

### About Volunteer Roles

These are all Volunteer Roles. As volunteers you will not get paid but you will receive:

- Travelling costs
- Out-of-pocket expenses
- Full training, support and supervision

You do not need any formal qualifications but you do need to be:

- Over 18 years-of-age
- Able to relate well to young people
- Reliable and able to commit around 2 or 3 hours per week
- Free from criminal convictions which precludes contact with young people (convictions would not automatically exclude volunteers - offences will be assessed in accordance with the role.)

As a volunteer you will be provided with an interesting role which will give you:

- A chance to help young people in trouble
- The opportunity to learn about the law
- An understanding of the work of the Youth Offending Team

The Team aims to recruit a diverse group of volunteers to help support individual young people. If you are interested or would like further information, please contact:

Susan Milne  
 Volunteer Co-ordinator  
 Calderdale YOT  
 3 Trinity Place  
 Halifax  
 HX1 2BD

Telephone:  
**01422 368279**

E-mail:  
[susan.milne@calderdale.gov.uk](mailto:susan.milne@calderdale.gov.uk)

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 3 Trinity Place  
 Halifax  
 HX1 1BD

Telephone  
**01422 368279**

Fax  
**01422 368483**

E-mail  
[info@calderdaleyot.org.uk](mailto:info@calderdaleyot.org.uk)

#### Equal Opportunities

At all times you have the right to be treated fairly and without discrimination. This means the Youth Offending Panels and YOT staff will treat you fairly whatever your race, colour, sex, sexuality or disability. You are also expected to behave equally fairly towards other people.

#### Complaints Procedure

If you feel you have been treated unfairly or unreasonably by the YOT or Youth Offender Panels you can make a complaint. To do this, contact the Calderdale YOT Manager at the above address.

#### Data Protection

The Calderdale Youth Offending Team deals with personal data under the Data Protection Act 1998. Some of these may be sensitive such as criminal offences, proceedings and convictions. We may share some or all of them with other Council departments, our agents, service providers or other third parties. When involving any third party we shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that they will keep your personal data secure and treat it confidentially. If you are worried about giving us your personal details or about us sharing them with others, please discuss this with the member of staff who is dealing with your case. We will explain what you can do.

#### Accessibility

These information leaflets are available in a number of different formats and languages from our Halifax office, or from our website.

Calderdale  
**Youth Offending**  
 Team

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# Volunteer Roles

## How you can help



## Making Calderdale Safer

### Appropriate Adults

Appropriate Adults were introduced with the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE). The Act states that young people cannot be interviewed without a parent or other Appropriate Adult being present.

Sometimes parents are not able to attend and an Appropriate Adult is needed. As an Appropriate Adult you will support a young person between 10 and 17 years who is being questioned at the Police Station about an offence that they are suspected of committing.

Your role is to ensure that the young person's welfare needs are met and that the interview is conducted fairly. You are not there as a legal representative, but you can provide support and information on the benefits of receiving legal advice.

### Mentors

Mentors provide positive support and encouragement to young people aged under 18 years, who have become involved with the Youth Offending Team.

Mentors meet regularly with a young person for a time-limited period to try and meet specific aims. This could include taking an active interest in engaging their involvement in social or recreational activities.

The overall aim is to prevent a young person from re-offending, to encourage compliance with any bail conditions and to explore and build up a young person's social and educational abilities.

### Referral Order Panel Members

Panel members co-ordinate a meeting that has been ordered by the Youth Court. Any young person aged between 10 and 17 years who pleads guilty to an offence, and who has not previously been to Court, will have to attend a Youth Offender Panel meeting.

The Panels are important because they bring together members of the local community who, as Panel Members, work alongside the young offender, their parents and also victims.

Panel members will talk and listen to these key people and agree, with the young person, a plan of action that is designed to put right the harm they have already caused and to prevent further offending.

### Other Opportunities

Alternatively, if you have any specialised skills or access to resources which you would like to share with young people involved with the Youth Offending Team, we would be pleased to hear from you.