Promoting and supporting advice and information services in Bedfordshire

Annual Report 2017-2018

Bedfordshire Advice Forum is the network of social welfare information and advice providers in Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire.

All members of BAF are not-for-profit organisations from the voluntary and public sectors that provide advice or information on civil legal matters.

BAF aims to:

- Promote and support the provision of social welfare advice and information services in Bedfordshire.
- Provide a forum for exchanging information on the provision, gaps and resource requirements of advice and information services in Bedfordshire.
- Deliver and support training, in collaboration with BAF member agencies.
- Seek funding for projects to develop advice services relevant to local needs.

Our activities this year

Bedfordshire Advice Forum has been involved in a number of initiatives over the past year, including:

- Facilitating three forum meetings for BAF members to network and discuss the issues affecting their service users, and receive presentations from different organisations.
- Leading the Bedfordshire Benefit Network, bringing together agencies to discuss the specific issues relating to benefits, such as Universal Credit and disability benefits.
- Facilitating the Central Bedfordshire Advice Strategy Management Group and overseeing the refresh and new Delivery Plan for the Advice Strategy, with financial support from Central Bedfordshire Council.
- Arranging four **training courses** covering Universal Credit and Benefits Updates.
- Working in partnership with the Voluntaryworks Consortium and providing direct support for the Building Better Opportunities project.

Bedfordshire Advice Forum currently has 30 member organisations from across the voluntary and public sectors.

Financial Summary 2017-18

Opening Balance:	£2,444
Income	
Grant Income	1,000
Membership Fees	805
Management Fees	820
Other income	
Total Income	£2,625
Expenditure	
BAF Facilitation Fees	1,770
BBN Facilitation Fees	500
Other expenses	67
Total Expenditure	£2,337
Profit/loss	£288
Closing Balance:	£ 2,732

Bedfordshire Advice Forum

Promoting and supporting advice and information services in Bedfordshire

BAF Website

Over the last year, BAF has developed a new website, hosted by CVS Beds.

Documents from BAF's meetings, training courses and projects can all be found at:

www.bedsadviceforum.org.uk

Beds Advic	e Forum	Got any questions? CONTACT US
HOME / CONNECTING / BEDS	ADVICE FORUM	
Related Pages	\$	Bedfordshire Advice Forum
About BAF BAF - Membership	<u> </u>	Promoting and supporting advice and information services in Bedfordshire
BAF - Forum Meetings	>	Bedfordshire Advice Forum is the network of social welfare advice and information providers in Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire.
BAF - Training Courses	<u> </u>	Community Voluntary Service provides the secretarial support to the Bedfordshire Advice Forum (BAF).
BAF - Projects	>	All members of BAF are not-for-profit organisations or social enterprises from the voluntary and public sectors that provide advice or information on social welfare, civil legal matters. BAF's aim is to support the provision of local advice and information services by:
BAF - Advice Directory	>	Working in partnership with members to promote and develop high quality advice services in Bedfor
BAF - Advice Bedfordshire	>	Borough and Central Bedfordshire Organising networking meetings, events and training courses for BAF members
BAF - Contact Us	>	Representing the local advice sector at relevant meetings and events in Bedford Borough and Centr Bedfordshire
About BAF	>	 Keeping up-to-date with developments affecting the advice and voluntary sectors in Bedford Boroug and Central Bedfordshire

Bedfordshire Advice Directory

The online directory, provides an opportunity for BAF members to publicise their agencies and their services.

The directory also has links to other useful advice-related websites and contacts:

www.bedsadvicedirectory.org.uk



Advice Bedfordshire

Advice Bedfordshire is BAF's trading company. The company, which is a community interest company, oversees all of BAF's projects and trading activities.



Contact BAF

For more information on the work of BAF email **baf@cvsbeds.org.uk**

Bedfordshire Advice Forum is supported by:





Community Voluntary Service Strengthening local social action