

handbook





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About the ALLIANCE

The Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE) is the national third sector membership organisation for the health and social care sector. We bring together over 3,500 people and organisations dedicated to achieving our vision of a Scotland where everyone has a strong voice and enjoys the right to live well, with dignity and respect. Our members are essential in creating a society in which we all can thrive, and we believe that by working together, our voice is stronger.

We work to improve the wellbeing of people and communities across Scotland by supporting change in health, social care and other public services so they better meet the needs of everyone in Scotland. We do this by bringing together the expertise of people with lived experience, the third sector, and organisations across health and social care to shape better services and support positive change.

The ALLIANCE has three core aims.

We seek to:

- **Empower people with lived experience:** we ensure disabled people, people with long term conditions, and unpaid carers are heard and that their needs remain at the heart of the services and communities.
 - **Support positive change:** we work within communities to promote co-production, self management, human rights, and independent living.
 - **Champion the third sector:** we work with, support and encourage co-operation between support the third sector and health and social care organisations.
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The ALLIANCE is committed to upholding human rights. We embed lived experience in our work and aim to ensure people are meaningfully involved at every level of decision-making.

Working together creates positive, long-lasting impact. We work in partnership with the Scottish Government, NHS Boards, universities, and other key organisations within health, social care, housing, and digital technology to manage funding and develop successful projects. Together, our voice is stronger, and we can create meaningful change.



Membership at the centre

- By becoming a member of the ALLIANCE you are joining a dynamic, cross-sector community working to improve the lives of people who use health and social care services in Scotland.
- You can help to strengthen our collective voice, increase meaningful involvement and impact of people with lived experience, scale-up and embed successful development work, raise awareness of and address health inequalities, model and promote human rights in action, and influence and change policy.
- ALLIANCE membership is flexible to suit your needs and capacity- we know that people live busy lives and that sometimes living with a disability, a long term condition, or caring for someone, means that you may not be able to take part in everything that comes along.
- We take a flexible approach to involving our members, whether you prefer to keep up to date through our newsletter, get involved in feedback and engagement sessions, network with other members, or share your experience and learning through our networks, the choice is always with you.



ALLIANCE membership is having a network of support and information.
- ALLIANCE Member



Membership

There are three categories of membership at the ALLIANCE, all with different levels of involvement and responsibilities.

Types of membership

Individual membership

Free membership for individuals living with long term conditions, disabled people, and unpaid carers.

Professional membership

Free membership for professionals working in health and social care or the third sector, or students training in health and social care.

Organisation membership

[For more information about membership fees, please visit our website.](#)

Standard members

- Third sector and social enterprise organisations whose main remit is health and social care.
- Standard members can nominate to our board, and have voting rights in our AGM.

Associate members

- All other non-profit organisations including public sector, professional associations and higher education.

Corporate members

- Corporate businesses who support the aims of the ALLIANCE.



ALLIANCE membership has opened up a whole new dimension of support with our work. We have met a number of very helpful individuals and organisations.

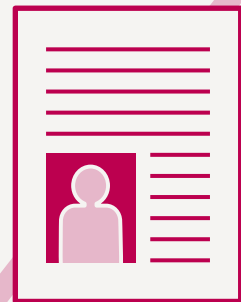
- ALLIANCE member

Stay up to date

Stay up to date with developments, news and opportunities from across health and social care in Scotland.

Receive our exclusive membership newsletter:

- Receive relevant news and policy updates from experts across health and social care through our monthly membership newsletter.
- Stay connected with exclusive opportunities to attend events, training or to share your experience.
- Be kept up to date with the ALLIANCE's news and policy work through exclusive updates from our Chief Officer and ALLIANCE programmes.



Promote your work, events or news:

- Share your work, expertise and learning with the thousands of members and organisations subscribed to our main bulletin.
- Gain priority access to listing your events or news on our webpage and in our main bulletin.
- Promote your work across the sector by featuring on our social media channels.



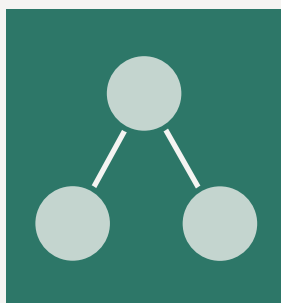
Interested in promoting your work and extending your reach?
Contact our communications team at
communications@alliance-scotland.org.uk

Events and networking

Connect across the ALLIANCE's diverse membership network and attend regular events and trainings to enhance your skills and knowledge.

Connect with colleagues across the sector:

- Connect with ALLIANCE members around key topics by attending our members only quarterly ALLIANCE Connect networking sessions.
- Share your work and experience by networking with organisations, professionals, and individuals with lived experience at our ALLIANCE Annual Conference and regular series of events.
- Receive a discount to attend our Annual Conference.



Access to member exclusive events and trainings:

- Attend our regular series of member only events, webinars and training sessions to develop knowledge around a wide range of topics such as funding, inclusive communication, human rights and lived experience.

Interested in attending one of our events? [Visit our website](#) to register for our upcoming events or contact our membership team at membership@alliance-scotland.org.uk

Share knowledge and experience

Share your knowledge and experience and learn from colleagues across the sector to improve health and social care across Scotland.

