

# The directory of Scotland's national voluntary sector intermediaries

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## General support

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### Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations

[scvo.scot](https://scvo.scot)

SCVO is the national umbrella body for voluntary organisations in Scotland. Our mission is to support, promote and develop the voluntary sector. Lobbying and influencing, providing services, and capacity-building.

### TSI Network

[tsi.scot](https://tsi.scot)

The TSI Network supports and promotes the work of the 32 Third Sector Interfaces. TSIs are 'geographic' intermediaries that support hundreds of voluntary sector organisations at a local level. Find your Local Third Sector Interface in the TSI Directory <https://tsi.scot/tsi-directory/>

### Association of Chief Officers of Scottish Voluntary Organisations (ACOSVO)

[acosvo.org.uk](https://acosvo.org.uk)

ACOSVO is a membership organisation of close to 600 sector leaders and senior staff in Scotland. Our vision is: Excellent voluntary sector leadership in Scotland.

## Children and young people

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### Children in Scotland

[childreninScotland.org.uk](https://childreninScotland.org.uk)

The collective voice for children, young people and families in Scotland, our 500 members include other children's network bodies.

### Early Years Scotland

[earlyyearsscotland.org](https://earlyyearsscotland.org)

Committed to providing the very best start in life for every child in Scotland. We are the leading national voluntary sector organisation for children pre-birth to 5 supporting over 1,000 member playgroups and pre-school services.

### NUS Scotland

[nus-scotland.org.uk](https://nus-scotland.org.uk)

NUS Scotland represents around 500,000 students in Scotland through our member college and university students' associations. We work to promote, defend and extend the rights of students and to champion strong students' associations.

[Children & young people cont >](#)

## **Play Scotland**

[playscotland.org](https://playscotland.org)

The network for play workers, nursery staff, and teachers. Our vision is for Scotland to be a playful nation.

## **SCMA (Scottish Childminding Association)**

[childminding.org](https://childminding.org)

SCMA is the only organisation in Scotland dedicated to supporting all aspects of childminding. We provide a diverse range of support and professional services for our members and the wider childminding community.

## **Scottish Out of School Care Network**

[soscni.org](https://soscni.org)

The umbrella body for nearly 1,000 school-aged childcare services in Scotland.

## **Connect**

[connect.scot](https://connect.scot)

Supports 1,800+ Parent Councils, Parent Teacher Associations, and other parent led organisations.

## **Youth Scotland**

[youthscotland.org.uk](https://youthscotland.org.uk)

A national membership organisation supporting community based youth work groups that support young people to achieve their full potential.

## **Youthlink Scotland**

[youthlinkscotland.org](https://youthlinkscotland.org)

YouthLink Scotland is the national agency for youth work.

# **Women**

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## **Engender**

[engender.org.uk](https://engender.org.uk)

Engender is Scotland's feminist policy and advocacy organisation. Our members include women's and equalities organisations, voluntary groups, and a huge network of individuals across Scotland.

## **Scottish Women's Aid**

[scottishwomensaid.org.uk](https://scottishwomensaid.org.uk)

The umbrella body for local Women's Aid services.

## Older people

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### Age Scotland

[agescotland.org.uk](https://agescotland.org.uk)

The national charity for older people. Supports more than 700 community groups and provides information and advice through its free helpline and information guides.

## Disability

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### Inclusion Scotland

[inclusionscotland.org](https://inclusionscotland.org)

A consortium of over 70 organisations of disabled people and 700 disabled individuals, Inclusion Scotland works to achieve positive changes so that disabled people are fully included throughout all Scottish society.

### Disability Equality Scotland

[disabilityequality.scot](https://disabilityequality.scot)

A national umbrella body for the Access Panel Network in Scotland. We are a national charity and member-led organisation working to make life more accessible, equal and inclusive for disabled people in Scotland.

### ARC Scotland

[arcuk.org.uk/scotland](https://arcuk.org.uk/scotland)

Our network brings together professionals, supported people, carers, academics, and others to make a real difference to the lives of people with learning disabilities or other support needs.

