

Citizens Advice Volunteer Application form

If you need this form in another format please contact your local Citizens Advice

**Personal details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Surname:** |  |
| **First name:** |  |
| **Address and postcode:** |  |
| **Email address / contact telephone number:** |  |
| **Preferred method of contact:** |  |

**Volunteer role, skills and experience**

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| --- |
| **1. Are you interested in any particular type of volunteer role(s)?**  For example, Adviser, Assessor, Receptionist, Digital assistant, Trustee, Administrator, Research and Campaigns, PR and Marketing, Fundraiser, Information Assistant, Adviceline Call Handler, Webchat and Email assessor, Mentor etc.  [Please note that applicants must be 16 or over to undertake the Adviser role]. |
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| **2. Describe any skills you have that would be useful for the role you’re**  **interested in:**  For example, talking to people face to face or on the phone, IT skills, helping people learn, speaking / writing in a language other than English, British Sign Language, good verbal / written communication skills, problem solving, co-ordinating teams, social media skills, etc. |
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| **3. Is there anything you have done over the past few years that you would like**  **to tell us about?**  For example, employment, work experience, volunteering, community activity  (involvement in tenants’ associations, school activities, support groups), caring for  children, other relatives or friends, classes, training courses etc. |
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| **4. Why do you want to volunteer for Citizens Advice? What do you hope to**  **get from the experience?** |
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| **5. What do you think are some of the main problems facing your community?** |
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**Availability**

It’s useful to know when you will be available to volunteer. Please indicate

below the times when you are generally available:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Morning  9.30 - 13.00 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Afternoon  13.00 – 16.00 |  |  |  |  |  |

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| **6. How many hours per week, or days per week would you like to volunteer for?** |
|  |
| **7. Are there any times that you’re unlikely to be available, e.g. school holidays?** |
|  |

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| **8. Is there anything else you would like to say about yourself?** |
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| **9. Are there any adjustments we can make to assist you in your**  **application and / or interview? For example an application form in larger font**  **or with greater colour contrast, or for an interview - a hearing**  **loop, wheelchair access, an afternoon interview etc.**  This information will be treated as confidential. |
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| **10. Is there any equipment or support that we can provide to help you carry out the volunteer role itself? For example a hearing**  **loop, wheelchair access, flexible volunteering pattern if certain times of day are better, screen readers, quiet spaces for breaks etc.**  This information will be treated as confidential. Please be assured that we will be supportive in discussing any adjustments with you at any stage of the recruitment and selection process. |
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## References

Please give the names and contact details of two people, who know you in a work related, academic or professional capacity. This could be an employer, teacher, tutor, a colleague, or former-colleague where you have worked or volunteered before. It could also be someone who knows you well (but not a member of your family).

**Referee 1:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name:** |  |
| **Address and postcode:** |  |
| **Email address / contact telephone number:** |  |
| **In what capacity do they know you?** |  |

**Referee 2:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name:** |  |
| **Address and postcode:** |  |
| **Email address / contact telephone number:** |  |
| **In what capacity do they know you?** |  |

**Our policy on convictions**

Having a criminal record is not in itself a barrier to volunteering, and we will only take relevant convictions or sexual offences into account. Our policy is in place to make sure ex-offenders are treated fairly. We consider each offence individually, looking at issues like risk to the client, how long ago it took place, the circumstances and whether they are relevant to the volunteer role.

Anyone with a caution or conviction for a sexual offence against a child or vulnerable adult is considered unsuitable to volunteer.

**Please answer the question below:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Have you had any previous convictions not regarded as spent under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974?  For more information see: <http://hub.unlock.org.uk/knowledgebase/a-simple-guide-to-the-roa/> | Yes / No |
| If YES please provide details of the offence and the date of conviction: | |

If you are concerned about this and would like to discuss your individual circumstances further, please contact: Lucy MacIntosh, Training and Quality Manager - [tqm@swindon.cabnet.org.uk](mailto:tqm@swindon.cabnet.org.uk) or telephone 01793 402106

**Entitlement to work or volunteer**

If you are not a UK or Irish citizen, it’s important you check you are permitted to volunteer or carry out ‘unpaid work’ in addition to your main reason for entering the country, to avoid jeopardising your visa status.

