

Volunteer Role Description

All volunteers will deliver their services as per the task linked Role Description below and the Generic Volunteer Role Description along with their mutually agreed activity plan as developed and monitored by the organisations identified volunteer support line manager.

Moving on, Setting up Home and Maintaining Independent Living

The goal of those in our project is to secure a home of their own. Could you help an individual along this road? Not only with first viewing a property, arranging utility bills and moving in, but also being there for them in the first few months. Our experience has shown how important this support is in ensuring success in independent living.

- Attend one to one sessions with the service user(s) and project support staff to get to know the individual and build a trusting and supportive relationship
- Support the individual in accessing Northumberland County Councils Choice Based Letting housing system and bid on appropriate properties
- When required, support property viewing
- Assist/advise on initial tenancy set-up e.g. help to move into the property, setting up utility accounts, etc.
- Continuing support once moved into property to help ensure long term sustainability of independent living.
- Sustainability tasks may include:
 - Budgeting and finance
 - Life skills – monitoring hygiene, cooking and cleaning capabilities, proactivity around bills, communicating and engaging with services, mobility and any signs of physical and/or mental health deterioration
 - Helping to develop a social network/assist with integration – befriending, addressing loneliness and possible feelings of isolation
 - Provide signposting to other support services
 - Assisting with access to education and employment (if relevant) and finding activities and interests to engage clients and help them maintain them
 - Advocating for clients if required – Health Services, Local Authority, Bank, JobCentre, etc.

Note: sustainability support may be via property visits or via telephone support and is not expected to extend beyond six months - subject to review.

There are administration and record keeping requirements relating to this role

Day(s): Monday to Friday – possible weekend visits
Time: Variable depending on need