## Social care

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### Health & Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE)

[alliance-scotland.org.uk](https://alliance-scotland.org.uk)

The ALLIANCE is the national third sector intermediary for a range of health and social care organisations. We have a growing membership of over 3,000 organisations and individuals working together to improve the lives of those that use health and social care services.

[Social care cont >](#)

## **Befriending Network Scotland**

[befriending.co.uk](http://befriending.co.uk)

Befriending Networks is the National Intermediary for organisations delivering befriending services across the age. We aim to promote and support the development of high quality befriending services and to act as voice for members influencing relevant national policy developments.

## **Carers Scotland**

[carersuk.org/scotland](http://carersuk.org/scotland)

We are a cared led organisation and aim to campaign and influence for better support for unpaid carers. We do this through research, annual campaigns, policy development and most importantly engaging directly with carers to ensure their views are heard by policy makers and politicians.

## **Coalition of Care & Support Providers in Scotland**

[ccpscotland.org](http://ccpscotland.org)

CCPS represents over 80 of the largest third sector care providers in Scotland.

## **Homeless Action Scotland**

[homelessactionscotland.org.uk](http://homelessactionscotland.org.uk)

Membership body for over 100 third sector organisations working to prevent homelessness.

## **Relationships Scotland**

[relationships-scotland.org.uk](http://relationships-scotland.org.uk)

We are a national voice for relationship services. We support the national network of 21 local family support services.

## **Scottish Mentoring Network**

[scottishmentoringnetwork.co.uk](http://scottishmentoringnetwork.co.uk)

We are a membership organisation supporting organisations across the public, third and private sectors who are about to set up or who already have mentoring projects/programmes.

## **Homeless Network Scotland**

[homelessnetwork.scot](http://homelessnetwork.scot)

A membership and collective impact organisation for the policy and system changes needed to end homelessness in Scotland. Creating opportunities for a diverse network to connect, learn and act on homelessness.

## Voluntary Health Scotland

[vhscotland.org.uk](http://vhscotland.org.uk)

National intermediary for voluntary health organisations

A national intermediary and network for health charities and other voluntary organisations actively involved in health, working with our network and other stakeholders to address health inequalities, improve health outcomes, and help people live fairer, healthier lives.

## Covid:Aid

[covidaidcharity.org](http://covidaidcharity.org)

Covid:Aid is the UK's national charity dedicated to supporting those significantly affected by Covid-19. We are also a platform for other charities, healthcare providers, grassroots groups, and other organisations.

## Paths for All

[pathsforall.org.uk](http://pathsforall.org.uk)

We work with our partners, funders, networks and volunteers to make our vision of a happier, healthier Scotland a reality. We will help everyone to be active for improved physical, mental and social health. We encourage physical activity with a particular focus on everyday walking. We work to improve environments so that people can be active everywhere.

## Scottish Drugs Forum

[sdf.org.uk](http://sdf.org.uk)

Scotland's national resource of expertise on drugs and related issues. SDF's work involves joint and partnership working within the drugs field and related fields.

## Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care

[palliativecarescotland.org.uk](http://palliativecarescotland.org.uk)

A collaboration of organisations involved in providing care towards the end of life in Scotland. Membership includes all the territorial NHS Boards, all Scottish hospices, a range of professional associations, many national charities, local authorities, social care providers and universities.

## Mental health

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### **COSCA (Counselling & Psychotherapy in Scotland)**

[cosca.org.uk](https://cosca.org.uk)

Scotland's professional body for counselling and psychotherapy. Membership includes organisations and individuals.

### **Scottish Association for Mental Health**

[samh.org.uk](https://samh.org.uk)

Technically not an intermediary, SAMH has details of local mental health services and projects. In over 60 communities we provide mental health social care support, services in primary care, schools and further education, among others.

## Minorities and faith

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### **Black and Ethnic Minority Infrastructure in Scotland**

[bemis.org.uk](https://bemis.org.uk)

BEMIS is the national umbrella body supporting the development of the Ethnic Minorities Voluntary Sector in Scotland.

