

Extract from the Sunderland Volunteering Strategy Draft Action Plan. Full document available at www.sunderlandcompact.org.uk.
Deadline 17 September 2010, 5pm.

Objective 1 Increasing the number of people volunteering in the City of Sunderland (whether through formal or informal volunteering)				
Key: Short term 2011 Medium term 2011 – 2013, Long term 2013 onwards				
Outcome	Outputs or Deliverables	Timescale S/M/L	Key Partners (supporting partners)	Links to other actions and strategies
Improved access to information and understanding of volunteering	Providing greater choice of activities by encouraging more organisations to register or update volunteering opportunities with Sunderland Volunteer Centre.			
	Monitor and evaluate take-up of volunteering opportunities, ensuring volunteering meets individual and organisational needs.			
	Develop a co-ordinated approach to e-enabled volunteering opportunities (e.g. website links), through Sunderland Partnership organisations and the wider VCS.			
	Developing outreach services, targeted at identifying and meeting the needs and aspirations of geographical communities and communities of interest where there are barriers or low levels of volunteering.			
	Provide additional support mechanisms, including buddying schemes for new or less confident volunteers and those who may find it difficult to access services.			
	Support the promotion of volunteer opportunities through SVC.			
	A diverse range of local people involved in the review of Local Area Plans and other decision-making processes.			
	Developing programme of events to network potential volunteers with opportunities without reliance on Internet access (e.g. 'volunteer speed dating', and volunteer fairs).			
	Continue to promote awareness of existing volunteering resources, (targeted circulation of literature and high visibility promotions).			
	Continuing to work with government schemes designed to promoting volunteering opportunities for young people.			
	Continuing to work with groups to develop menu of volunteering activities for a diverse range of volunteers			
	Support the delivery and coordination of volunteering recruitment campaigns, with a specific focus on engaging under-represented groups (e.g. through the Sunderland Echo and Community Newsletters).			

Objective 2				
Recognising and rewarding volunteers for their role in delivering services and improving the lives of people in the City				
Key: Short term 2011, Medium term 2011 – 2013, Long term 2013 onwards				
Outcome	Outputs or Deliverables	Timescale S/M/L	Key Partners	Links to other actions and strategies
Recognition of the valuable contribution volunteers make to Sunderland and of the benefits to the individual	Co-ordinating high profile media campaigns, celebrating volunteering in Sunderland and profiling individual case studies and volunteering opportunities.			
	Using the Sunderland Partnership website/TV/ publications, including those of all Sunderland Partnership organisations, to profile the roles of volunteers.			
	Developing a partnership approach to Sunderland Volunteer Celebration events and awards at the area and City level.			
	Establishing how regional volunteer celebration events can link to the Sunderland perspective.			
Objective 3				
Supporting volunteers to increase confidence, learning, skills and employability prospects				
Key: Short term 2011, Medium term 2011 – 2013, Long term 2013 onwards				
Outcome	Outputs or Deliverables	Timescale S/M/L	Key Partners	Links to other actions and strategies
Increased confidence for those volunteering	Build upon current good practice, for example, Sunderland City Council's Health Housing and Adult Services Mentoring Scheme by encouraging more organisations to provide mentors to support the development of skills and knowledge of volunteers with disabilities, including mental health.			
	Encouraging organisations (including the private sector) to provide mentors & volunteering opportunities for those at risk of exclusion, (e.g. BME groups, young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) and disabled people).			
Organisations are able to provide volunteers with access to support, training and appropriate qualifications	Developing links between volunteer managers and employability support services to improve understanding the role of volunteering in improving employment prospects.			
	Developing the existing organisational Volunteers Network to share good practice for the benefit of the organisation and ultimately individual volunteers.			
	Providing guidance to smaller organisations supporting volunteers to help them make best use of potential and existing volunteers.			
	Enabling volunteers to progress into education, training, employment or other volunteering opportunities.			

	Working with local training providers and educational institutions to ensure that organisations are aware of opportunities for volunteers to develop their skills (e.g. Basic Skills, English language), especially as a pathway to employment or further/higher education.			
Raise awareness of link with employability, in context of recession and increasing employment opportunities	Employment support services to advise clients on the important role of volunteering in gaining employment, and the implications on benefit entitlement.			
Objective 4				
Increase number of organisations with Employer Supported Volunteering Schemes				
Key: Short term 2011, Medium term 2011 – 2013, Long term 2013 onwards				
Outcome	Outputs or Deliverables	Timescale S/M/L	Key Partners	Links to other actions and strategies
Mechanisms in place that promote, assist and develop Employer Supported Volunteering	Promoting organisations with effective employer supported schemes supporting other organisations to develop volunteering opportunities.			
	Developing supported volunteering sessions to individuals interested in volunteering, providing them the opportunity to explore potential volunteer roles and activities.			
	Support Sunderland Partnership organisations to have employee volunteering opportunities and associated policies.			
	Celebrating employee volunteering through organisational celebration events and rewarding those who make a real difference in communities.			
Promote the benefits of employer supported volunteering in SMEs.	Employers understanding the benefits of volunteering to their organisation, sharing good news stories and case studies of successful schemes.			
	Developing the support mechanisms for SMEs to confidently instigate volunteering opportunities.			
Increased skills and capacity of voluntary-led management committees	Encourage employers and employees to become actively involved in voluntary-led management committees.			
	Voluntary-led management committees to identify skills shortages and actively seek to recruit into these through the Sunderland Volunteer Centre.			
	Develop role descriptions for volunteers and ensure appropriate support/supervision arrangements.			

Objective 5				
To improve management of volunteers and delivery of volunteering programmes				
Key: Short term 2011, Medium term 2011 – 2013, Long term 2013 onwards				
Outcome	Outputs or Deliverables	Timescale S/M/L	Key Partners	Links to other actions and strategies
Demonstrating how volunteers add value to organisations	Accessing relevant training and information for managers of volunteers (e.g. promotion of the Volunteering Toolkit and associated training) to promote good practice when managing volunteers and maintaining quality standards.			
Safe recruitment and induction of volunteers	Appropriate CRB and Vetting and Barring processes in place and volunteers provided with appropriate inductions by organisations who engage with volunteers.			
Appropriate support to existing volunteers	Determining the support needs of volunteers, and how organisations may assist (e.g. voluntary sector led management committee governance needs).			
A clear and accurate picture of volunteering within the City as a whole	Organisations recording information on volunteers (e.g. numbers, demographics, type of activity, hours and progression).			
	Coordinated approach to data collation, analysis and target setting.			
	Undertaking regular and accurate impact assessments of volunteer activity across the City.			
	Volunteer organisations carrying out satisfaction surveys of beneficiaries.			

Question – The Sunderland Volunteering Strategy Action Plan

Are the actions outlined above relevant to the Sunderland Volunteering Strategy? Are there any additions?

Are there any actions that your organisation can deliver upon? What are your thoughts on possible key partners and timescales? (Please populate above)

Answer: