



**Make a bigger difference together**

# **Guide to membership benefits**



[wcva.cymru](http://wcva.cymru)

## **WCVA'S PURPOSE IS TO ENABLE VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN WALES TO MAKE A BIGGER DIFFERENCE TOGETHER.**

As the national membership body for voluntary organisations in Wales, we put our members at the heart of everything we do. From influencing key decision makers to providing expert services, members help to inform our direction.

As a WCVA member you will have access to a whole host of benefits structured under three pillars; connect, enable, and influence.

**This short guide highlights all the benefits available to WCVA members.**



# Connect:

**WCVA's ability to connect organisations across Wales through our membership is one of our strengths. Membership connects you with others to share knowledge and spark innovation and ideas.**

## Events:

As a member organisation, you will have access to a number of member only events each year. These member only events have specific subject themes, and we work with trusted suppliers and guest speakers to deliver expert knowledge and facilitate discussions between our members. These events are the perfect place to share insight, experiences, spark ideas and build relationships for collaboration.

Some of our member only events include workshops during trustees' week, our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and our annual lecture delivered by an exciting and thought-provoking speaker each year.

## Relationships:

WCVA members build valuable connections with our staff who play a key role in driving change and championing

the role of the sector in our society. We encourage our members to get in touch via member forums, events, and communication methods to help shape our work.

Ruth Marks, our CEO regularly contributes to inquiries and advisory boards on issues including diversity, equalities, volunteering and the charity sector. Ruth is a trustee of ACEVO and Cynnal Cymru, an advisory board member of Academi Wales as well as a director of the International Federation on Ageing. Ruth takes insight from conversations with our members which in turn informs her extensive work with decision makers.

Membership also connects you with industry leading suppliers who are always keen to learn more about the work of our network. This helps them to shape their products and services to better meet the needs of the voluntary sector in Wales.





# Enable:

**Membership enables you to reach your full potential as an organisation. WCVA provides sector specific services and advice which makes it easier for organisations to succeed.**

## **Training:**

Members receive 20% discount on WCVA training (10% discount for our partners). Our training courses are designed with the needs identified by our members and the wider sector in mind and have on average 95% of attendees rate our training as good or excellent. Our highly experienced training team can also arrange bespoke training courses specifically tailored to your organisations needs at a discounted price.

## **Communications:**

Membership provides you with access to a members only area of the WCVA website which allows you to create a personalised bank of resources. Once you are logged in, you can browse our site and favourite blogs and guidance so that they are easily accessible when you need them.

The members area also hosts exclusive communications such as guest blogs from expert trusted suppliers and other members. Information and registration for member only events are also available within the members area.

Multiple members of staff from your organisation can make use of the members area, simply contact our

membership team for additional log in details [membership@wcva.cymru](mailto:membership@wcva.cymru) In addition to the above, members will receive a quarterly edition of 'The Difference' update which highlights the difference our members are making to those they serve, exclusive hints and tips from our trusted suppliers and information on upcoming member only events.

## **Governance:**

Members have access to exclusive events for their trustees and staff. These events enable trustees to share experiences as well as gaining practical advice on best practice from internal and external experts.

WCVA provides information and guidance on good governance to members and the wider sector. To stay up to date with all the latest governance advice, you can sign up to receive an e-bulletin via our mailing list sign up form.

Our Safeguarding Officer is also available to provide advice on safeguarding for your charity, including DBS checks, policies and accessing training.

WCVA members can also take advantage of 10% discount on the Trusted Charity standard. [Click here to learn more.](#)

### **Trusted suppliers:**

WCVA's trusted suppliers have been carefully selected based on their values and expertise in their field.

Our trusted suppliers support our members by providing useful hints and

tips via guest blogs, vlogs and speaking at our events in addition to offering exclusive discounts on goods and services. These discounts and services enable our members to focus on making a bigger difference. Find out more [here](#).





# Influence:

**Membership ensures we influence effectively and continue to amplify the voice of our sector as a bigger, stronger shared voice.**

## **Policy:**

Members have exclusive access to our policy and public affairs digest. This is a monthly bulletin for WCVA members. It highlights the most important voluntary sector news from Welsh Government, plus key points from Plenary debates and committee sessions. This also includes updates about consultations and events, and the latest information from the sector's meetings with Welsh Government. It is the best way of staying up to date with the voluntary sector policy landscape.

## **Shaping WCVA's work:**

Our members help shape our work by taking part in member only forums and voting for WCVA board members and Third Sector Partnership Council elections.

Member only forums are used to gather key insight into the big challenges for organisations working in the voluntary sector in Wales. This insight helps us to influence and lobby decision makers and drive change.

Having your say on who sits on our board and the Third Sector Partnership Council ensures that those in the driving seat represent the breadth and diversity of the sector, giving us a unique insight into what change is needed.

## **A bigger, stronger shared voice:**

We know that two voices are better than one... and so on, so our members' collective voice and their diverse relationships with the people who can deliver change provides a much more powerful influencing voice.

**WcVA**  

---

**CgGC**

[wcva.cymru](http://wcva.cymru)