



## Volunteer role description

**Role title:** Volunteer Mentor  
**Responsible to:** Mentoring Coordinator

### About Safer London

Safer London are the leading London charity working to prevent and address gang violence, vulnerability and exploitation among young people. We provide needs led intense support, early intervention and mentoring through our extensive pan London Services. We believe every young person should be given the opportunity, and help to create a better life for themselves, free from exposure to gangs, exploitation and crime.

### Safer London Mentoring

Volunteer Mentors take part in Safer London's projects to support young people aged 10-25 years old. Support focuses on: enhancing physical and emotional health and wellbeing; safety; reduced offending; and positive and sustainable change.

Mentors will be part of either of the following Safer London projects:

- **Aspire** mentors work with young people aged 10-18 in Islington who have been identified as being at risk of or involved in gangs and offending, and want to work with a mentor to progress with employment, education or training.
- **London Gang Exit** mentors work with young people aged 16-25 across London who are both gang affected and gang involved, to improve self-esteem and life skills.

### What to expect

Mentors will commit to 12 months mentoring including training and 6 month mentoring relationship. Mentors will meet with a mentee on a regular and consistent basis as agreed with the Mentor Co-ordinator (a **minimum** of 2 face to face meetings per month). Safer London will provide an initial 3 day training course, monthly supervision, ongoing training and support evenings which mentors will be expected to attend.

### Tasks and responsibilities

- To offer consistent, scheduled appointments minimum 2 face to face per month.
- To provide regular and timely updates to the Mentoring Co-ordinator.
- To create a supportive environment in which the young person will feel encouraged to explore, define and achieve their agreed goals.
- To develop the young person's awareness of personal strengths and resources and to build independence.
- To enable the young person to develop 'soft' skills that will increase their employability, such as time-keeping, communication, confidence and planning.

- To maintain professional boundaries, and adhere to the appropriate channels of contact and communication as set out in the mentor/ mentee agreement and volunteer training.
- To uphold Safer London's mission, vision and values.
- To adhere to all Safer London's policies and procedures, i.e. Safeguarding, Lone working, Health and Safety, Data Protection, Confidentiality.
- To participate in regular supervision, to communicate regularly with the Mentoring Co-ordinator and to highlight and appropriately report any areas of concern.
- To undergo an Enhanced DBS disclosure.

## Person specification (assessed through application and interview stage)

- To recognise young people's skills, strengths and potential.
- Ability to engage with young people and develop a trusted relationship.
- A passionate, personable, and non-judgemental approach.
- Committed, reliable and patient.
- Effective planning and organising skills and the ability to develop this resource in young people
- Ability to listen actively and constructively.
- Commitment to working inclusively with an understanding of equal opportunities.
- Excellent time management.
- Ability to support young people with looking for employment, education or training.
- Good communication and IT skills

## Person specification (assessed on completion of training)

- Have awareness of the impact of violence, vulnerability and exploitation on young people, and have knowledge of strategies to address these issues.
- Knowledge and skills to identify risk factors, and put in place mitigating strategies to support the young person in line with Safer London's approach and policy framework.
- Understanding of the role and impact that employment, education and training can have as a protective factor for young people.
- Ability to engage with vulnerable young people and adults to explore, define and achieve their agreed goals.
- Practical understanding of diversity and ability to apply its principles within the work with young people referred to the Mentoring Project.
- Understanding and ability to implement Safer London's policies and procedures for the protection and safeguarding of vulnerable young people and adults.