If you cannot find the answer clearly on your immigration documentation, contact the UK Border Agency ([www.gov.uk/contact-ukvi-inside-outside-uk](http://www.gov.uk/contact-ukvi-inside-outside-uk))

EU/EEA nationals from other countries are entitled to volunteer if they have one of the following statuses to volunteer:

* Pre-settled status
* Settled status
* A visa status that allows volunteering (as outlined on the NCVO website: [www.knowhow.ncvo.org.uk/your-team/volunteers/recruiting/volunteers-from-overseas](https://knowhow.ncvo.org.uk/your-team/volunteers/recruiting/volunteers-from-overseas))

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| **Declaration**  All the information I have provided above is accurate to the best of my knowledge. |
| Signed: Date: |

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| **If you have given us any information about your health, disability or access requirements, under data protection law we need your explicit consent to hold or use that information.**  **We will only use it in order to allow us to make reasonable adjustments and/or to keep you safe, and it will be held securely.**  I give my consent for this information to be used by Citizens Advice Swindon |
| Signed: Date: |

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| --- |
| **If you are under 16, please also ask your parent or legal guardian to sign the**  **consent form below.** |
| I understand the volunteer role and possible time commitment and give  permission for……………………….[volunteer’s name] to undertake this role if successful. |
| Signed: Date: |
| Relationship to applicant: |

|  |
| --- |
| **How did you hear about this opportunity?**  For example, national Citizens Advice recruitment campaign, local Citizens Advice  website, another website, word of mouth, through your local community or volunteer  centre, through your university or college, through the Open University, at a  volunteering fair or event, through your own experience accessing the Citizens Advice service, or other? |
|  |
| **When did you last use the Citizens Advice service?**  Former clients can, and do, make excellent volunteers in a range of roles and having been a recent user of our services isn't necessarily a barrier to volunteering. There can be times where we might feel a gap between using our services and becoming a volunteer would be appropriate, but this is something we would discuss with you. |
|  |

**Please return this application form to the following email address:**

[training@swindon.cabnet.org.uk](mailto:training@swindon.cabnet.org.uk)

**or post to**

**Citizens Advice Swindon, Sanford House, Sanford Street, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN1 1HE**

**How we will use your information**

The information you give us on this form will be used to help us decide whether to recruit you as a volunteer - this is our ‘legitimate interest’ under data protection law. It will only be seen by staff involved in the recruitment process, and will be stored securely. We will retain unsuccessful application forms for up to 1 year from the date the application form was received.  
  
If you are recruited we will retain your contact information in order to involve and support you. We will also collect additional information, such as next of kin details, and over time records of training, support meetings and where relevant, appraisals. Again, it will be kept securely, and only those people who need to see your information in order to involve you will have access to it.

All use of volunteer information will be relevant to their involvement, and may include:

* Contacting volunteers when necessary
* Making changes to role, support or equipment to improve accessibility
* Monitoring statistical details of our volunteers
* Providing ongoing support to volunteers
* Monitoring the quality of advice given to clients
* Addressing problems or complaints

You have legal rights over your data, including access to it, and the right to ask that it is corrected, restricted or deleted. There is more information on these rights on the Information Commissioner’s Office website: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

If you have any questions about the use of your data, please contact Lucy MacIntosh – Training & Quality Manager – [tqm@swindon.cabnet.org.uk](mailto:tqm@swindon.cabnet.org.uk) or telephone 01793 402106



**Volunteer diversity monitoring information**   
  
  
  
**Background**

Citizens Advice values diversity, promotes equality, and challenges discrimination. We welcome and encourage volunteer applications from people of all backgrounds, age, disability, gender, gender identity, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation.  
  
Monitoring recruitment and selection procedures is one way that helps us to ensure that there is no discrimination in our recruitment process. To do this we need to know about the diversity profile of people who apply for volunteer roles at Citizens Advice x.

