

connecting charity leaders



A brief guide to
ACEVO Connect
membership

Join our network of civil society leaders
making the biggest possible impact

acevo

imagine, inspire, improve

acevo.org.uk  [acevo](#)

Welcome to ACEVO

ACEVO's vision is to see civil society leaders making the biggest possible impact.

Together with our network we inspire and support civil society leaders through connection, skills and influence. For nearly 40 years, we have provided support, development and a collective campaigning voice for our members across the UK.

ACEVO Connect launched in September 2026 to give CEOs and senior leaders of small charities (<£100k income), those in-between CEO roles, and retired CEOs an affordable way to connect with peers who understand the realities of the job.

For £50, members get access to our online Community, the Member directory, free resources, member events, and discounted rates on training – so they feel less alone, and more equipped, wherever they are in their leadership journey.

This handbook highlights everything that's part of the ACEVO Connect offer.

Connect with your peers



As a Connect member, you're part of a network of civil society leaders who understand exactly what you're facing — because they're facing it too. Whether you want to ask a question, share a challenge, or just spend time with people who get it, here's how to start connecting.

[ACEVO Community](#)

You now have access to our online Community — a space where members ask and offer advice, and start conversations on the topics that matter to them. It's a good first place to visit: post an introduction, or search to see what others are already discussing.

“ The ACEVO Community is an incredible resource — a real community in action, with CEOs helping each other solve all kinds of strategic, policy and operational questions. Worth the membership fee for this alone, but there are so many other benefits too.

Martin Pollard, CEO, Primary Science Teaching Trust

[Member directory](#)

Not sure who you're looking for? That's the point. Search the directory by region, cause area, or skills to connect with someone doing similar work in a different part of the country, or someone with the expertise you need — without having to already know their name.

[Member meetings, webinars and networking events](#)

Look out for invitations to our regular member meetings, webinars, and networking events — held both online and in person. These are informal, low-pressure spaces to meet other members, share what's on your mind, and hear from people who understand the realities of leadership in the sector.

“ I found the ACEVO networking meeting very supportive. It made me feel that I was not on my own with my struggles and that my concerns and worries are shared by many CEOs in the charity sector.

Nicola Burgess, CEO, Bromley Experts by Experience

Free resources to support you



As a Connect member, you have free access to a growing library of resources designed to support you whether you're leading day-to-day or figuring out your next move.

[Guides, tools and templates](#)

Practical, downloadable resources covering governance, operations, wellbeing and leadership development – built to help with the real, day-to-day questions of running a small charity.

[Free reports and discounted publications](#)

Stay on top of sector thinking and best practice with our free research reports, plus discounted rates on publications – without it costing you extra as a member.

[Blogs](#)

Regular blogs from the ACEVO team and members across the network, sharing insight and lived experience on the issues affecting civil society leaders.

[Leader to Leader podcast](#)

Conversations with civil society leaders on the realities of the role – good listening for the commute, or whenever you need a reminder you're not the only one facing these challenges.

Member emails

Keep an eye out for:

- Leader to Leader – a weekly email from our CEO, Jane Ide
- Events email – bi-weekly, highlighting free member meetings, discounted training and programmes
- Membership newsletter – spotlighting member benefits and how to make the most of them
- Corporate partner email – monthly, with links to businesses offering member support and discounts

Help to raise your voice



You're now part of a network whose voice carries weight. As an ACEVO member, you're one of the leaders we represent when we speak up for civil society — and you'll hear how that work is going as it happens.

Policy and influencing

ACEVO champions the voices of civil society leaders in the places that matter — shaping the agenda, encouraging debate, and pursuing the reforms our sector needs. You don't need to do anything to be part of this; simply by being a member, you're part of the collective voice we bring to policymakers.



ACEVO is a distinctive voice for leaders in the third sector. It's important to me that there is a voice for sector leaders which is separate and distinct from the sector organisations. We have different things to say and we need to be able to say them, ACEVO is very effective at putting that voice across to whoever needs to hear it, whether that's to government, the media or to other sector bodies.

Paul Parker, recording clerk, Quakers in Britain

Staying in the loop

Keep an eye on your membership newsletter and Leader to Leader emails for updates on the issues ACEVO is working on — from the climate crisis to equity and inclusion to parliamentary matters — so you always know what's being said on your behalf.

ACEVO Connect benefits table



Benefit	ACEVO Connect	Full membership
Member networking events	✓	✓
ACEVO Community	✓	✓
Member directory	✓	✓
Discounted workshops and programmes	✓	✓
Member emails and newsletters	✓	✓
Free and discounted publications	✓	✓
Practical tools and resources	✓	✓
Discounted jobs advertising	✓	✓
Free Charity Times magazine subscription	✓	✓
Briefings and consultation responses	✓	✓
Policy publications and reports	✓	✓
CEO in Crisis	X	✓
Talk to us	X	✓
Governance advice and support	X	✓
Member support meetings (capped attendance)	X	✓
Free coaching	X	✓
Free peer mentoring	X	✓
Peer learning groups	X	✓
Free leadership development plans	X	✓
Free business advice lines	X	✓
Discounted DBS checks	X	✓

Interested in full membership? [Get in touch with our membership team](#) and we'll talk you through it.