



About York Council for Voluntary Service

Since it was founded in 1939, York CVS has been at the heart of community development in the City of York playing a significant part in the development of the many voluntary services active in the City.

York CVS is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee, whose main aim is to offer advice, training, information and support to voluntary organisations and community groups in the City of York to help them work more effectively. It is managed by a small team of professional staff who are accountable to a board of trustees elected by its membership of over 120 organisations. York CVS currently receives just over £80k of statutory funding towards its core work costing around £830k per annum and raises the rest from grants, office rents, fees charged for some services and time limited funding for specific pieces of work. Total expenditure for the CVS and its projects in 2008/2009 was just over £1m.

Besides providing a range of professional services to support voluntary organisations, York CVS also manages a number of services to the public in York, including a nursery, and a scheme providing support for disabled people. Including these projects, the CVS employs 42 people many of whom are part-time.

The activities of York CVS include the following:

1. It offers advice, information and training, on any aspect of running a voluntary or community organisation. This includes a comprehensive payroll service, a Community Accounting Scheme, a Volunteer Centre and a Funding advisor.
2. It helps new groups to get started and established ones to work more efficiently.
3. It acts as a link with statutory bodies to ensure that the views of voluntary and community organisations are taken into account in the planning of services. It is an active member of several partnerships in York, including the Local Strategic Partnership. It takes a lead in the York Compact with public bodies.
4. It provides fully accessible office space, conference facilities and meeting rooms in its highly successful Priory Street Centre. York CVS recently completed a £1.1m development of the site adding more offices and meeting rooms to this focal point for voluntary action in the City.

York CVS is in contact with over 400 voluntary and community groups in York. Countless individuals use its facilities in the Priory Street Centre.

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