

Candidate Information



Loneliness and Isolation Project Coordinator

Part-time & Permanent

Closing Date: 8am on Wednesday 4th December 2024

Pack Overview

Thank you for your interest in our vacancy for a Loneliness and Isolation Project Coordinator. We're so pleased that you're considering working for Age UK South Gloucestershire.

In this Candidate Information Pack, you'll find the following information:

- About us, our history and our links with Age UK
- The benefits of working at Age UK South Gloucestershire
- Job Description and Person Specification
- How to apply

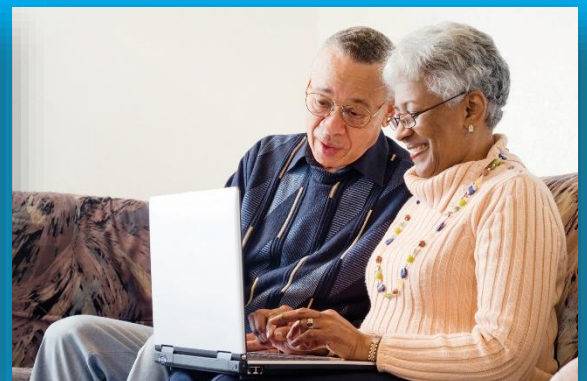
If you have any questions about any aspect of the organisation or the role, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

About Age UK South Gloucestershire

Age UK South Gloucestershire is an independent local charity with its own locally elected board of trustees and is part of the Age UK network. We've been working in the local community to help older people for 25 years. The charity makes a positive contribution to the lives of hundreds of older people in South Gloucestershire every week. Based from our main office in Thornbury High Street, Age UK South Gloucestershire actively designs services that meet the wants and needs of local older people and their families by:

- tackling loneliness and isolation
- promoting health, wellbeing and independence
- supporting families and carers
- helping people access services and financial benefit entitlements
- enabling people to get the most out of life

We respond to more than 5,000 enquiries per year with our range of services, which include Activity Day Centres, Befriending, Digital Inclusion, Improving Homes and Wellbeing, Information & Advice provision, specialist Benefits Advice, Reconnect, Walking Groups and Volunteering opportunities.



Our history

1997 Age Concern South Gloucestershire was formed.

2005 Age Concern South Gloucestershire changes its legal structure to become a charitable company.

2009 Age Concern and Help the Aged merge to form the national charity, Age UK. Then in...

2010 ...we become an Age UK Brand Partner and trade as 'Age UK South Gloucestershire'.

2022 Age UK South Gloucestershire is celebrating our 25th Birthday.

Our Partnership with Age UK

Age UK South Gloucestershire is an independent local charity, but we share a brand with Age UK. This trusted and well-known brand helps to open doors for us locally. Of course, we always have to deliver, but it helps to have the strength of the Age UK brand behind us.

Nationally, there are around 130 regional Age UKs, each with a defined geographical area and separate charity number.

We align ourselves with the work Age UK does nationally by supporting their campaigns, sharing reports and news stories, and using their research to underpin grant and tender applications.

Age UK also provides our local MPs with information about older people that can help drive forward local policies and influence at a national level.

Being an Age UK Brand Partner brings certain responsibilities – namely to deliver services to agreed quality standards and to subscribe to shared values of being:

- Caring
- Effective
- Enabling
- Influencing
- Innovative
- Inclusive

We are aligned with Age UK but we are still a local and independent charity. The services we deliver, the money we raise, the people we support are all in South Gloucestershire. Our Trustees are responsible for strategy, policies and legal compliance.



Working for Us

Age UK South Gloucestershire employs a team of over 25 paid staff, and over 160 wonderful volunteers support its work. The organisation's culture is one that puts people first, and the charity enjoys high staff morale. Age UK South Gloucestershire has an active board of trustees who, as well as providing good governance, work closely with the management team on matters of strategy and direction.

What we offer our staff:

- A Living Wage for employees across the organisation.
- A commitment to a work life balance, with flexible & hybrid working in many roles.
- A healthcare cash back plan allows employees to claim money back towards a variety of health, dental and optical treatments.
- An employee wellbeing scheme, providing free, confidential support, counselling, CBT, financial and legal information or support from a nurse or GP, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.
- Generous life assurance up to 3 times your annual salary.
- Great discounts and rewards (perfect for pay day!).
- Discount on gym membership.
- A cycle to work scheme.
- A great working atmosphere.
- 25 days holiday per year, rising to 28 days after 3 years' service, plus bank holidays.
- Regular learning and development opportunities with funding contributions toward career developing qualifications.
- Pension scheme enrolment.
- A convenient location for access to local parking.



