

SAVS achieves new NAVCA Quality Award

23 February 2011

Southend Association of Voluntary Services has gained the rigorous new NAVCA Quality Award. The award is open to local infrastructure organisations like SAVS which work behind the scenes to ensure that local voluntary organisations and community groups get the support they need.

The award is based on a set of Performance Standards. Achievement of the NAVCA Quality Award gives an authoritative endorsement for the effectiveness of local infrastructure organisations. To gain this award SAVS had to demonstrate that its support makes a real difference to voluntary and community organisations in their area. The rigorous assessment process involves an external audit and interviews with service users and funders.

Kevin Curley, Chief Executive of NAVCA, says “We are delighted to announce that SAVS has obtained the new NAVCA Quality Award. SAVS has demonstrated that it delivers high quality services to the voluntary and community sector in Southend-on-Sea. By working towards and gaining the award SAVS has underlined their commitment to making a difference for local people.”

Alison Semmence, Chief Executive Officer of SAVS, says “We are delighted to have achieved this award; it shows our commitment to providing excellent services for our members and the voluntary and community sector in Southend. We are proud to be one of only 8 organisations in the East of England to have received this award.”

Ends

Notes:

- 1. NAVCA is the national voice of local voluntary and community sector infrastructure in England. Our 360 members (including SAVS) work with over 140,000 local community groups and voluntary organisations, helping them to provide services, regenerate neighbourhoods, increase volunteering and tackle discrimination in partnership with local public bodies.*

2. *Our purpose is to promote local voluntary and community action nationally. We do this by providing our members with information, advice, networking and learning opportunities, support and development services. In turn, we draw on our members' experience to influence government and contribute to national policy. We also work closely with other national bodies to ensure a collaborative approach to policy development.*
3. *A local infrastructure organisation (LIO) is a voluntary organisation that is set up, owned and run by local groups to support, promote and develop local voluntary and community action. LIOs support their members by providing them with a range of services and by acting as a voice for the local voluntary and community sector.*

Further information on the NAVCA Quality Award and the performance standards are available at www.navca.org.uk/services/quality

4. **Southend Association of Voluntary Services, or SAVS** as it is more frequently known, is a council for voluntary service, (CVS) part of a national network of similar organisations. Their job is to advise, support and represent local, not-for-profit groups. These groups provide all manner of services and include social clubs, groups advising people who care for a relative at home, advice and activities for people with disabilities or health problems, tenants and residents' associations, and many more! Contact : Celia Clark partnership@savs-southend.co.uk telephone: 01702 356081 www.savs-southend.org

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