

Bedfordshire Advice Forum

Promoting and supporting advice and information services in Bedfordshire

Annual Report 2019-2020

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.

Bedfordshire Advice Forum currently has 20 member organisations from across the voluntary and public sectors.

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 BAF members, the DWP and the Housing Benefit offices from Bedford Borough Council and Central Bedfordshire Council, 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 Delivery Plan for the **Advice Strategy**, with financial support from Central Bedfordshire Council.
- Arranging two **training courses** covering Introduction to Benefits, and Personal Independence Payment .



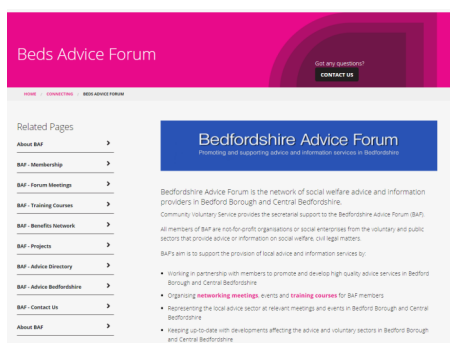
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BAF Website

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

www.bedsadviceforum.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.



Financial Summary 2019-20

Opening Balance: £3,234

Income

Grant Income	1,000
BAF Membership Fees	665
Project Management Fees	375
Total Income	£2,040

Expenditure

BAF Facilitation Fees	2,000
BBN Facilitation Fees	750
Website expenses	216
Meeting expenses	305
Total Expenditure	£3,271

Profit/loss -£1,231

Closing Balance: £ 2,003

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