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Almost there!

A single CVS for Central and South Aberdeenshire following historic vote at Extraordinary General Meeting

by **Alan Young**, Chief Officer

We are now just one small step away from creating a single CVS for the whole of Central & South Aberdeenshire, following a historic vote in Banchory on 18th July.

As you can see from our new logo, members voted unanimously to change the name of the company from "Kincardine & Deeside Voice" to "CVS Aberdeenshire - Central and South", and to alter the Company's Constitution to reflect its wider sphere of operation.

OSCR, the Scottish Charity Regulator, had already given their approval to the proposed changes. All that remains now is to obtain the consent of Companies House in Edinburgh, which will hopefully come in time for us to launch the combined service under our new name on 1st August 2009.

This will be the culmination of 12 months of activity, since the Councils for Voluntary Service run by GRA (in Central Aberdeenshire) and K&D Voice in the South first came together under common management in August 2008.

Combining the physical and intellectual resources of the two former teams has already

meant that groups across the two areas can now access a far wider range of skills, knowledge and expertise from our offices in Banchory and Inverurie.

The formal, legal integration of the two undertakings from 1st August will streamline 'back-room' costs so that the bulk of our resources can flow where they are needed: up to the 'front line' where Voluntary and Community groups are working (often against ever-increasing odds) to provide much-needed services and to enhance the life of our communities.

Meanwhile there have been some staff additions in the last month at CVS Aberdeenshire, Central and South. We are delighted to welcome Shonagh Thom to the team in our Inverurie office. Shonagh will be the Administration Assistant and our first point of contact in Inverurie - making sure things in Central Aberdeenshire are running smoothly! And Linda Babbs, our Development Worker has extended her hours in order to provide more development support in Kincardine & Mearns as well as linking in to Community Planning in the South.

We will keep everyone up to date on further developments of CVS Aberdeenshire - Central and South as they happen.



contact us...

15a High Street, Inverurie AB51 3QA tel: 01467 629072
 72a High Street, Banchory AB31 5SS tel: 01330 825027
 email: mail@kdvoice.org.uk website: www.kdvoice.org.uk

Aberdeenshire CVS Training Initiative awarded Branded Learning Centre Status



Aberdeenshire CVS Network is proud to offer an excellent training service throughout the shire in the form of the CVS Training Initiative. For 6 years the Training Initiative has offered a wide range of high quality training opportunities to voluntary organisations and community groups.

Aberdeenshire CVS Training Initiative is now happy to announce that it has been awarded Branded Learning Centre Accreditation from Learn Direct Scotland.

To receive this status an organisation or training provider has to produce a range of evidence of the quality of its product as well as prove it has the infrastructure to monitor the quality of delivery and that it meets the needs of learners.

We are delighted that the Training Initiative has met the standards set and feel it is a recognition of the quality and breadth of training that

is offered and an acknowledgement of the work that is done in this area.

The Training Initiative would also like to say a big thank you to all their trainers and to the organisations that support them by accessing the training they offer.

Once they have been through the probationary period (six months) as a Branded Centre they will look to apply for ILA registration. This would allow them to accept Individual Learning Accounts for some of the training courses they offer which will hopefully open up new avenues for both the Training Initiative and the organisations and groups who access training.

To find out more about the Aberdeenshire CVS Training Initiative, visit www.cvstraininginitiative.org.uk or contact Shirley and Diane at:

CVS Training Initiative
33/34 The Square
Ellon
AB41 9JB
01358 722205



Update: New regulations affecting disclosure checks - adult positions

As of 29th June the Scottish Government has amended the legislation to ensure that organisations providing "social care services" which involve staff (paid or voluntary) in positions having unsupervised one-to-one contact with an "adult at risk" as part of their normal duties can legitimately seek an enhanced disclosure. It is the intention of CRBS (Central Registered Body in Scotland) to contact all registered organisations who provide services

to those over 18 years of age, who are not registered or eligible to register with the Care Commission to determine which of them meet the new criteria of social care service.

