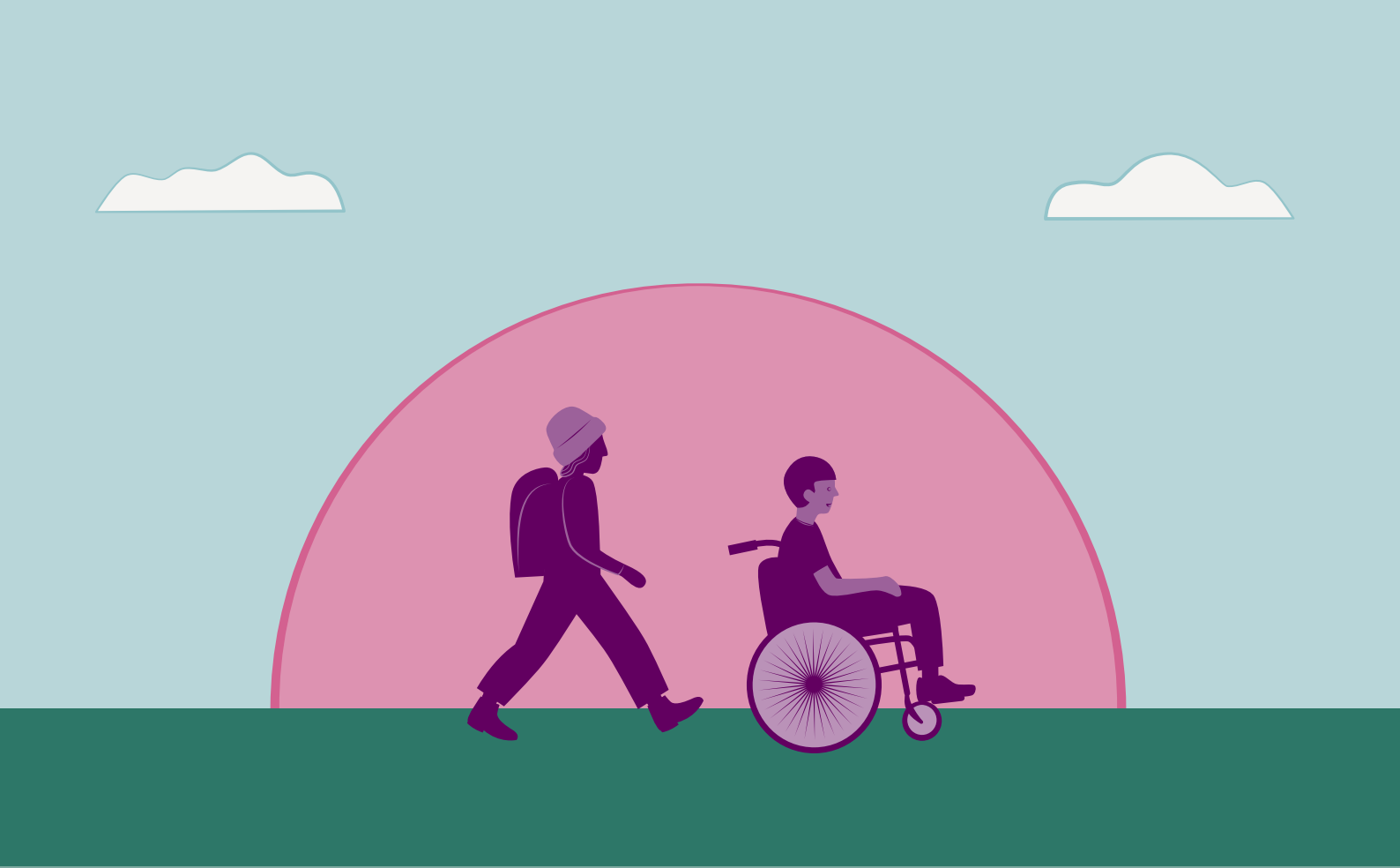


# Membership

# handbook





# Contents

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About the ALLIANCE	1
Membership at the centre	2
Become a member	3
Get involved	4
Stay up to date	5
Network and promote	6
Sharing knowledge and learning	7
Individual or professional members	8
ALLIANCE Portfolio	9
Code of conduct	10

# About the ALLIANCE

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The Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE) is the national third sector intermediary for health and social care, bringing together a diverse range of people and organisations who share our vision, which is a Scotland where everyone has a strong voice and enjoys their right to live well with dignity and respect.

We are a strategic partner of the Scottish Government and have close working relationships with many NHS Boards, academic institutions and key organisations spanning health, social care, housing and digital technology.

Our purpose is to improve the wellbeing of people and communities across Scotland. We bring together the expertise of people with lived experience, the third sector, and organisations across health and social care to inform policy, practice and service delivery. Together our voice is stronger and we use it to make meaningful change at the local and national level. Our vision is a Scotland where everyone has a strong voice and enjoys their right to live well with dignity and respect.

The ALLIANCE has a strong and diverse membership of organisations and individuals. Our broad range of programmes and activities deliver support, research and policy development, digital innovation and knowledge sharing. We manage funding and spotlight innovative projects; working with our members and partners to ensure lived experience and third sector expertise is listened to and acted upon by informing national policy and campaigns, and putting people at the centre of designing support and services.

## We aim to:

- Ensure disabled people, people with long term conditions and unpaid carers voices, expertise and rights drive policy and sit at the heart of design, delivery and improvement of support and services.
- Support transformational change that works with individual and community assets, helping people to live well, supporting human rights, self management, co-production and independent living.
- Champion and support the third sector as a vital strategic and delivery partner, and foster cross-sector understanding and partnership.



