

Voluntary**Action**Islington

Organisations for Stronger Communities Info Pack

Our Volunteers

We offer volunteers a package of support and training along with the opportunity to find a placement with an Islington-based organisation. All our volunteers are unemployed (although not necessarily claiming benefits) and live in the Borough of Islington.

Volunteer Expenses

We cover the costs to train, interview, vet and recruit volunteers. Your organisation simply needs to provide the standard volunteer expenses of appropriate travel and lunch.

Length and Regularity of Placement

We suggest that volunteers commit to organisations for a minimum of three months for two days a week.

If you would ideally like more or less time from a volunteer then you can let us know what you have in mind and we can recruit appropriate to your needs.

Training and Employability

We offer volunteers access to employability seminars, e-learning courses, advice on careers and job hunting and encourage them to take free training courses at our partner colleges.

On completing the placement we provide them with a reference and an exit interview, however you may wish to provide a reference direct from your organisation also.

Mentoring Volunteers

We offer regular support to volunteers and stay in touch with them throughout their placement. They will be assigned a mentor from Voluntary Action Islington who will make sure they are getting the most from the opportunities provided.

The mentor will keep in touch with your organisation regularly to offer any further help you might need in managing your volunteers.

Islington Volunteer Centre

This project is a separate from the core work of Islington Volunteer Centre because it has more defined goals and boundaries in terms of the volunteers we recruit and place.

Islington Volunteer Centre is still ready and able to find volunteers for your project too, so you can recruit volunteers both through the Volunteer Centre and this project.

Training for Organisations

We can provide free training manuals on volunteer management to organisations who register with this project. They cost £10 each to any organisations who are not registered.

The manuals cover the following areas:

- Recruiting Volunteers for Your Organisation
- Support and Supervision of Your Volunteers
- Retaining Your Volunteers
- Volunteering and the Law

Recruiting Your Volunteers

Our aim is to match your role/s and organisational aims with the skills and interest of the volunteers.

We will present you with information on any volunteers we feel might be suitable for you, and they will have been interviewed and had references checked. It will then be your choice as to whether you wish to meet and take on the volunteer.

Additional Information and Support

For any further information or advice about this project contact Paul Stephenson(the Project Officer) at Voluntary Action Islington:

E: Paul.stephenson@vai.org.uk

T: 020 7832 5804