

# NICVA Civic Threads Knowledge Exchange Visit – February 2026 - Information Sheet

## Introduction

NICVA invites nominations from across Northern Ireland's voluntary and community sector to participate in a **three-day Civic Threads Knowledge Exchange Visit to Cardiff**, taking place:

**Wednesday 11 February (depart AM) – Friday 13 February (return PM).**

This visit forms part of **Civic Threads**, a UK-wide collaboration between NICVA, WCVA, SCVO, and NCVO, funded by the Northern Ireland Office Connect Fund. The initiative aims to:

- Support leadership development within the voluntary and community sector (VCS)
- Share approaches to devolved policy and civic participation
- Strengthen UK-wide collaboration
- Build practical tools for civic engagement

Participants will join NICVA staff and VCS representatives from the Government and Voluntary Sector Joint Forum. The visit will include opportunities to meet and exchange insights and learning with:

- Members of the Welsh Senedd
- Representatives from Welsh voluntary and community organisations
- Key Welsh public bodies
- Colleagues from WCVA (our host organisation)

NICVA will select **up to six representatives** from across the sector to join this visit.

## Eligibility and Expectations

- Nominees must be **senior leaders** within their organisation
- Must be available for the **full duration of the visit**
- Should be able to **represent their sub-sector and share learning afterwards**
- **All costs, including travel and accommodation, will be covered**

## Nomination Process

Complete the online nomination form via this link:

[NICVA Civic Threads Knowledge Exchange Visit - Nomination Form – Visit to Fill out form](#)

## Closing date: 12 noon, Tuesday 20 January 2026

- Late nominations will not be accepted
- NICVA will confirm selected representatives within **5 working days** of the closing date
- An online information session will be held for selected representatives before the visit to confirm arrangements and share the itinerary

## Guidance for Nominees

- Nominees **must be senior leaders** within their organisation.
- Must be **senior leaders** (volunteers cannot be considered)
- Nominations must be **approved by your CEO/Director/Chair**
- Forms must be **completed in full**; additional formats will not be accepted
- Nominees should demonstrate their ability to **represent and disseminate learning within their sub-sector**
- NICVA will acknowledge receipt of completed forms within **48 hours**

## Priority Representation

To ensure broad representation, we particularly welcome nominations from senior leaders across the following sectors:

- Housing and homelessness
- Arts, culture, and heritage
- Minority ethnic groups
- Environment and sustainability
- Equality and human rights
- Older people

NICVA will aim to ensure a strong mix of organisations across geography, sector, and size.