

Keeping in Touch Volunteer

Do you love a good chat about anything and everything? Are you a good listener? Do you have time to spare each week to brighten someone's day?

Age UK Doncaster are recruiting kind hearted people to help us to stay in touch with local people aged 50+ who are feeling isolated or lonely.

This role can be done from the comfort of your own home and will require you to make a phone call once a week to someone to see how they are doing and to have a social chat. Depending on how much time you can offer you may be matched with one or more people. For example, if you can offer 2 - 3 hours a week you may speak to 2 or 3 people. If you have less time it will just be one! Please note this is not a short term volunteering role and whilst we know circumstances may change we would ideally like you to plan a commitment of at least 6 months, ideally more. It's a very flexible role that can fit around your other commitments.

What would you talk about? Anything! You can always start off with a staple...the British weather! Your telephone match might want to talk about what's been on the telly, a good film you've both watched, something on the news, a trip down memory lane or just what they've been up to that week. You might share a hobby that you can chat about. Once you've had a few conversations you'll be sure to find some common ground to talk about and you could make a huge difference to someone's happiness and wellbeing.

Who are we looking for? You'll be aged 18 or over and will need:

- To be someone who loves to chat, is a good listener and is good at talking with strangers
- To be able to show people respect, patience, empathy, understanding and kindness
- To be able to commit to making calls at a certain time and day each week
- To be willing to undergo our training and follow our guidance and processes
- To have access to a phone and also a computer/tablet/smartphone to undertake the online DBS check, take part in our training sessions and read the email guidance/communications we send you.

How do I apply?

Please complete our volunteer application form and email it to Volunteering Officer, Helen, at volunteering@ageukdoncaster.org.uk. You can also email her on that address if you have any questions or would like to chat about the role. Alternatively you can call us on 01302 812345. We'd love to hear from you.

We will then invite you for an informal interview, follow up your references and ask you to attend our compulsory training, which may be face to face or remote depending on circumstances. Please be aware that this role requires a Basic DBS criminal records check. The initial sign-up paperwork/training will require around 5 hours of your time (which we spread out so it is doable with other commitments) but will have you knowledgeable and ready to go with your calls! We will reimburse you for any agreed out of pocket expenses whilst undertaking this role. We look forward to hearing from you!