Please note that we will no longer travel to do Disclosure checks across Central and South Aberdeenshire. Groups requiring checks can contact either our Banchory or Inverurie offices to arrange appointments at either of those venues.

CVS Staff & Database

Following the merger between the CVS's for Central and South Aberdeenshire, we would like to assure you that the database for voluntary and community groups is still an on-going project for the newly formed CVS. So, if your group has not been contacted in connection with the database or if there are any new groups out there, please get in touch - we would love to hear from you!

Call Wendy Smith on
01467 629072.

Grants for women's projects

Women play a crucial role in creating and sustaining strong communities

but there are often barriers which prevent their participation or engagement with local opportunities, or stop them fulfilling their potential to play a role within the broader community. They may struggle to get their voice heard in order to influence decisions that affect them, their families and communities.

The Scottish Community Foundation established the Women's Fund for Scotland in 2002, to focus resources on projects that seek to address these barriers at a local level and enable women to develop themselves and their communities and to improve their own quality of life.

Voluntary Action Fund

The Voluntary Action Fund (VAF) has announced the re-opening of the Community Chest, a new grant aimed at smaller community groups and voluntary organisations. The Community Chest can provide grants of up to £1,000 and free training to groups with an annual income under £25,000. Groups can apply for funding for a wide range of activities or operational costs. The next deadline for applications is 30th September 2009.

For more information, please visit www.voluntaryaction-fund.org.uk.

Women's Fund for Scotland



Grants will be available to:

- ◆ Organisations predominantly run by and for women
- ◆ Organisations with women-only projects, which seek to support and empower women.

Grants of up to £5,000 are available for a wide variety of costs and projects and the fund would be particularly interested to receive applications which also incorporate some form of social enterprise.

Applications can be made using the Scottish Community Foundation's Express and Main grants application forms, depending on the amount requested. Visit www.scottishcf.org/grantsforwomen to download forms and guidelines or contact them on 0141 225 6670 or email grants@scottishcf.org.

Does your community need funding to develop a project?

Marr Area Partnership has funds from Aberdeenshire Council to award grants of up to £1,000 for development projects. The application form is easy to complete and help is readily available to clarify queries and assist with project development if needed.

Whether you've got a project thought through or just have an idea for one please contact Mike Powell on MAPslrp@hotmail.com

fundinginbrief

Cashback for Communities Fund 2009 - 2010 Round 3

Do you deliver youth work projects in an area of multiple deprivation? Are the young people in your area at risk of becoming involved in violence, alcohol, drugs and anti-social behaviour? Are the young people aged 10-19 years? Are there gaps in local youth work provision in your area? To find out more about this funding visit: www.youthlinkscotland.org

Sport Relief was set up by Comic Relief and BBC Sport to use the power and passion of sport to tackle poverty and disadvantage, both in the UK and in some of the world's poorest countries. This programme is now open for new applications through the Community Grants programme. Grants will range from £1,000 - £5,000 and are available for not-for-profit community groups. Please visit the website www.scottishcf.org/apply for more details.

Community Recycling Network for Scotland has announced the launch of its new Knowledge & Skills Exchange Fund. This fund of £120,000 over two years has come from the Scottish Government to be used to facilitate learning and the exchange of knowledge and ideas between CRNS members and within the wider community sector. Grants of up to £1,000 are available to full and fledgling CRNS members for activities such as going on visits to other more established organisations in the third sector or projects of particular interest or relevance to your organisation: hosting a visit for one or a number of organisations; attending external events and conferences etc. Applications can be submitted at any time - visit www.crns.org.uk/index/funding for more information.

..training..

