



Voluntary Sector Children's Services Forum

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Voluntary Sector Children's Services Forum

The Voluntary Sector Children's Services Forum (VSCSF) provides an opportunity for Third Sector organisations that work in, or have an interest in, services for children and young people to work together and share knowledge, skills and resources to support children, families and communities in the Falkirk Council area to reach their full potential.



The Third Sector – comprising community groups, voluntary organisations, charities, social enterprises, co-operatives and individual volunteers – plays a vital in providing services for children and families in Falkirk. This forum allows their voices, issues, concerns and views to be raised within Community Planning in Falkirk District, and the priorities identified in the new [Falkirk Plan](#).

Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference will be available soon.

Dates of Future Meetings



"I have always been very impressed with CVS Falkirk. Super-helpful, responsive, really understand what we need."

(local organisation)

Update

Objective: The current page on our website needs to be updated – this can be achieved through by ensuring all information is up to date.

Suggestion: Each member to provide a few lines outlining their group/organisation and why (if) they feel the Forum aids their current practice.

Suggestion: Each Forum member to complete a quick online survey looking at their own involvement and understanding of the current VSCSF and suggestions for the current webpage – deadline to be agreed. *

Suggestion: CVS to ensure all links on the current page are relevant and up-to-date (GIRFEC etc.)

Survey Options

We know and understand how busy all of our Forum members are; you're constantly delivering and taking time out for surveys is not always easy.

Menti: We can run the survey in real time; give us an opportunity to discuss the findings as a group after each question and provide feedback. Completely anonymous.

SurveyMonkey: If people would rather fill out the survey online – or they wouldn't be able to make the real-time session; this can remain an option.

Recruit

Objective:

Attract more organisations and smaller community groups to join the Forum to ensure more voices are given opportunity to be involved.

Suggestion: There are many more groups in Falkirk who are either, not aware of the Forums, or don't feel that they are the right candidate. Proposal to send an informational booklet round to those not currently engaged with the forum and gain insight into why they haven't yet signed up as members via a short survey. Use social media & in-person tactics to reach out when email is not an option.

Realistic timeframe for getting this information across –

Would any current Forum members be happy to share this with their networks?

Student Placement: Happy to reach out to groups across Falkirk and District to gauge interest and share survey.

Evaluate

Objective:

Analyse the information received; publish findings and use the information to enhance the current platform of the VSCSF.

Potential Action: Address any insights as they come in from the surveys – it can help shape next steps of development for the Forum.

Potential Action: Discuss potential changes/updates with current Forum members .

Suggestion: Forum members to also regularly submit any examples of 'good practice' where frameworks are being implemented and used properly.

Mapping

Objective:

Once we have completed a recruitment drive and checked in with current Forum members – create a visual map of the Falkirk and District area showing who is involved and where.

Potential Action: Use the map to highlight where areas are possibly lacking in voluntary children's sector support and organisations.

Potential Action: Allows other people accessing the information for the first time, to grasp an understanding of what is going on in their local community.

Training & Development Opportunities

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| <p><u>Training - Third Sector Lab</u></p> | <p><i>The Curve is a series of free, 90-minute workshops for third sector organisations. These online workshops aim to build knowledge around best digital practices, raise awareness of digital tools and ultimately help increase impact with digital. Workshops are open to anyone working or volunteering with a third sector organisation in the UK.</i></p> |
| <p><u>Training & resources - SCCR</u> <u>(scottishconflictresolution.org.uk)</u></p> | <p><i>Conflict can arise when there are disagreements over: views, values or actions and interests or needs are not being met. Conflict can also be an opportunity for change. The SCCR offers a range of conflict resolution training options.</i></p> |
| <p><u>SCOPE eLearning platform (scvo.scot)</u></p> | <p><i>The SCOPE e-learning platform offers flexibility, as you can complete your learning at a time and place that suits you. It also gives you the opportunity to gain validation through a digital badge system when you complete each module. This lets you share your achievements with your peers and potential employers.</i></p> |
| <p><u>Toolkits YouthLink Scotland</u> <u>A World of Difference (youthlinkscotland.org)</u></p> | <p><i>Useful youth work toolkits to support practitioners, managers and volunteers.</i></p> |

Training & Development Opportunities cont.

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| <u>NHS Health Promotion Service Training</u> | <i>Link to brochure and online course booking form; must register with Health Improvement Resource Service (HIRS) first, link available within training brochure. Questions regarding the courses or for further information - contact fv.hptraining@nhs.scot</i> |
| <u>Free Online Courses Scotland with Certification - Free Courses in Scotland</u> | <i>Your Course to #MakeChange. A range of free online courses. Gain a nationally recognised qualification in various subjects. These courses are funded by the UK Government via the Education and Skills Funding Agency. Regulated by Ofqual. Accredited by NCFE.</i> |
| <u>National Lottery Community Fund Training</u> | <i>This dedicated programme is available free of charge to organisations holding active grants with The National Lottery Community Fund in Scotland. This includes Awards for All, Young Start, Community Led and Improving Lives. Unfortunately, they cannot offer this training to Scottish Land Fund grant holders as this is Third Party Funding.</i> |
| <u>Evaluation Support Scotland</u> | <i>Archive of various tools, resources and kits to enhance the work you are currently doing within your organisation.</i> |