Share your knowledge, experience or story:

- Share your lived experience to influence change by joining one of our [ALLIANCE lived experience networks](#).
- Feature your knowledge, learning or lived experience on our website and in our main bulletin by writing an [opinion piece](#), [case study](#) or taking part in one of our storytelling initiatives.



[Connected Communities](#)



[Humans of Scotland](#)



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Facilitate and learn from best practice:

- Access and share resources within our [ALLIANCE Knowledge Hub](#) to learn from leading approaches to engagement.
- Join our [ALLIANCE Community of Practices](#) to share best practice and learning around meaningful engagement, discuss topics relevant to the sector and learn how to incorporate new approaches within your own work.
- Receive a discount on paid training packages delivered by the ALLIANCE

Interested in sharing your experience or joining our communities of practice? Contact the membership team at membership@alliance-scotland.org.uk to find out more.

Shape policy and practice

Have your voice represented through our policy work and engagement opportunities to shape policy and practice across Scotland.

Have your views represented in our policy work:

- Issues that are important to our members are important to us. Have your views and expertise shape our policy priorities by taking part in our member exclusive surveys, events and by sharing your thoughts within our [consultation responses](#) and [research reports](#).

Amplify issues that matter to you:

- [Get in touch directly](#) with our ALLIANCE policy team about issues that matter to you.
- Connect with our ALLIANCE policy team and other policy colleagues from across the sector at our bi-annual policy networking sessions.
- [Share your campaigns with us](#) so that we can support you - we can sign join letters, share your campaign across our membership and networks, and raise your concerns across our work.
- Be part of dedicated spaces that bring people together around emerging policy issues across Scotland and build collective influence.

Share your insights directly:

- Attend one of our regular policy or research [events](#) to share your perspective directly with the Scottish Government, sector leaders and policy makers.

Interested in getting involved with our policy work?
Contact our policy team at policy@alliance-scotland.org.uk



ALLIANCE Portfolio

ALISS (A Local Information Service for Scotland)

- ALISS is a co-produced, web-based system for finding and sharing information about community assets across Scotland

Community Links Programme

- Supporting links between people and their communities through their GP Practice to mitigate the impact of social determinants.

Digital Health and Social Care

- Supporting transformational change in health and social care by exploring digital and innovative technologies and ways of working.

Humans of Scotland

- Sharing stories of people living with long term conditions, disabled people, unpaid carers and those who provide support in their roles to ensure people have a platform to tell their story and inspire change.

Health and Social Care Integration

- Supporting Scotland's health and social care services to put people at the centre.

Lived Experience

- The ALLIANCE champions lived experience to ensure people inform national policies, campaigns and service design, through engagement and Lived Experience Networks.

Policy and Research

- The ALLIANCE supports the implementation of a range of national policy areas to ensure they make a positive difference to people's lives.

Partnerships

- Engaging with a range of organisations to achieve our vision of creating a Scotland where everyone has a strong voice and enjoys their right to live well with dignity and respect.

Self Management

- Supporting shared knowledge of new ways of working; helping people to live their lives better – on their terms.
- The Self Management fund runs annually, with a number of projects and organisations benefitting from the fund.

Code of conduct

The Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE) recognises that our members are integral to achieving our vision, which is a Scotland where everyone has a strong voice and enjoys their right to live well with dignity and respect.

As an organisation we embody our values:

We are inclusive - we create a space for people to come together as equals and engage meaningfully to ensure the voices of those with lived experience are acted upon.

We are participatory and empowering - we embody person led and partnership approaches and we promote inclusivity, dignity and fairness.

We are courageous - we use our position and the knowledge entrusted to us by those we represent, to challenge the barriers and to take action.

We are proactive - we embrace change, and are agile and dynamic to best respond to the needs of those we represent.

We are collaborative - together we are stronger, wiser and will make real change happen.

By becoming a member, you are agreeing to follow the ALLIANCE values and standard of behaviours that is based on mutual respect and trust, and communication that is open, honest and clear. This code of conduct is designed to instil our values and sets out what is expected of everyone that is a member of the ALLIANCE.

If an ALLIANCE member of staff or member feels that your behaviour is offensive, hurtful, or inappropriate and not in keeping with these values, this will be perceived as a breach of this code of conduct. Any cases submitted or action taken will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

Breaches of the code of conduct could result in termination of membership of the ALLIANCE. If you are not happy with your experience with the ALLIANCE and want to let us know, please speak to the membership team or the Director of Communication and Engagement who can support you.

Email membership at membership@alliance-scotland.org.uk for further support.



Membership

✉ membership@alliance-scotland.org.uk

☎ 0141 404 0231 ✉ info@alliance-scotland.org.uk

📷 [alliance.scot](https://www.alliance.scot) [alliancescotland](https://www.alliancescotland.org.uk) [ALLIANCEScot](https://www.alliancescot.org.uk) [alliancescotland](https://www.alliancescotland.org.uk) [ALLIANCE Live](https://www.alliance-live.org.uk)

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