

Voluntary and Community Sector organisations.

Voluntary organisation:

A formal organisation run by a management body made up of volunteers who are engaged in that activity for environmental, economic or social good.

Community Group:

A community organisation is a less formally organised body run by a management body made up of volunteers who are engaged in that activity for environmental, economic or social good.

These are collectively known as The Third sector.

The third sector includes a very diverse range of organisations including some or all of the following components:

- Voluntary organisations
- Community groups
- Tenants and residents groups
- Housing Associations
- Most co-operatives and social enterprises (provided profits are retained for the benefit of the members or community served)
- Grant making trusts

Organisations can take a variety of forms including one or more of the following:

- Mutuels
- Community interest companies
- Industrial and provident societies
- Not for profit trade associations
- Charitable trusts
- Companies limited by guarantee
- Unincorporated groups

They have one or more of the following structures/ forms:

- Community interest companies limited by guarantee
- Community interest companies limited by share
- Not for profit trade associations
- Charitable trusts
- Companies limited by guarantee
- Unincorporated groups
- Wholly owned trading arms

This definition of the third sector clarifies what types of organisations are eligible for concessionary rates at Richmond Libraries venues for hire.

To receive the concessionary rates we expect all voluntary and community sector organisations to be able if required to do so demonstrate that they are:

- based in or delivering services in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames and
- non-governmental and
- value driven, for the social good and
- non party political and
- have a voluntary governing body of at least 3 local people and
- principally reinvest any financial surpluses to further social, environmental or cultural objectives that bring a significant community benefit to the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames and

- do not distribute any of their surpluses or assets through share dividends to individuals or shareholders