

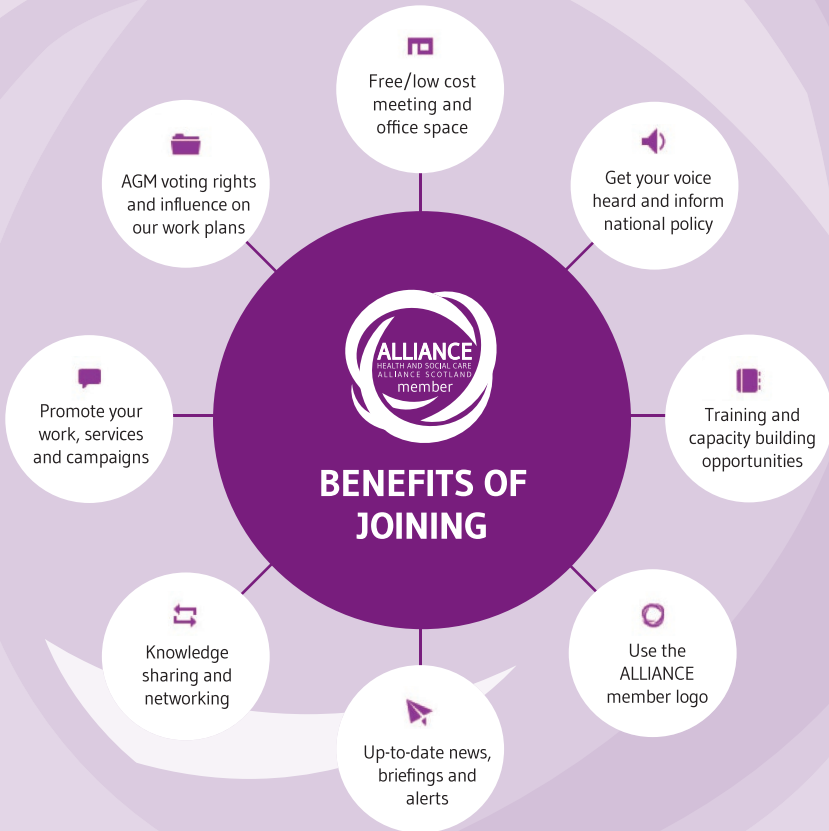


Health and Social Care  
Alliance Scotland

# Membership Handbook



# Membership



# About the ALLIANCE

The Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE) is the national third sector intermediary for a wealth of health and social care organisations. It brings together over 1,500 members, including a large network of national and local third sector organisations, associates in the statutory and private sectors and individuals.

The ALLIANCE's vision is for a Scotland where people of all ages who are disabled or living with long term conditions, and unpaid carers, have a strong voice and enjoy the right to live well, as equal and active citizens, free from discrimination, with access to support and services that put them at the centre.

The ALLIANCE has three core aims; we seek to:

- Ensure people are at the centre: that their voices, expertise and rights drive policy and sit at the heart of design, delivery and improvement of support and services;
- Support transformational change: shifting towards approaches that work with individual and community assets; helping people to stay well, supporting human rights, self management, co-production and independent living;
- Champion and support the third sector: as a vital strategic and service delivery partner, and also foster better cross-sector understanding and partnership.

# Low cost meeting and office space



The ALLIANCE members gain exclusive use of our Hub and meeting rooms in Glasgow.

The Hub provides:

- Meeting and training rooms for hire;
- Laptops and data projectors for hire;
- PA system and infrared hearing loop system available upon request;
- Hot desks;
- Drop-in facilities.

Whether you are a small support group looking to have a coffee with peers or a large national organisation holding a board meeting, we can accommodate you. For more information about the ALLIANCE meeting rooms visit [www.alliance-scotland.org.uk/resources/the-alliance-hub/](http://www.alliance-scotland.org.uk/resources/the-alliance-hub/).

# AGM voting rights and influence on our work plans

The ALLIANCE is governed by a Board of non-executive directors elected from the standard membership. The board leads the strategic direction of the organisation and any voting member may nominate a member of their staff or volunteer to the board. As a standard member of the ALLIANCE you are entitled to vote at our AGM.

Members may also influence the ALLIANCE's work plans directly and indirectly through our ongoing programme of networking events, consultations and regular member engagement activity. The strength of the ALLIANCE is in its membership working together to ensure the voice of people who are disabled, living with long term conditions or delivering unpaid care is heard.

