

Street Buddies

Volunteer Agreement



Volunteer Role Description

Role Title

Street Buddy

Where

At various community halls or venues in the Llanelli area and within your community

When

All year round

Commitment

Monthly meetings will act as a gateway into further volunteering opportunities available within the area. It is at the individual's discretion whether they wish to partake in the associated volunteer opportunities presented. Each meeting will give the Street Buddies the opportunity to hear from and meet representatives of the various organisations and programmes available to the community. In-between meetings Street Buddies may be contacted by people within their community seeking information.

Duration

Ongoing

Why We Want You

You may or may not know it but there are many things going on in your community, such as events, clubs, coffee mornings, hobby groups, walks, talks, trips, arts, crafts and sport clubs. These take place in various community settings such as sheltered accommodation, cafes, industrial units, libraries, community halls, church halls are just some examples. There are services out there that you, a family member or friend can benefit from that you don't even know about. This is where a street buddy can help. By becoming a street buddy you can:-

- help people in their community
- increase awareness and use of local services
- increase confidence in residents finding solutions to their needs
- reduce isolation and increase well-being amongst individuals
- promote a joined up approach between service providers
- provide a more equal and resilient community for residents

Objectives of the role

1. To raise awareness of local services and activities available to people in the community
2. To be well known to local services and groups who will welcome Street Buddy referrals through regular communication and networking opportunities
3. Increase confidence in residents finding solutions to their needs by utilising the various resources available
4. Reduce isolation. Tackle loneliness. Increase well-being of individuals
5. Provide a more equal and resilient community for residents
6. Communicate regularly with other street buddies and increase the street buddy movement

Expectations of the role

1. Volunteers are entitled to claim 1 time credit for every hour they give. A maximum weekly time credit earn limit will be agreed
2. To attend an induction by the project lead and other relevant training courses e.g. community development, I.T. skills

3. Research local provision of services.
4. Focus on particular services or clubs of specific interest to the volunteer e.g. arts, youth, environment, sports, events etc.
5. Provide preferred contact details for the general public to contact you about Street Buddies
6. To provide a signposting role for residents wishing to know more about information on things such as:
 - a. Service providers like the local council, health, wellbeing, arts, culture etc.
 - b. Appropriate organisations / hobby groups / clubs & societies
 - c. Community spaces such as halls, footpaths, parks, ponds and play areas
 - d. Local events
 - e. Places of interest (eg. town centre shops & facilities)
 - f. Transport links
 - g. Other information requests
7. Attend regular Street Buddy briefings to share best practice with other Street Buddies and also encourage new volunteers along.
8. Communicate regularly with other Street Buddies via dedicated Social Media pages and smartphone apps such as Whatsapp & Messenger.
9. Travelling expenses associated with the role will be reimbursed but need to be agreed beforehand with the project lead.

Requirements

You will need an interest in your community and a willingness to get involved and develop your role within the community. Also attend networking meetings with fellow Street Buddies and relevant training sessions.

What's In It For You

We are a group of community members committed to making positive changes in our local community. A street buddy role can fit around your own schedule and interests. For example if you are passionate about the environment, you could focus the role around that. Or you may want to put on an event in your area – the street buddy role and network can help you with that. Whatever your interest is, there is an opportunity to tailor your role around that. By joining you can:-

- Learn new skills
- Make new friends
- Earn Time Credits
- Join a group
- Induction and ongoing training
- Help to make a difference
- Increase you confidence
- Enjoy a better quality of life

Support offered: Time Credits / Peer support / Induction / Training / Resources

Training provided: Induction and relevant courses will be provided on the combined needs of the Street Buddies

Earn Time Credits for attending meetings

Notes

Volunteers are encouraged to log activity and time spent whilst carrying out their role.

Volunteers will be carrying out activities: On their own / with paid staff / with other volunteers

Age requirements: 16+

Selection procedures: Informal discussion

Project Aim, Objectives and General Description

The origins of the Street Buddies initiative go back to 2013 when Tempo (formally Spice) Time Credits worked with Carmarthenshire County Council housing officers to provide an engagement programme with hard to reach housing tenants within their estates. Working also with Communities First, a training package was devised reflecting the identified needs. Around 20 individuals were trained in Asset Based Community Development, which works on the strengths of people and their communities to create positive action. The Street Buddies name came from these training sessions. The training gave the volunteers the confidence and enabled them to carry out what they wished to do within their communities. Individuals have since started their own community groups, gained employment, started their own business and gone on to further education as a result from their involvement. Since the course ended, Street Buddies would continue to get together at the Tempo Time Credits Network meetings and share their experiences.

Expansion of the Street Buddies programme

The expansion of the Street Buddies programme is in response to community consultations commissioned by Llanelli Rural Council as part of its Whole Place Plan. During the process the Council looked at local projects to help break down barriers people are facing in their areas. One of the messages that was coming through were of people feeling isolated due to a lack of services. Reflecting on this, it demonstrated a lack of knowledge amongst potential beneficiaries about available services. The Street Buddies initiative is seen as a way that can help this by mixing old Street Buddies with new like-minded volunteers seeking to help connect people to services in their area. Llanelli Rural Council is working with partners who share this goal, they include Tempo, Carmarthenshire Housing Services, Communities for Work+, Ymlaen Llanelli, Carmarthenshire is Kind and the Carmarthenshire Fusion network. Through the discussions held amongst partners it was agreed that generating a new Street Buddies project would be possible by holding monthly meetings.

