



Volunteer Driver / Escort Service User Support

We are currently seeking car owner-drivers as many of our visually impaired visitors are unable to use public transport. Most blind and partially sighted people are older, live alone and can be socially isolated if they do not get out.

Many also have other difficulties including arthritis, diabetes and hearing loss. Our clubs and activities are their lifeline. The volunteer driver role will include collecting people from their homes and taking them to our resource centre or other venues in Gateshead or South Tyneside and returning them home after the event. As a volunteer driver you will receive training, support and mileage expenses of 40 pence per mile.

Main Responsibilities

- To Ensure our visitors are transported safely to and from their destination
- When required assist and guide visitors into the building

Skills needed for this role

- To be over 21 years and have held a full clean driving licence for over 2 years
- To have good communication skills and be friendly and polite
- To be confident in guiding someone with a visual impairment. We do provide comprehensive training in Visual Impairment Awareness and practical guiding skills.

Why Volunteer

- To gain experience of working with a high profile voluntary sector service provider

- To gain experience to add to your CV
- Acquire training that includes induction and an introduction to Visual Impairment Awareness
- Each volunteer also receives a Volunteer handbook and support from a dedicated member of staff and the Volunteer Co-ordinator

Who to Contact

If you would like to volunteer for Sight Service please contact Kerry Pattison on 0191 4785959 (extension 204) or email kerry.pattison@sightservice.co.uk