# Get your voice heard and influence national policy

One of the main benefits of membership is having your voice heard and influencing change at a national level. The ALLIANCE support this in a range of ways:



- Through our policy and campaigns work (e.g. helping you to share your views and those of the people you represent through consultations, briefing papers and dialogue events);
- By helping you to get directly involved in or benefit from the ALLIANCE's many projects and programmes that contribute to our vision and core aims;
- By supporting individual people who are disabled, living with long term conditions or unpaid carers to get their voice heard.

“ The ALLIANCE's role is to be a co-ordinated voice at a strategic level as well as supporting individual groups, to make sure that everyone's thoughts are taken on board. ”

ALLIANCE member

# Up-to-date news, briefings and alerts

As members you, or others in your organisation, can receive our weekly newsletter direct to your inbox which includes all the latest news related to health and social care in Scotland, policy and parliamentary news, upcoming events and tweets from the network of other ALLIANCE members.

“ It used to involve scouring the internet, and continually reading the latest government documents; it’s very difficult to keep up. Whereas I know when I get that email, I can scan the headlines and then look at what interests me. It’s a great resource in that respect. ”

*ALLIANCE member*

Members also receive direct communications from us including specially selected invitations to participate in relevant and exciting pieces of work, events or research.

The ALLIANCE can also arrange for you to receive the different project updates to ensure you are kept up-to-date with all aspects of the ALLIANCE’s work.

# Knowledge sharing and networking across sectors

One of the main roles of the ALLIANCE is to support the third sector and ensure it is as strong and influential as it needs to be. To do this we build and foster effective relationships across sectors and support each of our members to do the same.

“ I see it as a network where people who wouldn't otherwise meet come together, both users of services and staff from big organisations and people who wear both hats. I've met some really interesting people that I wouldn't have met otherwise. ”

*ALLIANCE member*

The ALLIANCE members can network with one another and share information, good practice and expertise by:

- Taking part in our free members networking events (interactive events on a range of themes open to members in all sectors)
- Attending, presenting, and/or hosting workshops, at our conferences and policy dialogue events

Contact the Network Development Officer by emailing [membership@alliance-scotland.org.uk](mailto:membership@alliance-scotland.org.uk) if you would like to make contact with other members with a particular area of interest or expertise. As well as our networking events the ALLIANCE works with partners to organise different events that we publish on our website.

“ I think as individual groups you do get very insular and by coming to these groups you are able to pick up on other people's viewpoints. You realise that we've all got the same problems and if we can all help each other solve these then that can only be beneficial. ”

*ALLIANCE member*



# Promote your own work, services and campaigns

Members can publicise their own work, services, events and campaigns to a wide cross sector audience via the ALLIANCE weekly bulletin which we send to more than 1,500 third sector organisation, health and social care professionals, and individuals living with long term conditions. We will also promote the information on our website and social media channels.

There are numerous opportunities for members to promote their work and campaign messages through our programme of events. This includes hosting information stands, facilitating workshops and co-sponsoring events.

We are in the process of further developing the range of sponsorship and promotional opportunities we can offer for private sector organisations through corporate membership.

## Viewpoint on the ALLIANCE website

The ALLIANCE viewpoint provides an excellent platform for members to write about something they are passionate and knowledgeable about.

The viewpoint allows for publication of interesting, inspiring content and can also help raise exposure of different issues and campaigns. The viewpoint is shared widely across the ALLIANCE membership and our social media.

The style of the viewpoint can be conversational and bring in personal experience or perspective. Viewpoints are about expressing an individual or organisational opinion.

To discuss any of this in more detail, please contact the Network Development Officer [membership@alliance-scotland.org.uk](mailto:membership@alliance-scotland.org.uk)

# Spotlight your organisation

Members have the opportunity to spotlight their organisation on the ALLIANCE website. Each week we will pick a different member to spotlight their organisation.

## Use the ALLIANCE member logo

Members are encouraged to use the ALLIANCE member logo on their website and publications to let others know that they are part of a wider network with shared core values working towards similar aims.

The ALLIANCE will send you full details and guidance on using the logo as soon as you join.