Monthly Network Meetings

The idea behind holding network meetings is to give the volunteers an opportunity to build their knowledge of local community services. It gives individuals the opportunity to meet like-minded people looking to help out in their communities whilst enabling them to share good practice. It also gives organisations / service providers the opportunity to promote the work that they do. Each meeting will look to have a theme or guest organisation to talk about the work that they do.

What else does a Street Buddy do

Outside of the meetings Street Buddies will be encouraged to **take part in local projects** that are highlighted in the monthly meetings. For example this could involve volunteering at a town centre event with Ymlaen Llanelli or taking part in a community litter pick arranged by one of the various local groups that do this. Street Buddies will also be encouraged to **tailor the role around their interests** so collectively the Street Buddies get to cover a lot of ground. For example, an environmental street buddy could help with identifying relevant groups and local projects that undertake litter picks, biodiversity, recycling, and community growing and so on. The blocks below gives an example of the themes that could be covered.



What is not expected of a Street Buddy

The role is limited to providing information on community services to interested people. The Insurance cover (outlined further below) will provide more information of what you will and won't be covered for. The Street Buddy project is in place to raise the awareness within the community and help improve community cohesion. As a Street Buddy you are not expected to enter a neighbour's house or carry out any minor repairs at their property because they found out that you were a Street Buddy. Likewise you are not expected to pick up their shopping. For example if you choose to do this after establishing a rapport, this will be a display of neighbourliness and although it is a welcome outcome, **it is not expected** as part of your Street Buddy role and you will not be covered by the project's insurance policy.

Insurance

As a Street Buddy **you are insured to carry out the roles described in this document**. For clarity, the following examples **will not be covered by insurance**:-

- Personal effects
- Car insurance (Business use)
- Loss of personal property
- Entering people's homes
- People entering your home

You must check that insurance is in place with the service/organisation you're volunteering for after hearing about them via Street Buddies, for example, stewarding at a town centre event for Ymlaen Llanelli.

Who is overseeing the project and what will be measured

The project lead is Llanelli Rural Council however when necessary, the project partners will provide support to individuals residing outside this area. The project aims to record the following successes:

- People new to volunteering
- Referrals to other community projects
- Input local information into the well-being database (Dewis Cymru)
- Increase awareness of available provisions
- Increase befriending opportunities
- Become well known to residents and local services

Resources

Street Buddies will be encouraged to collect and share information on local services. The project lead will provide information and means that will allow them to store the information. The project lead will provide marketing materials for individuals to promote themselves where they live. Sourcing training for the upskilling of volunteers will be sought by the project partners.

Good Practice of a Street Buddy

- Attend the monthly network meetings
- Enquire and keep record about information local to you
- Record information around your areas of interest and share with other street buddies
- Share contact details that you are comfortable to be contacted on
- Share knowledge and good practice with other Street Buddies
- Collect your Time Credits at monthly meetings
- Promote the Street Buddies project when and where you can
- Record your activity and the time spent volunteering as a Street Buddy

Bad Practice of a Street Buddy

- Keeping sensitive personal information received from enquiries for longer than is needed
- Entering homes of residents in your capacity of a Street Buddy
- Invite residents into your home in your Street Buddies capacity
- Accept money for your activities / support / knowledge through your interaction as a Street Buddy

For More Information

<p>Contact information:</p> <p>Street Buddies, Llanelli Rural Council, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli, SA15 3BD</p> <p>01554 774103</p> <p>darren.rees@llanelli-rural.gov.uk</p>	<p>Social Media:</p> <p>Facebook: Carmarthenshire Street Buddies Twitter: @LrcCommunity</p> <p>Website:</p> <p>https://www.llanelli-rural.gov.uk/your-community/help-us-help/street-buddies/</p>
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Street Buddies Volunteer Agreement Form

Personal Details

Please fill in the following details about yourself. The information you provide will be used for Street Buddies project only and will only be shared with third party organisations with your written consent. We will never sell your data and we promise to keep your details safe and secure. You can change your mind at any time by emailing dataprotection@llanelli-rural.gov.uk "We", includes the partners on the Street Buddies Steering Group (Llanelli Rural Council, Tempo, Ymlaen Llanelli, Carmarthenshire County Council and Carmarthenshire is Kind). For further details on how your data is used and stored: <https://www.llanelli-rural.gov.uk/privacy-statement/>

About You

Name.....

Address.....

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Telephone No.....

E-mail.....

Are you on social media, if so, which platform(s)?

What are your interests?

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What skills or experience do you have?

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What skills would you like to develop?

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You may be provided with a Street Buddy T-shirt or Hi-Viz waistcoats to wear whilst publicising the project at events. Please circle the appropriate size:	
Small	Medium
Large	Extra Large

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How did you hear about the Street Buddies project?

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If applicable, are you interested in joining our time credits scheme?

Yes No

Llanelli Rural Council is committed to supporting our volunteers and to the principles of Equality & Diversity. If you have any health conditions that may affect your volunteering role, please let us know how we can support and assist you:

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Emergency Contacts

Name..... Relationship.....

Contact Telephone Number.....

Declaration:

I the undersigned, confirm that I have read and understood the information contained within this volunteer agreement and how it applies to me and my role. I will inform the project lead if / when I wish to withdraw from the project.

Name (in print)	Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____

On behalf of the Street Buddies Steering Group, witnessed by...

Name (in print)	Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____

Position & Organisation
