

Applying to organisations

It is fine to contact a few different organisations to find out more about them. At this stage you are just making an informal enquiry rather than making a definite commitment to volunteer.

The organisation/s you are interested in may invite you in for a chat or send you an information pack. This is an opportunity for you to get all of the information you need so that you can decide whether you are definitely interested and want to volunteer with them.

The information that you receive at this stage should also tell you what to do if you want to go ahead. The process of becoming a volunteer varies and will depend of the type of role that you have chosen.

You may be asked to complete an application form, or to provide references.

If you are planning to volunteer with vulnerable adults or with children, you will also need a Criminal Record Bureau check.

If you want information on how to disclose, we can also help with guidance around disclosures.

Come and talk to us

If you are not sure about what you want to do, or want to investigate a range of opportunities, your Volunteer Centre will be able to help.

We can provide you with a confidential one-to-one discussion about your skills, interests, background and what you're looking for in a volunteer role. We can help you decide by asking you to complete our questionnaire and discussing potential matches with you.

Bournemouth Volunteer Centre

Boscombe Link
3-5 Palmerston Road
Boscombe
BH1 4HN

Telephone: 01202 466130

Email: contactus@bournemouthcvs.org.uk

Website: www.bournemouthcvs.org.uk

Poole Volunteer Centre

The Advice Centre
54 Lagland Street
Poole
Dorset
BH15 1QG

Telephone: 01202 675100

Email: vc@poolecvs.co.uk

Website: www.poolevolunteercentre.org.uk



A guide to how

we can help if you are

looking to Volunteer

Looking to Volunteer?

About Volunteer Centres

Volunteer Centres hold information on a wide range of local volunteering opportunities with many different organisations.

Volunteer Centre staff can help you to find the right kind of volunteering opportunity for you, matching your skills, interests and reasons for wanting to volunteer with available opportunities to volunteer.

We can also help you whilst you are volunteering or if you want to talk in confidence about your experiences of volunteering.

Why do you want to volunteer?

Volunteering should be something that you choose to do and that you enjoy doing.

It is a two-way relationship which should benefit both the person volunteering and the people, organisation or service that they are helping.

People of all ages and backgrounds can and do volunteer.

Before you decide to volunteer, you might find it useful to ask yourself some of these questions:

Why do I want to volunteer?

What do I enjoy doing?

What skills do I have?

What skills do I want to learn?

How much time can I give?

The benefits of volunteering are varied; you can:

Meet new people and make new friends

Learn new skills / gain different experiences

Help your career prospects

Have fun and combine your interests/use existing skills

Put something back into the community

Keep yourself active and occupied

Ask for a brochure

If you are thinking about volunteering, ask for a copy of our Voluntary Vacancies brochure. This is a list of all of the volunteering opportunities that we have registered with us at the Volunteer Centre. You can call the Volunteer Centres to request a copy.

If you have access to the internet, you can view the list on-line, and we'd appreciate it if you download the brochure and view it on-line, as it saves us postage costs! However if you do not have access to the internet or need any publication in large print please do not hesitate to ask.

Our web address is:

www.bournemouthcvs.org.uk

or for opportunities in the Poole area why not take a look at

www.poolevolunteercentre.org.uk

What next?

Once you've decided that you want to volunteer and have looked at the opportunities available you can call us to see if we have any more information on file about specific opportunities.

We'll also give you the contact numbers for your chosen opportunity/ies so that you can contact them when you are ready.

At the Volunteer Centres, we don't arrange placements or put pressure on you, you contact the organisation/s.