

Volunteer Role Description

Volunteer Role: Blether Buddy Befriender

Location: Different locations across London

Preferred Commitment: Approx. 1 – 3 hours per week or fortnight (excluding travel) at times to be agreed, for a minimum period of 6 months.

Responsible to: Volunteer Coordinator who in turn is accountable to the Client Support Manager.

Purpose of the Role:

To help reduce social isolation and loneliness through regular weekly, or fortnightly meetings in our client's home, or their local community. Your meetings might involve having a friendly conversation in their home, or going out to places of interest together, to a local café, for a walk in the park, to the shops or perhaps a museum. Your gift of time would make such a positive difference to someone who feels alone or for one reason or another finds it difficult to go out of the home unaccompanied.

The tasks are to:

- Commit to a regular meeting with a ScotsCare client
- Provide companionship, friendly conversation, and a non-judgemental listening ear
- Attend induction, training, and regular support meetings at City Road (or online)
- Alert the Coordinator to any problems, concerns, and issues beyond a befrienders' remit
- Report back on befriending activities regularly and in a timely manner
- Work within the policy and practice framework of ScotsCare's Befriending service.

Qualities and skills needed:

- Good listening and conversational skills with a cheerful disposition
- Patience, empathy, non-judgemental
- Reliable and committed to helping Scots in London
- An ability to maintain boundaries and confidentiality
- An ability to work unsupervised and use own initiative when required
- A willingness to attend training and support sessions in person or online.

What you can expect from us:

- A full induction, training, instruction, and ongoing support
- Out of pocket expenses reimbursed, social events and volunteer meetings
- An opportunity to meet new people, make a difference and work with a friendly team
- References and an opportunity to enhance your CV

Recruitment process:

Application form, informal interview, two references and an enhanced DBS check which we will process for successful applicants.