CVS Training Initiative
33/34 The Square, Ellon
Tel: 01358 722205
Email: admin@cvstraininginitiative.org.uk

Essential People Management Skills
Thursday 27 August 2009
9.30am - 4.30pm, £95,
Newtonhill

Basic Management Committee Skills
Tuesday 1 September 2009
9.30am - 12.30pm, £20, Kincorth

Presentation Skills
Tuesday 8 September 2009
9.30am - 4.30pm, £80, Inverurie

Elementary Food Hygiene
Friday 11 September 2009
9.30am - 5.00pm, £70, Banchory

Client Moving & Handling
Wednesday 16 September 2009
9.30am - 4.30pm, £50, Maud

Gift Aid Scheme/Charity Accounting
Tuesday 22 September 2009
10.00am - 12.30pm
& 1.30pm - 4.30pm, £40 full day
£20 half day, Stonehaven

Personal Safety in Work
Wednesday 23 September 2009
10am - 1.00pm, £20, Ellon

Appointed Persons First Aid
Thursday 24 September 2009
9.30am - 4.30pm, £45
Newtonhill

Please call if you would like to book a place on any of the above courses or require further information.

Online HR Policies Library Launched

Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS) across Scotland now have access to a 'virtual library' of Human Resources policies and procedures, thanks to the Big Lottery funded Supporting Voluntary Action programme administered by the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO)

This excellent on-line resource will assist CVS in ensuring that their policies and procedures are up to date and in line with employment law and best practice – something which is not only crucial to their own organisations but also to the wide range of community groups and projects that depend on their local CVS.

Linden Stables, GCVS Employers Advice Service Manager, who led the project said "It is also important that organisations do not simply put their own name at the top of another organisation's policy, but that they carefully 'tailor' each policy to suit their own needs, structures and culture.

Many of the problems that I deal with each week arise from organisations trying to follow policies that are out of date or inappropriate for them".

With this in mind, the virtual HR library includes sample policies and supplementary guidance notes on 29 topics relating to the recruitment, retention, management and training of staff – including Discipline and Grievance, Equal Opportunities, Performance Management and Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection.

The full range of downloadable HR policies and guidance notes are available on the Community Toolkit (managed by Skye & Lochalsh CVO). The Toolkit also includes a wealth of information including topics such as Being an Employer, Equalities & Human Rights, Working with Children and Vulnerable People. The HR documents can be accessed through the Being an Employer section or there is a full list in the File Library.

BobbinSnail 

Design & marketing support for charities & social enterprises

<p style="text-align: center; background-color: red; color: white; font-weight: bold; padding: 2px;">Need Leaflets?</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Be proud of your leaflets!</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: lightblue; font-weight: bold; padding: 2px;">Do you shout out?</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Let everyone know what great work you do!</p>	<p style="text-align: center; background-color: grey; color: white; font-weight: bold; padding: 2px;">Logo Design?</p>  <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">BobbinSnail can design your logo for less than you think</p>
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077487 53073 info@bobbinsnail.com www.bobbinsnail.com

The Pages Group

PAGES stands for "Parents Advisory Group for Education and Socialisation" and the group was formed in 2002 by a number of parents of children with additional support needs (ASN). We became a voluntary registered charity in October 2003. and our Charity Registration Number is SC035205.

PAGES was formed to provide activities for those children with ASN who couldn't cope with mainstream activities providing mutual support and information to parents /carers.

The group has undergone a redevelopment recently. We have rebranded and this is our new logo - we thank Lisa Mann of Bobbinsnail for her help. We have also launched a website which you can access on <http://pagesab->

erdeenshire.com and our thanks go to "freetocharities" for their help with it.

PAGES provide after school and holiday activities for children with ASN and their sib-



lings. This summer we have been swimming, tubing at Alford, held drumming and music 4 U sessions and we will also be hosting family days at Haddo House and a trip to the Keith - Dufftown Railway.

We run different groups catering for all age ranges: Youth Club for the primary age children, football training sessions, and a new Science and Nature Group which is for all ages and abilities. We are developing a social group

for P7- age 18 years and we also have a Sibling Support Group starting in August 2009.

PAGES host information evenings - the next is on 2nd September please see the website for details or email pages2002@hotmail.co.uk.

The group is run by a committee; the

majority of us are mothers with children with ASN. We do our own fundraising and we welcome donations. We use Esslemont School outside Ellon as our base.

Annual membership costs £15.00 per family to access all facilities. Information only membership costs £5.00 per annum. New members are always welcome. Please contact Tessa Carr (Chairperson) on 01358 723842 or email pages2002@hotmail.co.uk for an application form.

