

South Northants Volunteer Bureau

Background Information

SNVB is an “umbrella organisation” working in the community as the Local Infrastructure Organisation (LIO) supporting the voluntary and community sector in South Northamptonshire and it is a quality accredited local volunteering development agency (VEQA and PQASSO).

These LIO activities are part funded by West Northamptonshire Council with whom a Service Level Agreement (SLA) is in place.

As a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee, the organisation is managed by a board of trustees composed of representatives of local voluntary and statutory organisations and volunteers. SNVB was established in 1993 and moved to the Volunteer Centre Towcester in February 1999. The Volunteer Centre in Market House Courtyard Brackley was opened July 2003. Both the Volunteer Centres are fully accessible.

As a NCVO Accredited Local Volunteer Development Agency the organisation promotes volunteering and works with individuals and organisations helping them to get the most out of volunteering. It also works with other local agencies assisting them to increase their capacity and to develop new initiatives.

The Brackley Area Volunteer Car Service is a project which the organisation operates as ‘direct service’ using volunteers. “Charity Crafts” is a volunteer support project and “Link-Up” is a forum run by the bureau to encourage the exchange of information between the voluntary and community groups and statutory organisations that operate locally. SNVB facilitates the South Northamptonshire VCS Forum and also operates community based projects called Garden Buddies and the Northamptonshire Energy Saving Service (NESS), which are funded by the BIG Lottery and the Warm Homes Fund respectively.

The South Northants Community Minibus is owned and operated by SNVB.

Both Volunteer Centres are open to the public and are able to offer sessional accommodation to a number of external agencies, enabling them to hold outreach advice sessions in both market towns. The Towcester Centre has a Meeting/Training room. At both Centres snvb provides a reception and signposting service for all these sessions.

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