

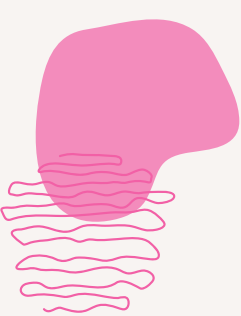


MOMENTS OF FREEDOM

Community Councils

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Community Councils

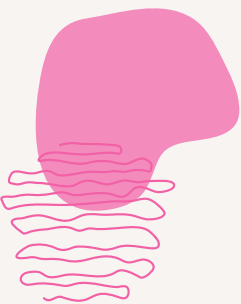
A Community Council is a voluntary organisation set up by statute by the Local Authority and is run by local residents.

Community Councils are comprised of Community Councillors who act on behalf of the area and want to make it a better place to live.

Community Councils play an important role in local democracy.

The general purpose of a Community Council is to express the wider views of the entire community, they can complement the role of the local authority but are not part of local government.





What is a Community Council?

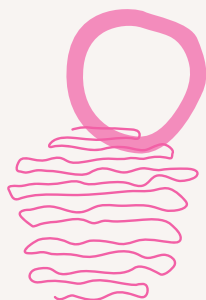
Community Councils are the strongest means of becoming involved with your local area.

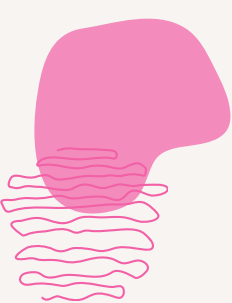
It will give you a good understanding of the workings of local government and what is going on locally and nationally.

All local authorities in Scotland encourage citizens to become a member of their Community Council.

All Community Council meetings are open to the public, and residents are encouraged to attend their local Community Council.

You can find out lots of information at meetings such as new planning proposals or updates from police or elected members.





Community Council funding

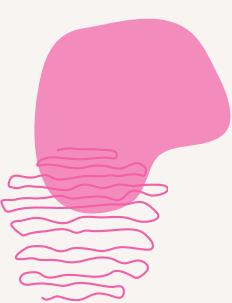
Community Councils receive a set amount of money each year from the Council.

This money can be spent on paying for a website, advertising the Community Council and other activities related to running a successful Community Council.

Often Community Councils spend this money by helping local community groups with needed items, for example buying planters for a gardening group or upkeeping local signs and noticeboards.

Community Councils can be good places to approach if you are looking for monetary help for small community projects as an un-constituted group.





Being a Community Councillor

Being a community councillor means you have shared responsibility for the Community Council.

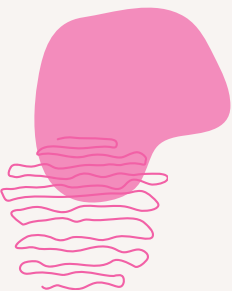
You must commit to the role and uphold the standards and values of the Community Council.

There are various ways in which you can play your part in your Community Council. Each community council must have a Chairperson, a Treasurer and a Secretary – the office bearers – and these roles carry the most responsibility.

You also don't have to take on a specific role to be involved in your community council, you can simply join in and contribute to the decisions and actions.

If you don't want to be a member you can just go along to meetings and find out what's happening locally.





Community Council meetings

Community Councils usually meet once a month either in person or online.

Most Community Councils choose to meet in their local town hall or venue for 1 -2 hours.

Community Councils invite along their local elected Councillors as well as their MSP and MP.

Members of the public and local businesses are welcome to come along, listen in and raise any issues of concern.

These meetings are usually a good way of keeping up to date on what is going on locally and to find out information directly from your local representatives.





We hope you find
this helpful!

Moments of Freedom

