

Volunteer Role Description

'The Energy Academy'

Volunteer Mentor

Job title: 'Local Volunteer Mentor' (voluntary)

Responsible to: Sustainability Coordinator

Duration: 6 month position

Commitment: 6-8 hours per week

The aim of the VM role:

To work in Altrincham and the surrounding areas to recruit, induct, action and support local volunteer 'advocates'. You will be working to support the Local Project Managers in this role and also to develop your own volunteering events.

Main Duties

- Get to know the geographical area you are working in by walking around it and through online research to identify its key features in terms of community, local organisations, businesses and other activities.
- Become familiar with energy saving issues in so far as they relate to your work.
- Recruit local volunteer advocates through a mixture of local publicity, attending local events, contacting community groups, leafleting, and using local papers, websites, etc.
- Network with other volunteer involving organisations.
- Induct and meet with local volunteers face to face (where possible).
- Support and mentor local volunteer advocates.
- Organise monthly group volunteering activities for the Advocates.
- Assist those volunteers with added support needs when appropriate (eg help them get to meetings, introduce them to other volunteers).
- Maintain appropriate records.
- Achieve targets agreed jointly with the Coordinator including those relating to the collection of pledges and home energy checks.

- Report to Local Office.
- Undertake other duties appropriate to the job.

NOTE: A CRB check is required for this position and will be undertaken on your behalf by AfSL.

Two themes run through and inform this project:

- The need for us all to make lifestyle changes if we are to create a sustainable world (Sustainability is here defined as *“the need to ensure a better quality of life for all, now, and into the future, in a just and equitable manner, while living within the limits of supporting ecosystems”*)
- The importance of strengthening local links so that issues of sustainability can be tackled from a local perspective. It is essentially a Human Scale approach which can be defined as *“living as if people and their communities really mattered, which implies a shift towards more local decision-making, and local work, food, energy and exchange: it means people taking responsibility for themselves, those around them and the environment they share in common”*.