### **Council of Ethnic Minority Voluntary Sector Organisations**

[cemvoscotland.org.uk](https://cemvoscotland.org.uk)

A national intermediary organisation and strategic partner of the Scottish Government Equality Unit. We deliver a wide range of programmes that provide capacity building support to over 600 ethnic minority voluntary sector organisations.

### **Interfaith Scotland**

[interfaithscotland.org](https://interfaithscotland.org)

We are the national interfaith organisation for Scotland. We work to help ensure good relations between the diverse religion and belief communities of Scotland.

## Equalities and rights

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### **Citizens Advice Scotland**

[cas.org.uk](https://cas.org.uk)

Citizens Advice Scotland, the Extra Help Unit and our 59 member bureaux together form Scotland's largest independent advice network.

[Equalities and rights cont >](#)

## Equality Network

[equality-network.org](http://equality-network.org)

We work for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) equality and human rights in Scotland. We seek to engage and empower LGBTI communities to promote our equality and rights through community engagement and developing the capacity and skills of LGBTI groups and organisations.

## Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance (SIAA)

[siaa.org.uk](http://siaa.org.uk)

SIAA is the national intermediary for independent advocacy organisations in Scotland. SIAA works to promote, support and defend independent advocacy and support our membership.

## Poverty Alliance

[povertyalliance.org](http://povertyalliance.org)

We're Scotland's network of organisations and individuals working together to end poverty.

# Culture

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## Archaeology Scotland

[archaeologyscotland.org.uk](http://archaeologyscotland.org.uk)

We believe in Archaeology's ability to change lives and strengthen communities. We have around 1000 members, mainly individuals but also local societies.

## Creative Lives

[creative-lives.org](http://creative-lives.org)

We champion community and volunteer-led creative activity, and work to improve opportunities for everyone to be creative. Not strictly a membership body, we act as a network for the +10,000 arts groups in Scotland.

## Making Music

[makingmusic.org.uk](http://makingmusic.org.uk)

Making Music is the UK's membership organisation for leisure-time music, with over 3,600 groups representing around 200,000 music makers across the UK. We are dedicated to empowering everyone, whatever their background or experience, to come together in their community to make or present their kind of music.

[Culture cont >](#)

## **Museums Galleries Scotland**

[museumsgalleriesscotland.org.uk](http://museumsgalleriesscotland.org.uk)

The National Development Body for the Scottish museums sector. We represent and support 450 museums and galleries in Scotland.

## **Scottish Civic Trust**

[scottishcivictrust.org.uk](http://scottishcivictrust.org.uk)

We help people connect to their built heritage and take a leading role in guiding its development. We represent Scotland's civic sector and strive to ensure our amenity groups are active, empowered, and educated to make a difference in their locality.

## **Scottish Community Drama Association**

[scda.org.uk](http://scda.org.uk)

We support and foster creativity in performance and writing throughout Scotland by supporting members and clubs in artistic, personal, and social development, developing partnerships and advocating for community and amateur theatre.

## **Youth Theatre Arts Scotland**

[ytas.org.uk](http://ytas.org.uk)

We support a membership of around 120 youth theatre organisations and practitioners all across Scotland, who engage around 22000 young people in inspiring youth theatre activity.

# **Environment**

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## **Built Environment Forum Scotland**

[befs.org.uk](http://befs.org.uk)

BEFS is a strategic intermediary body for the built environment sector. We bring together expertise in a membership-led forum, dedicated to uniting the sector that cares for and promotes Scotland's built environment.

## **Community Land Scotland**

[communitylandscotland.org.uk](http://communitylandscotland.org.uk)

A collective voice for community landowners in Scotland.

## **Community Resources Network Scotland**

[crns.org.uk](http://crns.org.uk)

Our vision is for a future where there is no waste, only resources. We represent over 100 organisations working in reuse, recycling and waste prevention.

## Community Woodlands Association

[communitywoods.org](http://communitywoods.org)

The representative body of Scotland's community woodland groups.

