

A&E3SF

Annandale & Eskdale Third Sector Forum

What is the Third Sector Forum?

Annandale & Eskdale Third Sector Forum (A&E3SF) has been established to enable voluntary organisations to work together to:

- improve communications between organisations;
- address issues of common interest and respond as a collective voice to the Community Planning Joint Board or appropriate organisation/agency;
- build on existing partnerships with external agencies;
- contribute more effectively to Community Planning;
- demonstrate the value of the work of voluntary organisations to regional services and the regional economy;
- reduce the isolation which may be experienced by individual voluntary organisations.

What are the benefits of being a member?

Examples of the benefits are:

- A collective voice for members.
- An opportunity for smaller organisations to be a part of a group that can challenge and lobby statutory organisations.
- Sharing information, knowledge and experience.
- Getting to know what other voluntary organisations operate in Annandale & Eskdale.
- Opportunities for partnership working.
- Receiving communications on issues of interest and consultations.
- The opportunity to contribute to Community Planning.
- Opportunities for sharing resources.

Who can be involved?

Membership is open to all voluntary organisations operating in Annandale & Eskdale, including community councils.

Organisations can register their membership by contacting Annandale & Eskdale Council for Voluntary Service (see contact details overleaf) and nominating someone as their point of contact.

When and where does it meet?

The Forum meets quarterly. Meetings will be held centrally, most likely in Lockerbie.

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How does it operate?

The Forum will work within the aims and aspirations of the Dumfries and Galloway Compact, which is a partnership agreement between voluntary, community and public sector bodies.

Members will receive copies of the notes of the other area 3SF meetings and the regional 3SF meetings, as well as information on issues of interest.

Members will also have access to the contact details for other members of the A&E 3SF.

How can we get more information and/or join?

Please contact Nancy Hannah, Annandale & Eskdale Council for Voluntary Service, 16 High Street, Lochmaben, Lockerbie, DG11 1NH. Telephone 01387 810974 or e-mail Nancy.Hannah@aecvs.org.uk.

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