Off In Lieu (TOIL) and the option to work from home where appropriate.
Other Benefits	All employees are entitled to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 35 days annual leave per year (pro rata)</li><li>• 5% pension contribution</li><li>• 40p/mile mileage allowance</li><li>• Out of pocket expenses</li></ul>