**Data protection overview**

**If you are happy to provide it, we will use this information for the sole purpose of allowing us to monitor equality of opportunity and treatment as necessary to maintain or promote equality within Citizens Advice Swindon.**

**The information you give us will be kept securely, won't be shared outside the service and is confidential.**

**It will not be seen by anyone responsible for making recruitment decisions or have any impact on you directly.**

**If you are successful in your application and we require this information for other purposes, you will be asked to provide it separately - i.e. this form will not be used for other purposes.**

**If you would prefer not to answer any of the questions we ask, please leave them blank. If you would like us stop using the information you provide, please contact us.**  
  
Note on accessibility: If you are using keyboard only and need to put a cross in the relevant box, you should be able to arrow across, and type in the box. If this is not possible put a cross next to the relevant box. If you need this form in another format please contact your local Citizens Advice Swindon.

**Diversity Monitoring Form**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Applicant ref. number**  **(local Citizens Advice use only):** |  |
| **Which volunteer role are you applying for?** |  |

**Age**  
Which age bracket do you fit into? Put a cross in the relevant box.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Under 25 |  |
| 25 - 34 |  |
| 35 - 44 |  |
| 45 - 54 |  |
| 55 - 64 |  |
| 65 and over |  |
| Prefer not to say |  |

**Gender**  
What term best describes your gender? Put a cross in the relevant box or write in a preferred term.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Female |  |
| Male |  |
| I prefer to use another term  Please write in …………………………………... |  |
| Prefer not to say |  |

**Sexual orientation**  
What is your sexual orientation? Put a cross in the relevant box or write in a preferred term.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Heterosexual/Straight |  |
| Gay Man |  |
| Gay Woman/Lesbian |  |
| Bisexual |  |
| I prefer to use another term  Please write in………………………………………. |  |
| Prefer not to say |  |

**Ethnic origin**  
How would you describe yourself? Choose **one** section (A to E) and put a cross in the relevant box within it.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **A.  White** | English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British |  |
| Irish |  |
| Gypsy or Irish Traveller |  |
| Any other White background  Please write in………………………………………. |  |
| **B.  Mixed/multiple ethnic groups** | White & Black Caribbean |  |
| White & Black African |  |
| White & Asian |  |
| Any other Mixed/multiple ethnic background  Please write in………………………………………. |  |
| **C.  Asian/Asian British** | Indian |  |
| Pakistani |  |
| Bangladeshi |  |
| Chinese |  |
| Any other Asian Background  Please write in………………………………………. |  |
| **D. Black/African/ Caribbean/Black British** | African |  |
| Caribbean |  |
| Other Black/African/Caribbean background  Please write in………………………………………. |  |
| **E. Other ethnic group** | Arab |  |
| Any other ethnic group  Please write in………………………………………. |  |
| **Prefer not to say** |  |  |

**Disability**   
A disabled person is defined under the Equality Act 2010 as someone with a ‘**physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on that person’s ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities**.’

Do you consider yourself to be disabled under the Equality Act 2010?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Prefer not to say |  |

*The information on this form is for monitoring purposes only. If you require any reasonable adjustments to be made in the recruitment process or at work subsequently if appointed, please make sure you tell us separately from this form. We follow the social model of disability which believes that it is the barriers created by society which disable people. We will use reasonable adjustments wherever possible to remove those barriers.*

**Gender Identity**  
Do you identify as \*Trans?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Yes |  |
| No |  |
| Prefer not to say |  |

**\*Trans is an umbrella term to describe people whose identity is not the same as the sex they were assigned at birth. People under the trans umbrella may describe themselves using one or more of a wide variety of terms – including transgender.**

**Religion or belief**Which group below do you most identify with? Put a cross in the relevant box.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| No religion |  |
| Christian (including all denominations) |  |
| Buddhist |  |
| Hindu |  |
| Jewish |  |
| Muslim |  |
| Sikh |  |
| Any other religion or belief  Please write in………………………………………. |  |
| Prefer not to say |  |

**How did you hear about this opportunity?**

Please include details below:

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| --- |
|  |