The Charity Shop news

In June The Charity Shop donated clothes to be taken over to Romania by a group of teenagers who will be working in a summer camp there. The group will be working in the camp, run by "Children of Christ", which aims to meet the spiritual and physical needs of Romanian children. The shop was delighted to be able to help this cause and wishes them well with their work.

Closer to home, all staff in the shop and at CVS Aberdeenshire would like to wish our volunteer of 11 years Pam Kirkpatrick a happy 85th birthday in June. Pam is a valuable member of staff who bravely tackles the rota every week and for that we are eternally grateful! Congratulations also go to Helen Coutts who recently became a Gran for the second time!

Scottish Health Council

The Scottish Health Council is heading out and about in Grampian. They are keen on raising awareness about Patient Focus and Public Involvement in health care and the community. If you are interested in finding out more, receiving a presentation or just having a chat, get in touch!

Contact: Christopher Third, Local Officer Grampian Tel: 01224 553753, email: christopher.third@scottishhealth-council.org

dates for your diary

Art Exhibition by Stonehaven Art Club

1st August - 9th August, Stonehaven Town Hall

The Merchant of Venice at Pitmedden Garden

5th August, 6.15pm. The Festival Players perform 'The Merchant of Venice' in the Walled Garden. Booking Telephone 0844 493 2177 10am-5pm daily. Cost: £12 Adult, £6 Children For further information call 0844 493 2177

Koo Press Poetry Roadshow presents

7th August, 2-3pm

This event will feature Haworth Hodgkinson, Keith Murray and Catriona Yule. Cost: free.

For further information, contact Banchory Library on 01330 823784

Johnshaven Fish Festival

8th August, from 11am

The Annual Fish Festival is held in the harbour area of the village and attracts thousands of visi-

tors from around the country and across the world. The event will feature a variety of attractions including a visit by RNLi Moonbeam, live music on stage, fresh and cooked fish, BBQ, arts and crafts stalls, kids entertainment and much more.

Advice and Information Drop Ins

Every Wednesday from 2:30pm to 4:30pm, Ythan Centre, Ellon

- confidential, groups or one on one's.

This is open to people aged 12 to 25yrs.

Call 01358 725193 for further details.

Butterfly Bonanza!

23rd July, lower Glen Muick

Help the Balmoral and Aberdeenshire rangers identify and record the wonderful array of rare and beautiful butterflies in . Meeting point: Mill of Sterin 10.30am- 12.30pm Cost: Free.

Booking essential: 013397 55059.

The Charity Shop

Excellent range of clothing and bric-a-brac for resale. Donations are gratefully accepted

Opening Hours:

Monday - Saturday 10am - 4pm

Volunteers welcome - contact the shop at:
16a Bridge Street, Banchory Tel: 01330 825714



THE BOXROOM

Recycle + Reuse

THE BOXROOM recycles household goods, by direct sales to the public or by providing essential furniture for those in need

OPEN: Monday - Friday 10am - 2.30pm & Saturday 9am - 1pm

Unit 5, Tillybrake Industrial Estate, Banchory AB31 5UN
(in front of the Royal Mail sorting office)
Tel: 01330 823800

...online...useful websites...online...

www.utility-aid.co.uk

Utility Aid helps charities reduce their energy costs and become more energy efficient by providing services which in addition to delivering these benefits, creates employment for disabled people as trained energy efficiency managers. Visit their website to find out more...

www.youngscot.org

This site has loads of features for 11 - 26 year olds including podcasts, competitions, cd reviews, discounts, games and information on what's going on around Scotland. Includes a local section on Aberdeen.

www.digitaluk.co.uk

With the digital switchover underway in Scotland and due throughout the North of Scotland in 2010, viewers can find out which transmitter they will be watching, what their options are now and after the switchover by entering their postcode on this site.

www.scotland.gov.uk/Consultations

Visit this section of the Scottish Government website and get involved with the many government consultations currently underway. This is your chance to have your say on many issues that affect our day to day lives.