# 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



# Become a member

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 had funding to run self management course and met a number of very helpful individuals and organisations.  
- ALLIANCE member

# Get involved

Work together to help shape the ALLIANCE's priorities - our work is informed by our members' opinions and experiences, and we welcome this feedback to help shape our work.

Attend engagement events, round tables, and meetings to inform and shape policy, legislation and practice.

Nominate a project or individual for our annual Self Management awards, or apply for funding from our Self Management Fund.



Be a part of our growing networks and communities of practice.

Contribute to ALLIANCE Live by highlighting your organisation and the work they do through video or podcast.

[ALLIANCE Live YouTube](#)

Share your story with Humans of Scotland- the ALLIANCE's storytelling initiative.

Members can take advantage of reduced fees for hiring meeting rooms at our Glasgow offices, which are perfect for hosting meetings or training sessions.

[ALLIANCE offices](#)



The network and connections the ALLIANCE provides and the bridge between the third sector and the Scottish Government is invaluable.  
- ALLIANCE member

# Stay up to date

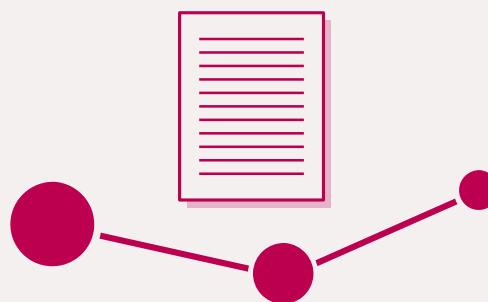
## Newsletters

As well as our weekly bulletin, you will receive our bi-weekly membership specific newsletter, which shares opportunities to get involved in ALLIANCE events and spotlights updates, news and events hosted by our membership community across Scotland.



## Share your news with us

We regularly publish updates from our members, which are shared on our website social media channels, to highlight changes and developments across the health and social care sector.



## Policy briefings

We work with our members to regularly respond to consultations on new policy to highlight the collective voice of our membership community.

## ALLIANCE Live podcasts

Join our ALLIANCE Live podcasts to shine a light on developing news, topics and policy.

[ALLIANCE Live](#)



The signposting to new, emerging, changing policy, guidance and legislation, support for collated responses to consultations, and access to a wide network is what I value from my membership.  
- ALLIANCE member



# Network and promote

**'ALLIANCE Connect'**, our quarterly networking session, is an opportunity to meet and network with ALLIANCE members, and learn more about their work.

**Promote** your organisation and raise awareness of your work and call other members to action through our social media channels.

**Book a hot desk** in our office co-working HUB.

ALLIANCE offices



**Contribute** to our knowledge hub by writing an opinion piece or sharing a case study on our website.

ALLIANCE opinion



**Attend one of our regular events**, including training sessions, webinars, roundtables, and focus groups to informally connect and network across our membership community whilst learning new skills.

ALLIANCE events



**Attend our national events** - including our Annual Conference, and Self Management Week.

**Share** your knowledge, skills and experience working in the third sector at the ALLIANCE's community of practice sessions, where likeminded people come together to share best practice and advice.



The opportunities to network with other member organisations and hear about developments in health and social care from the perspective of how real people are affected is incredibly important.  
- ALLIANCE member

# Sharing knowledge and learning

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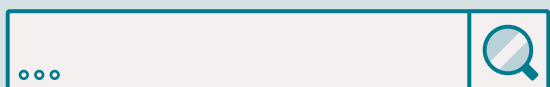


**Follow** health and social care news and updates through reading the resources on our website, including briefings, research, and reporting on key news and updates on health and social care.

ALLIANCE News



**Share** your knowledge and experience through our engagement opportunities and surveys to influence change in the health and social care sector.



**Use ALISS** (A Local Information Service for Scotland) to search for support or a service near you, or list your organisation and services to contribute to Scotland's national directory of health and wellbeing community assets.

ALISS



**Access** to free talks, webinars and training, including GIRFEC information sessions, workshops of digital health and social care tools, and talks on person centred practice for the third and public sectors.



As a member, I can see the results of the projects and events I participate in, and can also access a wealth of useful information via ALISS, and other links and resources, things I'd never even heard of before joining.

# Individual or professional members

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Represent your personal opinions and views, and bring your professional or lived experience and expertise to our engagement sessions and policy briefings.

Use our networking sessions to connect with organisations and health and social care professionals.



The ALLIANCE provides a range of opportunities for individual members with lived experience of long term conditions, disabled people, or unpaid carers to share their experiences to help to directly influence policy in the health and social care sector.

ALLIANCE lived experience

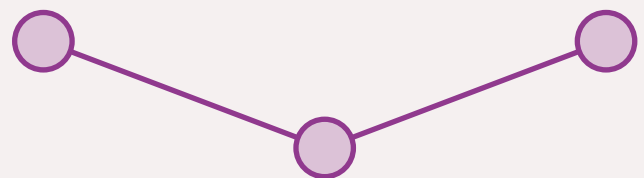
We share opportunities for you to get involved in consultations on policy making, take part in research, or sit on committees, boards or groups which represent your chosen interest area.

As a member, you would be able to access a range of free training events tailored to support you to build your knowledge and professional or personal development.

ALLIANCE events

Students have access to our learning hub and use our research, reports and policy briefings for your educational needs.

ALLIANCE resources



The ALLIANCE has given me the ability to make my voice heard, not just as a frustrated individual screaming into the void, but as part of a much more effective group of similar minded, and highly motivated people. - ALLIANCE member

# ALLIANCE Portfolio

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## 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

## ALLIANCE Live

- ALLIANCE Live connects audiences to experts from across health and social care through digital media, including video and podcast.

## 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

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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](mailto:membership@alliance-scotland.org.uk) for further support.

