



Employer Supported Volunteering

Did you know that some employers support their staff with volunteering?

Employer Supported Volunteering (ESV) enables employees to volunteer during working hours with the backing of their employer. This can include skills-based volunteering, individual volunteering with chosen charities, team volunteering on one-off projects or larger events. All forms of ESV contribute to strengthening local communities.

Employee volunteering brings clear benefits to the VCSE, including added capacity, specialist skills and fresh perspectives. Employers also benefit through improved staff wellbeing and stronger connections with their local communities.

Most importantly, ESV helps VCSE organisations access the resources and expertise they need to deliver projects more quickly or reach more people and achieve greater impact in their communities. It gives your organisation access to skilled volunteers who can share their time, expertise and fresh perspectives. While they may not be your regular volunteers, they can provide valuable, hands-on support where it's needed most.

Durham Community Action facilitates the County Durham ESV network, ensuring VCSE and community needs remain central to ESV and social value conversations. When done well, collaboration between the private and voluntary sectors can deliver meaningful, community-led impact.

As part of the network, businesses come together to share best practice, collaborate and troubleshoot to ensure that ESV remains community-focused. We help facilitate volunteering in a way that reduces pressure for both businesses and the voluntary sector. You don't need to be part of the ESV network to benefit from our support with volunteering in County Durham.

Every act of volunteering makes a difference, whether you can contribute once a year or once a week.

If you're looking for inspiration on the types of support available or ideas on how your company can support the community, you can read our [ESV Case Studies](#)

If you want to know more about ESV visit our [website](#), search [volunteering opportunities here](#) or get in touch to find out how you can get involved: volunteering@durhamcommunityaction.org.uk