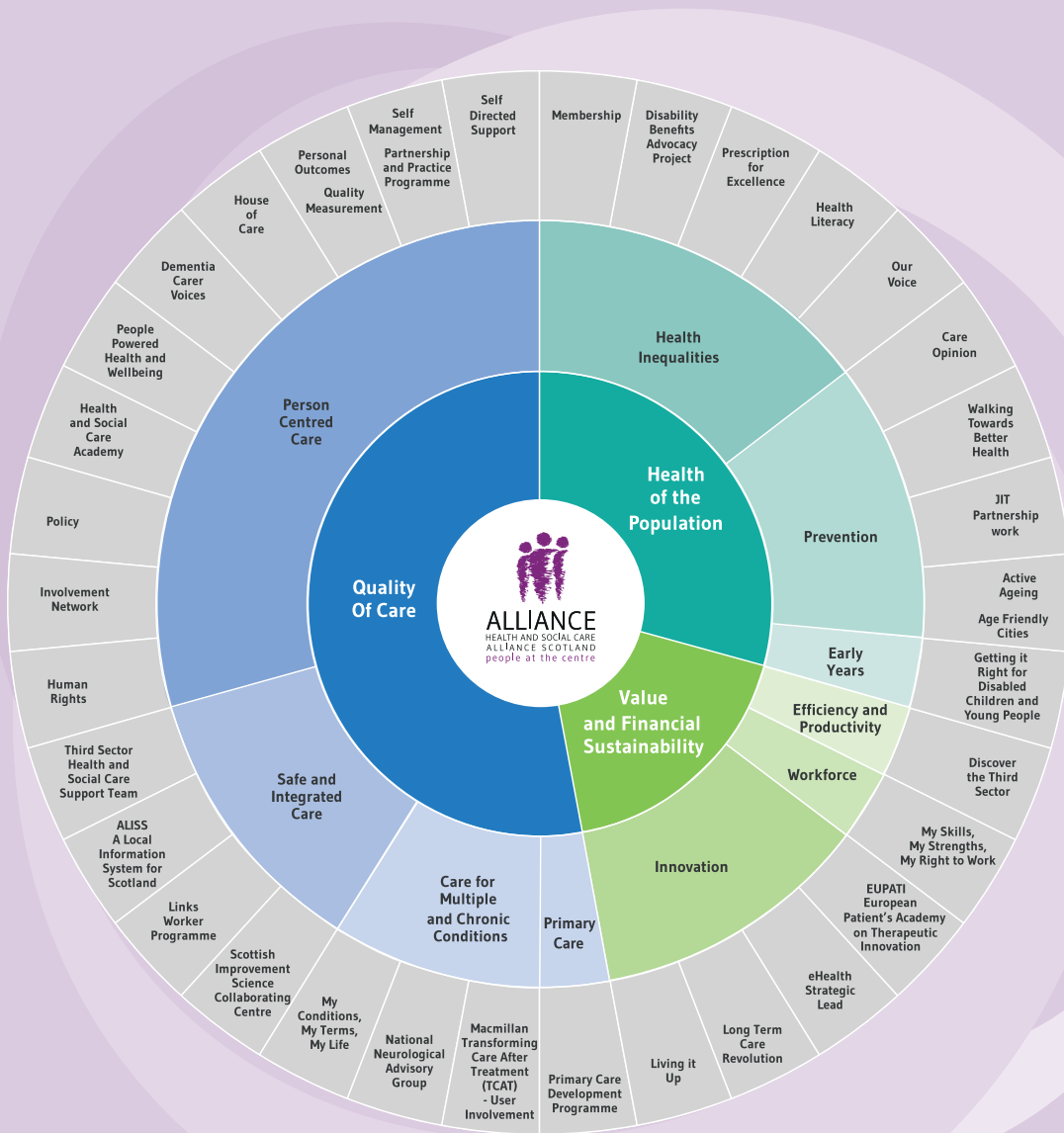
## Events

The ALLIANCE hosts many events throughout the year, all over Scotland. The ALLIANCE host various type of events, including, but not limited to:

- Members Networking Events;
- Self Management Events;
- Academy Masterclass;
- Roundtable Discussions;
- Conferences.

You can find more information on upcoming events through the events calendar on our website: for more information, visit [www.alliance-scotland.org.uk](http://www.alliance-scotland.org.uk)

# The ALLIANCE Portfolio



## Route Map to the 2020 Vision for Health and Social Care

# Contact Us

## Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE)

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membership.alliance-scotland.org.uk

# Join Us

If you would like to join the ALLIANCE complete the online membership form via [membership.alliance-scotland.org.uk](http://membership.alliance-scotland.org.uk), alternatively, please contact us.

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**ALLIANCE**  
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE  
ALLIANCE SCOTLAND  
people at the centre