



Community Researchers

WLCA is looking to recruit individuals who are familiar with neighbourhoods in Erdington District and local to Perry Common and Wyrley Birch. Community Researchers will work with WLCA on finding out about local people's concerns, issues and aspirations and to help signpost people to relevant support, advice and information services.

As a Community Researcher, you will be involved in any of the following main activities:

- "mapping" services, organisation, groups and community assets available in each neighbourhood and talking to service providers about how well used their services are by local people and the barriers to local people accessing these services and facilities. This will involve walking around each neighbourhood, photographing and recording information about the local community and existing services, activities and assets, and in interviewing service providers
- talking to local people in order to find out what they feel about their neighbourhoods, how/whether they access services and how services and the local community might be improved. This will involve working with WLCA staff to develop surveys and undertake community consultation activity undertaking interviews
- assisting in the facilitation and running of community events and workshops in order to discuss local people's views and emerging findings from community research. This will involve booking rooms, publicising events, welcoming members of the public to events, helping to facilitate events & workshops, and working alongside WLCA staff in presenting findings etc.
- inputting data and producing reports. This will involve working with computers and a range of data management and design software.

Training and Support

Community Researchers will have access to free training in mapping and interview skills, events management, research and analysis etc. and will work closely WLCA staff. Other training and development opportunities will be provided in line with WLCA's volunteering policy. All reasonable out of pocket expenses will be reimbursed. Regular support will be provided by a named member of WLCA staff. Participation in Volunteer meetings, events and activities is actively encouraged.

WLCA is looking for a volunteer with the following qualities:

- Familiar with Erdington Ward and the neighbourhoods local to Perry Common and Wyrley Birch
- Able to communicate well (spoken and in writing) in English
- Good at listening, engaging and getting on with people
- Ability to follow instructions and to ensure confidentiality of participants
- Ability to work in a team
- Ability to use a camera
- Ability to use a computer
- Reliable and punctual
- Prepared to work outside and in a variety of public spaces
- Interested in social issues including health & wellbeing, employment & skills, community led development & regeneration, the environment and community led housing etc.

Time Requirement

There are no fixed hours or times associated with this area of volunteering – these will depend on particular 'projects'

DBS checks will be required

Contact Details

If this sounds like something you are interested in or if you would like more information about the role please contact Lorna Wallace on 0121 382 1930 or email Lorna.Wallace@wittonlodge.org.uk