



volunteer centre

Ionad d'Obair Dheonach Fhine Ghall

FINGAL

Strategic Plan 2021-2025





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Introduction

Four core values underpin the work of
Fingal Volunteer Centre



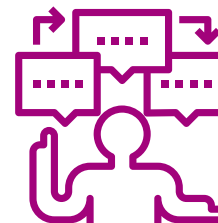
Connectivity: Volunteering is a positive movement within society which enables people to connect with others and their communities.

Equality/Inclusion: We believe all people should be valued and respected equally. We are also committed to identifying and removing barriers that prevent inclusion of vulnerable groups.

Community Ownership: We believe that healthy communities can respond to their own social needs and issues and volunteering is one mechanism that assists these causes.

Sustainability: We champion durable solutions and commitment.

We have identified four strategic themes which will shape all aspects of our efforts over the next five years:



1) Accessible and inclusive to both volunteers and volunteer involving organisations

2) Quality Service at all times

3) Extensive Marketing and Promotion of volunteering

4) Transparent-Good Governance

We then identified strategic objectives across these themes that will enable us to achieve our mission. We highlighted clear, positive outcomes that will happen when we achieve each objective, and we underpinned each with specific actions.



Who We Are



We are a Company Limited by Guarantee Company. We are a registered Charity and are compliant with the Charities Regulator. The Company is limited by guarantee and governed by a Board of Directors.

As it is a non-profit organisation there are no shareholders and any profits are reinvested in the company. Although Fingal Volunteer Centre is an independent company, it is also part of the network of 29 Volunteer Centres, and an affiliate of Volunteer Ireland. We publish an Annual Report and produce audited accounts each year. We are registered with the Charities Regulatory Authority. We are governed by a committed Board of Trustees.



Services we offer



- A Free Volunteer Placement Service – we offer a free volunteer placement service to organisations.
- A database of opportunities for volunteers to view volunteer opportunities in their locality.
- Email and telephone support with our staff on the how, why and where of volunteering.
- Support, advice and information on Policy Issues to volunteer involving organisations.
- Training on involving volunteers. Help with developing new projects involving volunteers.
- Advice and information around best practice issues when involving volunteers
- Garda Vetting Service for organisations who do not have access to their own Authorised Signatory.
- Event Volunteers project, see <https://www.eventvolunteers.ie/> for more details.

Where we are



Our main office is based in Ballycoolin in Fingal and our outreach services are provided in libraries throughout the Fingal catchment area.



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Key Achievements 2017-2020

Between 2017 and 2020 over 3300 new volunteers registered with Fingal Volunteer Centre



Successfully continued to provide monthly outreach service across all Fingal Libraries.



Four large volunteer Expo's organised in 2017 and 2018.

Celebrating — 10 YEARS —

Proudly celebrated Centres 10th anniversary in 2017. Volunteer Journey campaign was also launched.



Website upgraded completed and launched end of 2019. Promotional material updated and distributed.



Part time Garda Vetting Liaison Officer and Admin hired in 2018.

Increase Access to Volunteering by offering a Support Service to the Public and Volunteering Involving Organisations (VIOs).

What:

- Assist Volunteer Involving Organisations with their volunteer management needs
- Register people interested in volunteering and support them in finding a suitable role
- Develop support systems and resources for organisations that most need our support and guidance
- Celebrate volunteering through local events
- Maintain the quality and range of volunteering opportunities offered to volunteers
- Invest in volunteer management supports delivered to Volunteer Involving Organisations
- Expand on successes of the Event Volunteers Project



How: What success looks like

- Volunteer Involving Organisations are fully equipped with all the necessary tools to engage volunteers
- Reduced barriers to volunteering with particular focus on social inclusion



What:

- Connect and collaborate with other Dublin Volunteer Centres
- Engage a team of volunteers and interns in our day to day practice and events to expand service
- Review and maintain the website to provide up to date and relevant volunteering and associated information
- Provide relevant information and training for service users and affiliates
- Invest in staff development
- Communicate our role and services clearly to all our stakeholders
- Participate in local, regional, and national volunteer infrastructure
- Incorporate Sustainable Development Goals into our work particularly focusing on equality and environment



How: What success looks like

- Position the centre as a key player for all volunteering needs in Fingal
- Positive experience and impact of volunteering on all stakeholders

What:

- Target volunteers underrepresented
- Participate in community events in Fingal to promote our work
- Promote volunteer services, activities, marketing materials, and tools through online and traditional media
- Offer information sessions and workshops to volunteers and Volunteer involving organisations via number
- Refine and provide targeted website structure and material
- Share positive volunteering stories and experiences
- Highlight and reflect the impact and benefits of volunteering on mental health and well being in our promotions



How: What success looks like

- Value and benefits of volunteering are better understood
- FVC role and services is clearly understood

What:

- Work in accordance with the volunteer centres network guidelines and Maintain the National Quality Standards (IVOL)
- Ensure the financial stability and sustainability
- Comply with all legal and statutory obligations. The progress is monitored against the workplan and provided at regular board meetings
- Invest in and appreciate FVC staff and board
- Ensure transparency and quality across all actions
- Seek sources of additional finance other than those provided by core funders
- Implement actions of National Volunteering Strategy and have them in Workplan where appropriate
- Provision of necessary funding to support FVC



How: What success looks like

- Staff and stakeholders feedback is positive on operation of FVC
- Delivery of objectives against the agreed workplan and national volunteering strategy 2021-2025



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IMPLEMENTATION



Strategic plans are notorious for generating initial excitement, only to sit on a shelf, ignored and gathering dust. The key is deliberate, committed implementation - tangible tasks directly linked to strategic objectives.

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