

Corporate Volunteers in Action Cisco Supports Local Charity Shop

Date: Thursday, 26th June 2025

Location: Kingshill Charity Shop, Hayes

Corporate: Cisco

Volunteers Involved: 3 employees from Cisco

Background

Our Kingshill Charity Shop in Hayes is more than just a retail space—it's a vital part of Age UK Hillingdon, Harrow and Brent's mission to support older people in our community. We exist to make later life better for older people across our three boroughs, helping them feel informed, valued, connected, and empowered.

We do this through a wide range of services—from advice and advocacy to befriending, hospital discharge support, and healthy lifestyle activities. Our vision is bold and inclusive: "To create a world where everyone can love later life."

When the shop needed to temporarily close for essential maintenance and refurbishment, we faced a daunting task: packing up the entire store.

The Challenge

With limited staff and a tight timeline, we urgently needed extra hands to safely and efficiently pack and store hundreds of items. Any delay could have disrupted our refurbishment plans and impacted our ability to reopen and serve the community.

The Solution: Corporate Volunteering

That's when Cisco volunteers stepped in.

Three of their employees, Lubna, Lavina, and Riddhi, volunteered their time, energy, and enthusiasm to support us. They worked shoulder-to-shoulder with our team to:

- Carefully pack shop goods for storage
- Organise and label items for easy retrieval



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The Impact

- Thanks to Cisco's volunteers, we: Completed the packing process on time
- Saved many hours of manual work
- Ensured all goods were safely stored and protected
- Strengthened our bond with the local business community

Their contribution is a shining example of how corporate volunteering creates real, tangible impact.

Why Cisco?

Cisco empowers its employees to give back. Every team member is granted 10 paid volunteering days per year, with the freedom to choose causes that matter to them. This flexibility fosters a culture of compassion, purpose, and action—values that were on full display at our shop that day.

Volunteer Voices

“It was great to step out of the office and do something hands-on for a good cause. We felt like we were really making a difference.”

Volunteer from Cisco

Looking Ahead

We're incredibly grateful to Cisco for their generosity and community spirit. Their involvement is a testament to the power of corporate volunteering and its ability to foster meaningful partnerships between businesses and charities.

We can't wait to welcome them back when we reopen—and we hope their story inspires other companies to get involved.

Get Involved

Want to make a difference like Cisco?

Visit www.ageukhbb.org.uk or contact Purvy Patel, Marketing & Communication Manager, on ppatel@ageukhbb.org.uk to learn how your business can support us.