Vacancy Details

Loneliness and Isolation Project Coordinator

30 hours per week – To be worked over 4 or 5 days

Core hours to be agreed between 8 am and 4:00 pm

£27,171.92 per annum, pro-rata. Actual annual salary of £21,737.54

Permanent

We are looking to recruit a proactive, outgoing and organised person with a passion for volunteering to join the Age UK South Gloucestershire Team. The role will involve coordinating and facilitating our popular volunteer-led services aimed at alleviating feelings of loneliness and isolation in older people (Befriending and Reconnect).

Supported by the Volunteering Administrator, the appointed candidate will oversee the services from initial referrals through to the matching process. For Befriending, this will include carrying out home visit assessments for new clients across South Gloucestershire; therefore, access to and the use of a reliable vehicle with Business Insurance will be required.

Candidates will have excellent verbal, written, and interpersonal communication skills and are passionate about positively impacting the lives of older people.

Age UK South Gloucestershire offers a generous benefits package, and the charity is committed to equalities, diversity and inclusion and therefore encourages applications from all sectors of the community.

If that person could be you, download an application pack from our website. Please return completed application forms to hr@ageuksouthglos.org.uk.



Closing date:

8am, Wednesday 4th December 2024

Interviews:

Within two weeks of the closing date



Job Description

Job Title	Loneliness and Isolation Project Coordinator
Salary	£27,171.92 per annum, pro-rata. Actual annual salary £21,737.54.
Hours of work	Part-time, 30 hours per week
Working pattern	Hours to be agreed across 4 or 5 days, Monday to Friday. The role will involve running approximately one evening or weekend training session per month.
Place of work	Based at the Main Office, 67 High Street, Thornbury, BS35 2AW, with travel across South Gloucestershire to client's homes and to run meetings and training sessions.
Annual leave	25 days annual leave (increasing to 28 after 3 years' service), plus public holidays, all pro rata
Status	Permanent

Job Purpose
To coordinate and facilitate the running of our volunteer-led services aimed at alleviating feelings of loneliness and isolation in older people (Befriending and Reconnect). To provide support to the Volunteering Manager in the promotion, development and maintenance of volunteering services across the organisation in line with the organisation's strategy and business plan.
Responsible to
Volunteering Manager
Contacts
The post holder will need to work closely with key staff, including the Operations and People Management team and the wider staff team. In addition to volunteers, volunteer-led service clients, other voluntary organisations, employers and community groups and Age UK National.

Key Responsibilities

Coordinate the provision of the Age UK South Gloucestershire Befriending and Reconnect services both in person and over the phone, supported by the Volunteering Administrator and office volunteers where available, to include:

- Dealing with incoming service enquiries, signposting internally and externally as necessary.
- Coordinating the processing of Befriending & Reconnect service referrals and maintaining the waiting lists.
- Carrying out visits and risk assessments for potential clients in their own homes or other appropriate venues.
- Carrying out a matching process with clients and an appropriate volunteer or peer contact.
- Carrying out Befriending matching visits with volunteers and at client's homes.
- Carrying out induction and initial matching visits for Reconnect participants.
- Providing day-to-day support for befriending volunteers and clients and signposting them to the Information and Advice team where required.
- Resolving day-to-day operational issues as they arise and escalating issues to the Volunteering Manager when needed.
- Providing monthly reports on the service activity in relation to key performance indicators.
- Administer surveys, keep records & producing reports and statistics.
- Collecting and producing service case studies with the support of the wider team.
- Providing supervision opportunities to the team of Befriending Volunteers.
- Overseeing the Volunteering Administrator in the timely collection and administration of befriending service activity logs.
- Arranging and facilitating new Befriending volunteer training sessions.
- Maintaining efficient office procedures, and recommending improvements where necessary.
- In coordination with a Safeguarding Coordinator dealing with low-level safeguarding concerns and escalating concerns as they may arise.

Key Responsibilities cont.

Support the work of the wider Volunteering Services team by:

- Acting as a point of contact and information for day-to-day operational enquiries regarding volunteering and related services.
- In the absence of the Volunteering Coordinator assisting with the recruitment of volunteers to support a range of aspects of AUKSG work.
- Providing team support in the absence of the Volunteering Manager and/or Volunteering Coordinator.
- Assisting with running volunteer social events, meetings and training sessions.
- Supporting the coordination of volunteer involvement in national campaigns and local fundraising campaigns.
- Sharing responsibility for external representation & marketing/publicity of Reconnect and other Volunteering Service.
- Representing AUKSG externally through presentations to groups and attendance at meetings and events as required to promote our services.

