



## Aims & Values

### VISION

Our vision is for active and sustainable communities in which everyone is valued and can play their full part.

### MISSION

Community Matters pursues this vision by supporting and developing the capacity of community organisations and representing their interests at a national level.

### PRINCIPLES AND BELIEFS

Community Matters work is underpinned by a number of principles and beliefs.

We believe

- In the importance of "community", in a world where so many people are isolated and marginalised.
- That racial, religious and social diversity (or difference) adds value to our society, and that everyone has the right to equality of opportunity.
- That democratic community organisations help to empower individuals and contribute towards a cohesive and vibrant society.
- In the value of voluntary activity: including formal and informal volunteering, mutual organisations and self help groups.
- In the distinctiveness of the community sector as a part of the wider voluntary and community sector.
- In the value of community development as a process which gives confidence and skills to people to exercise greater power in their everyday lives.
- In working in partnership with organisations that share similar values in order to maximise resources and influence

Community Matters values the protection and conservation of our natural environment. We support 'one planet living' and we promote sustainable development in the following key areas:

1. Saving Energy
2. Travelling Wisely
3. Saving our Resources
4. Shopping Ethically, and
5. Caring for our area.