

# BARNSELEY ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

## VOLUNTEER CLARIFICATION FORM

### What is A Volunteer?

If you do need a CRB check, the CRB will provide this "free of charge" for volunteers, but only if the volunteer is:

***"a person who is engaged in any activity which involves spending time, unpaid (except for travelling + (individuals or groups) other than or in addition to close relatives".***

Some people can be referred to as volunteers, but do not actually meet the CRB's criteria to get a free check. This is because they may receive, or expect to receive, a benefit, such as remuneration or a credit towards a qualification. For example, students on training placement; people on work placements; foster parents/carers, mentoring and tutoring activities must pay for their checks.

Also, do not forget that these "free checks" are in fact subsidised by all of the other fee-paying customers. It is therefore only fair to expect that the CRB will perform regular audits on volunteer applications to ensure "free of charge" checks are not being abused. If an application is marked incorrectly as a volunteer, and this comes to their attention, the CRB will contact the organisation that submitted the application to inform them of this error and may then make a retrospective charge to recover the cost of the application. Persistent false claims could ultimately lead to deregistration of the Umbrella Body.

The "Position Applied For" field in Section B13 of the application form for Enhanced checks, helps the Police make an informed decision of the relevancy of any information they hold and whether it should be released. Unclear or ambiguous entries may delay the Disclosure process, and terms such as "volunteer" or "helper" should not be used in this field. Applications should specify the actual role being undertaken and avoid using vague terms such as:

- Student Counsellor
- Volunteer
- Helper /Partnership Helper
- Youth Worker

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**I consent that the enclosed CRB Disclosure for:**

**Name of Applicant** ..... **DOB** .....

**is applying for a position as a "volunteer" and will NOT receive any form of payment or benefit, therefore will not incur a charge for this CRB check.**

**The CRB may invoice for any application which it considers does not meet the definition, and take retrospective action to recover the cost of any previously issued free-of-charge Disclosures. The BACP will also consider this to be a fraudulent claim and persistent abuse will result in the withdrawal of our services.**

**Name:** .....

**Organisation:** .....

**Position:** .....

**Signed:** ..... **Date:** .....