

HOW?

Understanding voluntary sector acronyms

Ever wondered what all that jargon in the voluntary sector means? Here are some common (and not so common) acronyms that you may come across.

A			
A4A	Awards for All	BCODP	British Council of Disabled People
ABI	Area Based Initiative	BGFOP	Better Government for Older People
ACAS	Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service	BID	Business Improvement District
ACD	Active Communities Directorate (Home Office)	BiTC	Business in the Community
ACDF	Active Communities Development Fund	BMA	British Medical Association
ACE	Arts Council England	BME	Black and Minority Ethnic
ACEVO	Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations	BSA	Basic Skills Agency
ACF	Association of Charitable Foundations	BSL	British Sign Language
ACIE	Association of Charity Independent Examiners	BTCV	British Trust for Conservation Volunteers
ACRE	Action with Communities in Rural England	BTEG	Black Training and Enterprise Group
ACS	Association of Charity Shops		British Urban Regeneration Association
ACU	Active Community Unit (Home Office)	C	
AfA	Action for Accreditation	CAB	Citizens Advice Bureau
AGM	Annual General Meeting	CAFCASS	Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service
AIF	Area Investment Framework	CAMHS	Community Acute Mental Health Service
ALI	Adult Learning Inspectorate	CAS	Community Accountancy Service
ALM	Action Learning for Managers	CBI	Confederation of British Industry
ALW	Adult Learners' Week	CAS	Community Accountancy Service
ARVAC	Association for Research in the Voluntary and Community Sector	CBI	Confederation of British Industry
B		CBIS	Capacity Building Infrastructure Strategy
bassac	British Association of Settlements and Social Action Centres	CBIT	Capacity Building Implementation Team
BCD	Black and Culturally Diverse	CCBR	Community Capacity Building Review
		CCETSW	Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work
		CCG	Community Care Grant

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DTA	Development Trusts Association	FPS	Free Professional Services
		FSO	Forum Support Organisation – new name for Local Network Provider
DTI	Department for Trade and Industry		
DWP	Department for Work and Pensions		
E		G	
EAPN	European Anti Poverty Network	GAYE	Give As You Earn
EC	European Commission (Civil Service of the European Union)	GNVQ	General National Vocational Qualification
EC	Experience Corps	GO(s)/GOR(s)	Government Office(s) in the Region(s)
EIA	European Information Association	GOEM	Government Office for the East Midlands
EIF	European Investment Fund	GRO	Government Regional Office
EMDA	East Midlands Development Agency	GSCC	General Social Care Council
EMU	Economic and Monetary Union		
EO	Employers Organisation (formerly part of the Local Government Management Board)	H	
EOC	Equal Opportunities Commission	HA	Housing Association
EOY	End of Year returns	HACT	Housing Associations Charitable Trust
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund	HAZ	Health Action Zone
ERN	English Regions Network (umbrella organisation for Regional Assemblies)	HAD	Health Development Agency
ES	Employment Service	HE	Higher Education
ESF	European Social Fund	HIMP	Health Improvement and Modernisation Plan
ESOL	English for Speakers of Other Languages	HLC	Healthy Living Centre
ESV	Employer Supported Volunteering	HLF	Heritage Lottery Fund
ETF	Environmental Task Force (New Deal)	HMT	Her Majesty's Treasury
EU	European Union	HO	Home Office
		HR	Human Resources
		HRD	Human Resource Development
		HSE	Health and Safety Executive
F		I	
FAQs	Frequently Asked Questions	ICAS	Independent Complaints Advisory Service
FAWN	Funding Advice Workers Network	ICT	Information Communication Technologies
FCAS	Federation of Charity Advice Services	IDeA	Improvement and Development Agency
FCDL	Federation for Community Development Learning	IEG statement	Implementing Electronic Government statement
FE	Further Education		

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IIP	Investors in People	LRD	Labour Research Department
ILP	Independent Living Project	LSC	Learning and Skills Council
IPPR	Institute for Public Policy Research	LSC	Legal Services Commission
IRT	Identification, Referral and Tracking	LSP	Local Strategic Partnership
ISBN	International Standard Book Number		
ISG	Information Services Group		
ISO	Infrastructure Support Organisation		
ISP	Internet Service Provider		
J		M	
JCB	Joint Commissioning Board	MEP	Member of European Parliament
JIP	Joint Investment Programme (Health and Social Services)	MHF	Mental Health Foundation
JRCT	Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	MIS	Management Information Systems
JRF	Joseph Rowntree Foundation	MP	Member of Parliament
JSA	Job Seekers' Allowance	MV	Millennium Volunteers
L		N	
LA	Local Authority	NACRO	National Association for Care and Resettlement of Offenders
LAP	Local Action Plan	NACVS	National Association of Councils for Voluntary Service
LDA	Local Development Agency	NAVB	National Association of Volunteer Bureaux (now VDE; VE as of 1 April 2004)
LEA	Local Education Authority	NAWO	National Alliance of Women's Organisations
LDC	(Derbyshire) Learning & Development Consortium	NCBV	National Coalition for Black Volunteering
LEI	Local Employment Initiative	NCH	National Children's Home
LETS	Local Exchange Trading System	NCV	National Centre for Volunteering (VE as of 1 April 2004)
LGA	Local Government Association	NCVCCO	National Council of Voluntary Child Care Organisations
LGBT	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered	NCVO	National Council for Voluntary Organisations
LGCE	Local Government Commission for England	NCVYS	National Council for Voluntary Youth Services
LIF	Local Initiatives Fund	NDC	New Deal for Communities
LIFT	Local Improvement Finance Trust (NHS LIFT)	NDC	National Disability Council
LIO	Local Infrastructure Organisation	NDPB	Non Departmental Public Body (Quango)
LIT	Local Implementation Team (usually attached to targets in the NSF)	NEF	New Economics Foundation
LLSC	Local Learning and Skills Council	NESTA	National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts
LPSA	Local Public Service Agreement	NFP	Not for profit

