



**Join the national membership
body for organisations and
individuals working to tackle
homelessness**

**SCOTTISH COUNCIL FOR
SINGLE HOMELESS**

How to join us >>>

Who we are

Scottish Council for Single Homeless (SCSH) is the national membership body for organisations and individuals working to tackle homelessness in Scotland.

We have been in existence for thirty years. During that period SCSH has evolved from a volunteer based organisation focused on ending the provision of traditional nightshelters to a professional staffed membership organisation – part of the ‘second tier’ of voluntary sector bodies. Historically, SCSH has focussed on single people but now seeks to cover all issues relating to homelessness in Scotland.

Scottish Executive statistics show homelessness rose sharply during the late eighties and nineties. SCSH exists to highlight the needs of homeless people and offer practical ideas and information to tackle homelessness. To do this, we work closely with our membership which includes local authorities, voluntary organisations, housing associations, health bodies, academics and individuals.

Sharing the knowledge and experience of our members is a key role for SCSH. We seek to disseminate relevant information quickly and effectively through our monthly newsletter and our website. Our events programme ranges from our highly successful National Homelessness Conference which attracts over 200 delegates each year to smaller information meetings, briefings and consultations covering a wide variety of topics.

As well as providing information and training, we seeks to influence both policy makers (at national and local level) and service providers by :

- > Offering support to those implementing homelessness services and other services relevant to homeless people.
- > Providing an information source for policy makers and other interest groups
- > Acting as a vehicle to ensure the experience of front line services providers and service users is conveyed to policy makers and to allow service providers to share experience with each other

The support of our members is vital to SCSH. Financially, we rely on membership fees to maintain many aspects of our work. Equally importantly, our members provide the evidence and information we need to argue for sustainable solutions to homelessness in Scotland.

We hope you will decide to join us.

What we do

- > Work with our members to prevent and tackle **homelessness**.
- > Provide a **voice** for service providers to policy makers
- > **Lobby** Holyrood and Westminster for improvements in policy and law.
- > Promote good **policy** and practice in local authorities and housing providers.
- > Carry out and disseminate **research**.
- > Provide regular good quality **information** of topical interest to our members.
- > Provide **training** and seminars.
- > Organise the annual **Scottish National Homelessness Conference**
- > Raise the profile of youth housing issues through our **Youth Unit**
- > Promote 'leaving home' Education and our **Streets Ahead** leaving home guide
- > Carry out specific commissioned pieces of work on homelessness for our members

Why you should join

You will be adding your voice to the national network of homelessness organisations in Scotland.

The first term of the Scottish Parliament saw a number of legislative advances in the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001 and the Homelessness etc (Scotland) Act 2003. SCSH lobbied to ensure that the interests of members were represented to those drafting the legislation.

The challenge now is to ensure that the implementation of the new legislation is as smooth as possible and that homeless people benefit as intended.

SCSH is a member of the **Homelessness Monitoring Group** which will oversee the implementation of Scotland's new homelessness framework. SCSH is also represented on the **Health and Homelessness** Steering Group, the **Supporting People Stakeholders Group**, **HMO Working group** and recently served on the **Scottish Refugee Integration Forum**. Our members inform the views we take to all of these bodies.

The benefits of membership include:

- > Free copies of our monthly newsletter
- > Regular Briefing papers on topical issues
- > Reduced price training and briefing events.
- > Free member consultations on current topics
- > Reduced price for our annual National Homelessness Conference which attracts 200 housing professionals every year.

How to join us

We would be pleased to welcome you as a member of SCSH. We just need a bit of information first. All memberships have to be approved by our Executive Committee – usually just a formality.

Membership categories and costs

There are three categories of membership:

“Representative membership” is how most of our members join and is aimed at organisations of all sizes. All staff can benefit from our services and reduced prices at our events. We ask for one person to be designated as the “representative member”. This person then has voting rights at our AGM (n.b. can be substituted) and is our contact person in your organisation.

“Individual membership” is open to anyone working in and/or interested in housing and homelessness. Our individual members include students, consultants, academics and supporters. Please note that only the named individual will receive membership benefits, discounts and voting rights.

“Corporate membership” is available for Statutory Bodies and the Private Sector. Pricing varies so please contact us directly for details.

Current prices

Representative member	£150
Individual member	£25
Unwaged individual member	£10

Representative members can also designate an additional mailing address (another department, project or branch) for a nominal subscription fee of £24.

If you have any queries about membership, please contact us:

Telephone: 0131 226 4382

Fax: 0131 225 4382

e-mail: enquiries@scsh.org.uk

www.scsh.org.uk

SCSH is grateful to the following organisation who sponsored the production of our membership leaflet



Application for membership of Scottish Council for Single Homeless

Type of membership (please tick as applicable)

Representative £150

Individual £25

Unwaged individual £10

Additional mailing* £24

*available to representative members only (please enclose details of where you wish mailings to be sent)

I enclose a cheque made payable to 'Scottish Council for Single Homeless'

Contact details

Name:

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Job Title:

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Organisation:

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Address:

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Telephone:

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E mail:

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You can include more than one e-mail if you wish others in your organisation to receive updates from SCSH.

continued overleaf

A little more about you

Organisations (representative memberships)

Please tell us a bit more about your organisation (aims, client group etc) OR you can enclose additional information, for example, a copy of your annual report. This helps us get to know our members better and speeds up the membership approval process.

Individuals (individual memberships)

Occupation:

Reason (s) for wishing to join SCSH:

Use of your data

We will place your details on our membership database. This is used for mailing our newsletter and other items of interest to our members. While we may include items from other organisations in our mail-outs, we will never pass or sell your contact details to any other organisations.

Your E-mail address will be added to our e-mail list which is used occasionally. Again, your details will never be passed to outside agencies.

What happens next ?

Your application will be discussed by our Executive Committee (monthly) and, if approved, you will become an SCSH member. We will write again and ask you to complete one last form to give you voting rights at our AGM.

Please return this form to:

**Scottish Council for Single Homeless
Wellgate House
200 Cowgate
Edinburgh
EH1 1NQ**

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