## Social Farms and Gardens Social Farms & Gardens

[farmgarden.org.uk](http://farmgarden.org.uk)

A UK wide charity supporting communities to farm, garden and grow together.

## Scottish Environment Link

[scotlink.org](http://scotlink.org)

The forum for Scotland's voluntary environment community, with over 40 member bodies representing a broad spectrum of environmental interests with the common goal of contributing to a more environmentally sustainable society.

## Sports

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## Scottish Sports Association

[thessa.org.uk](http://thessa.org.uk)

We bring Scottish Governing Bodies of sport together with a wide range of partners to ensure sports policies, and those that impact on sport, work in harmony be most effective in practice. Scottish sports governing support 13,000 sports clubs.

## Economic and community development

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## ABCUL Scotland – Association of British Credit Unions Ltd

[abcul.coop/about-us/abcul-scotland](http://abcul.coop/about-us/abcul-scotland)

The main trade association for credit unions in Britain. We are a co-operative of co-operatives, governed by volunteer directors.

## Community Transport Association

[ctauk.org](http://ctauk.org)

A national charity that represents and supports providers of community transport: thousands of local charities and community groups across the UK that all provide transport services that fulfil a social purpose and community benefit.

[Economic and community development cont >](#)

## **Community Development Alliance Scotland**

[communitydevelopmentalliancescotland.org](http://communitydevelopmentalliancescotland.org)

A member organisation that brings together networks and organisations in Scotland and beyond to promote policy and practice that supports community development.

## **Development Trust Association Scotland**

[dtascot.org.uk](http://dtascot.org.uk)

As a membership organisation, the Development Trusts Association Scotland (DTAS) uses its expertise to inform, support and represent this network of OVER 200 development trusts, facilitating the sharing knowledge and expertise and encouraging mutualism and co-operation.

## **Scottish Community Alliance**

[localpeopleleading.net](http://localpeopleleading.net)

A coalition of community based, national networks and intermediaries – each one representing a different aspect of Scotland’s diverse community sector.

## **Scottish Fair Trade Forum**

[scottishfairtradeforum.org.uk](http://scottishfairtradeforum.org.uk)

We are Scotland’s Fair Trade network. We bring together and support people in Scotland interested in buying, selling, campaigning for and learning about Fair Trade.

## **Scottish League of Credit Unions**

[scottishcu.org](http://scottishcu.org)

Our core purpose is to help our member Credit Unions become and remain, compliant, sustainable, and Co-operative.

## **Social Enterprise Scotland**

[socialenterprisescotland.org.uk](http://socialenterprisescotland.org.uk)

We unite and represent Scotland’s social enterprises as the national membership-led body. We champion and promote social enterprises and support our members with news, information and advice.

## **SURF - Scotland’s Regeneration Forum**

[surf.scot](http://surf.scot)

SURF is Scotland’s Regeneration Forum, with over 300 members. SURF’s overall objective is to improve the lives and opportunities of residents in Scotland’s disadvantaged communities.

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## **Transform Scotland**

**[transform.scot](https://transform.scot)**

We are Scotland's alliance for sustainable transport. We campaign for walking, cycling and public transport to be the easiest and most affordable options for everyone. Our diverse membership brings together public, private and third sector organisations from across Scotland.

## **Housing**

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### **Scottish Federation of Housing Associations**

**[sfha.co.uk](https://sfha.co.uk)**

SFHA is the voice and membership body for housing associations and co-operatives in Scotland. Our ambition is that everyone has a good home in a successful community.

## **International**

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### **IDEAS (International Development Education Association of Scotland)**

**[ideas-forum.org.uk](https://ideas-forum.org.uk)**

The network for championing Global Citizenship Education in Scotland.

### **Scotland's International Development Alliance**

**[intdevalliance.scot](https://intdevalliance.scot)**

The membership body for everyone committed to creating a fairer world, free from poverty, injustice and environmental threats.