Understanding voluntary sector acronyms

R			
RA	Regional Assembly	SING	Sexuality Issues Network Group
RAISE	Regional Action and Involvement South East	SLA	Service Level Agreement
RAWM	Regional Action West Midlands	SMART	Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Time related
RCC	Rural Community Council(s)	SME	Small or Medium Sized Enterprise
RCO	Refugee Community Organisations	SMP	Statutory Maternity Pay
RCU	Regional Co-ordination Unit (ODPM)	SORP	Statement of Recommended Practice (relates to accountancy practice for charities)
RDA	Regional Development Agency	SR	Spending Review
RDA	Rural Development Area	SRB	Single Regeneration Budget
REACH	Retired Executives Action Clearing House	SRI	Socially Responsible Investment
REC	Racial Equality Council	SSC	Sector Skills Council
RIN	Rural Issues Network	SSD	Social Services Department
RNIB	Royal National Institute for the Blind	SSE	School for Social Entrepreneurs
RNID	Royal National Institute for Deaf People	SSP	Statutory Sick Pay
ROTA	Race on the Agenda	SSP	Sub-regional Strategic Partnership
ROW	Rights of Women	SSRG	Social Services Research Group
RPI	Retail Price Index	SU	Strategy Unit (Cabinet Office)
RSA	Royal Society of Arts	SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
RSI	Repetitive Strain Injury		
RSIN	Rural Stress Information Network	T	
RSL	Registered Social Landlord	TLA	Three Letter Acronym
RSVP	Retired and Senior Volunteers Programme	TNA	Training Needs Analysis
RVSN	Regional Voluntary Sector Network	TOPSS	Training Organisation for Personal Social Services
S		TPAS	Tenants Participation Advisory Service
SACRE	Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education	TSO	The Stationery Office (formerly HMSO)
SBS	Small Business Service	TUC	Trades Union Congress
SCIE	Social Care Institute for Excellence	TUPE	Transfer of Undertakings (Provision of Employment) Regulations 1981
SCVS	CVS Scotland		
SDA	Sex Discrimination Act		
SenU	Social Enterprise Unit		
SEU	Social Exclusion Unit (ODPM)		
SHA	Strategic Health Authority		

Understanding voluntary sector acronyms

U

UCE	Unsolicited Commercial Email (spam)
UDC	Urban Development Corporation
Ufi	University for Industry
URC	Urban Regeneration Company
URL	Uniform Resource Locator (for access to the internet)

V

VA	Voluntary Action
VAT	Value Added Tax
VE	Volunteering England (joining together of NCV, VDE and Consortium on Opportunities for Volunteering on 1 April 2004)
VB/VBx	Volunteer Bureau(x)
VCO(s)	Voluntary and Community Organisation(s)
VCS	Voluntary and Community Sector
VFI	Voluntary Finance Initiative
VOCOSE	Voluntary, Community and Social Economy
VSNT0	Voluntary Sector National Training Organisation
VSO	Voluntary Sector Option (New Deal)
VSO	Voluntary Service Overseas

W

WAI	Web Accessibility Initiative
	Workers' Education Association
WEA	
WEETU	Women's Employment Enterprise and Training Unit
	Women's Environment Network
WEN	
WF	Work Foundation (formerly Industrial Society)
WRC	Women's Resource Centre
WRVS	Women's Royal Voluntary Service

Y

YOT	Youth Offending Team
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Guardian Glossary

The Society Guardian website has a glossary providing hundreds of phrases from the public and voluntary sectors with links to websites where you can find more information.

<http://society.guardian.co.uk/glossary>

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Who are we?

High Peak CVS works to ensure that local voluntary and community groups can access as much support, advice and information as possible. We help groups in many different areas, such as funding, charity registration, practical services including printing, training and links to training and with legal issues. We have resources, including a meeting room, computers and OHP for use by groups.

To find out how we can help you, please contact us on 01663 735 350 or email hello@highpeakcvs.org.uk
Visit us at www.highpeakcvs.org.uk