



Peer Support Volunteer



At a glance	Peer Support Volunteers work alongside Wellbeing Project Officers and Coordinating Volunteers in the support and mentoring of a small group of older people and local volunteers, including Volunteer Visitors, Telephone Volunteers, Assessing Volunteers and Local Ambassadors.	
	Location	Local
	Flexibility	High
	Regularity	Variable: Weekly/ Fortnightly
	Time Commitment	Around 6 hours/ month, ideally for a minimum of 12 months
	DBS / PVG Clearance	Organised by Independent Age
	Age requirement	18+ years
	Training required	Online safeguarding and data protection training, induction training and yearly refresher training
	IT skills required	Email and internet access desirable for reporting

How this role makes a difference	With growing numbers of volunteers and older people, our Peer Support Volunteers make sure older people and their volunteers have the resources they need to build good relationships.
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What you'll be doing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentoring local volunteers, providing them with guidance following Independent Age policies and procedures • Maintaining regular contact with those volunteers, carrying out regular support calls and meetings with them • Becoming the group lead on topics such as safeguarding, mental health or dementia • Doing check ups and touch point calls to the older people we support • Keeping in touch with your Independent Age contact at regular support sessions and reporting anything of concern • Treating what you see and hear as confidential and sensitive • Keeping your skills and knowledge up to date by taking part in training and attending one of our networking events each year
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading and following our policies and procedures - designed to keep you safe and happy. We've got guidance around confidentiality to help with this. We'll ask you to sign to say you understand them • Representing the charity well to the wider public.
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What's on offer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An opportunity to volunteer in a charity that enhances older people's lives, and be part of a growing network of volunteers making a real difference • A chance to meet and work with new people • The opportunity to develop new skills and interests • Full support and a range of relevant training • The opportunity to access other volunteering opportunities • A reference for future volunteering or employment, after 6 months • Following our Expenses Policy, reimbursement of agreed expenses so you're not out of pocket.
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What you can offer us	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enjoying meeting a diverse range of people and helping others • An interest in older people and the issues of later life • Able to motivate a team of volunteers • Reliability, consistency and dependability • Good conversational and listening skills • An ability to work independently but also stay within the role's boundaries – recognising when to seek advice or report concerns • Your own transport in areas where there is no public transport and use of own mobile telephone whilst out on visits.
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Find out more!		Visit us: https://www.independentage.org/get-involved/how-can-i-volunteer
		Email us: volunteer.recruitment@independentage.org
		Phone us: 020 7605 4255