## **Learning**

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### **Learning Link Scotland**

**[learninglinkscotland.org.uk](https://learninglinkscotland.org.uk)**

We support, promote, represent and develop Third Sector adult learning in Scotland working with our partners.

## Volunteering

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### **Volunteer Scotland**

[volunteerscotland.net](http://volunteerscotland.net)

We are the only national centre for volunteering. We support hundreds of volunteer-engaging organisations, including local volunteer centres.

## Community safety

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### **Scottish Community Safety Network**

[safercommunitiesscotland.org](http://safercommunitiesscotland.org)

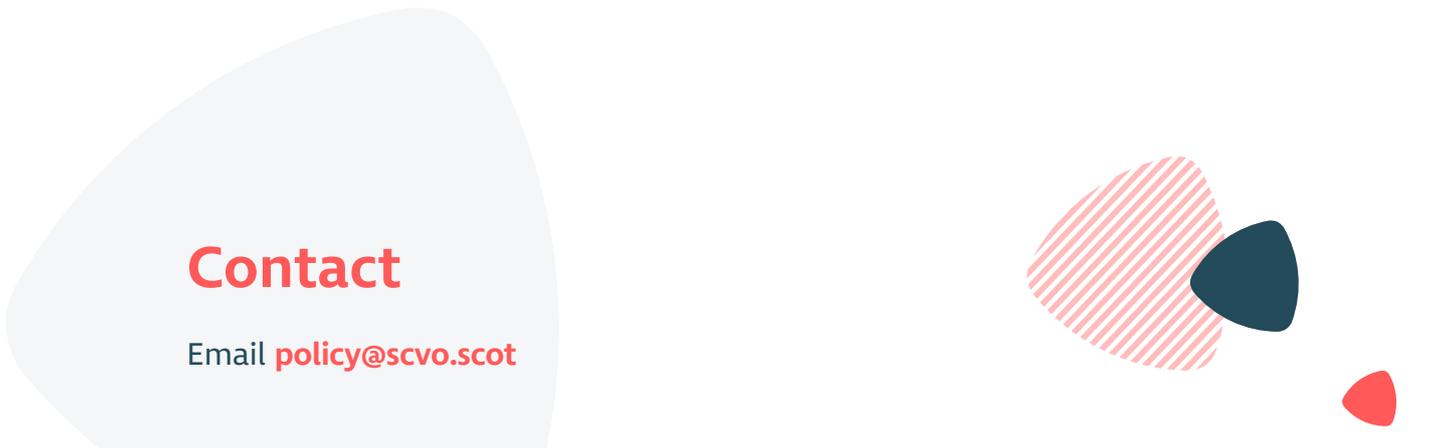
A membership organisation and the strategic voice for community safety in Scotland. In 2019 we began hosting Neighbourhood Watch Scotland and Home Safety Scotland.

### **Criminal Justice Voluntary Sector Forum (CJVSF), hosted by CCPS**

[ccpscotland.org/cjvsf](http://ccpscotland.org/cjvsf)

CJVSF is the national intermediary for voluntary sector organisations working in criminal and community justice in Scotland. We: support voluntary sector providers to continuously improve their own services through collaboration and sharing of good practice; assist voluntary sector providers working in justice to understand, navigate and influence the complex and changing environment in which they operate; promote broader awareness of the activities, value and contribution of third sector justice services.

[Contact and About us >](#)



## Contact

Email [policy@scvo.scot](mailto:policy@scvo.scot)

## About us

The Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) is the national body representing the third sector.

There are over 45,000 voluntary sector organisations in Scotland involving around 138,000 paid staff and approximately 1.3 million volunteers, managing an annual income of over £6 billion.

We're passionate about what the voluntary sector can achieve. Along with our community of 2,000+ members, we believe that charities, social enterprises and voluntary groups make Scotland a better place.

We lobby government on policy issues, create jobs for young people and support organisations to embrace and promote digital skills. We also help with day-to-day stuff, like affordable office space, discounted training courses, funding opportunities and information and support to help people set up and run their organisations.

Further details about SCVO can be found at [scvo.scot](https://scvo.scot)



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