General Responsibilities of all staff members

- To ensure that all administration protocols and procedures are efficiently undertaken.
- To attend supervision sessions & other meetings as required by the CEO.
- Maintain a commitment to professional development through a combination of both formal and informal methods, including attendance at mandatory training and meetings as directed.
- Uphold the highest standards of personal conduct in all matters relating to the role, working within all policies and procedures of AUKSG.

Other Duties

This job description is intended as a guide to the general duties required of the post. The post holder may be required to undertake training and perform duties other than those given in the job description. The duties and responsibilities attached to posts may vary from time to time. Such variations are a common occurrence and would not justify the re-evaluation of a post. Where a permanent and substantial change in the duties and responsibilities occurs, then the post would be eligible for re-evaluation.

Requirements of the Post

The nature of this post will require:

- Regular travel; therefore, a requirement will be access to and the use of a reliable vehicle with Business Insurance. Car mileage will be paid at the prevailing HMRC-approved rate (currently 45p per mile.)
- Lone working; therefore, the advice and guidance of Age UK South Gloucestershire must be followed. An ability to physically access individuals' homes in a variety of locations and conditions.
- The flexibility for attendance at occasional meetings and events outside of any agreed working pattern, including evenings and weekends for which time off in lieu will be given. All evening or weekend work will usually be agreed upon with plenty of prior notice.

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)

This post is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check, which will disclose all relevant cautions, reprimands and warnings as well as convictions. In addition to completing this application form, you are required to provide us with details of all spent and unspent convictions.

Please send this information to us under separate, confidential cover to the Chief Executive Officer. Remember to include your name, address and the position for which you are applying. We guarantee that the information you provide will be used fairly and will only be seen by those who need to see it as part of the recruitment process.

A criminal record will not necessarily bar you from the advertised position. This will depend on the nature of the position and the circumstances and background of your offences. However, failure to reveal this information could lead to the withdrawal of an offer of employment or disciplinary action.

Equal Opportunities

All employees have a responsibility to understand and abide by the obligations laid down in the organisation's equal opportunities policies.

Health and Safety

All employees have responsibility for their own health and safety and for that of others who may be affected by their acts or omissions. Staff members are required to adhere to all health and safety regulations, guidance and procedures at all times.

Confidentiality

All employees are expected to respect confidentiality in relation to Age UK South Gloucestershire business, client and service user data.

Person Specification

Essential Criteria

- Experience of working with volunteers.
- An understanding of the role of volunteering and the issues and opportunities it can bring.
- An understanding of the issues faced by older people and a commitment to the aims and objectives of AUKSG.
- An understanding and commitment to maintaining professional boundaries.
- Excellent administrative and personal organisational skills.
- Excellent inter-personal communication skills and a range of written communication skills for a variety of audiences and purposes.
- Good presentation skills.
- An excellent level of IT skills, including using Microsoft Office packages such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook.
- Good numeric skills.
- Ability to use initiative and work independently, but also to work cooperatively as part of a team when necessary.
- A positive and constructive approach to problem solving.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with a wide range of people and other agencies.
- Commitment to promoting and supporting equal opportunities & diversity.
- Commitment to data protection and confidentiality.
- Willingness to work occasional evenings and weekends (for which time off in lieu will be available).
- Willingness and ability to travel as required (The nature of this post will require regular travel throughout South Gloucestershire and occasionally further afield therefore access to and the use of a reliable car is essential).

Desirable Criteria

- Experience of working with older people.
- Experience of working with a Befriending service.
- A recognised training qualification.
- Experience in carrying out risk assessments.

How to Apply

If you are interested in becoming our new Loneliness and Isolated Project Coordinator, please download an application form from our website: www.ageuksouthglos.org.uk

Completed application forms should be submitted via email or post
FAO Tracy Marshall, Office Supervisor:

hr@ageuksouthglos.org.uk

or

Age UK South Gloucestershire,
67 High Street, Thornbury, Bristol, BS35 2AW

Please ensure you have also completed the Equality and Diversity Monitoring section of the application form. The information on the form will be treated as confidential, and used for reporting purposes only. The form will be kept separate and will not form part of the application process.

Closing date:

8am, Wednesday 4th December 2024

Interviews:

Within two weeks of the closing date

For general information on Age UK South Gloucestershire or if you have specific questions about the role, please contact (details above) and she will be happy to arrange for an informal discussion with the appropriate member of staff.

