

First Response Volunteer

At St Mungo's we provide a bed and support to more than 3,150 people in accommodation each night. As well as accommodation services, we also provide a range of services, such as running activities, skills and employment training, and tenancy support, to help people at every stage of their recovery from homelessness. At the heart of all our services is our commitment for everyone to have a place to call home and fulfil their hopes and ambitions.

First Response exists to help find those rough sleeping quicker and enable Outreach workers to spend more time supporting those found to move away from the streets and get connected to other local services. This is not a client-facing role and therefore is well suited to somebody looking for their first role in the homelessness sector. However, we do also offer development opportunities to develop your skills and knowledge about rough sleeping for those interested.

What will I be doing?

In this role, you will be supporting us with all or some of the following tasks:

- Responding to StreetLink referrals including those from members of the public and self-referrals.
- Working with a partner volunteer to locate referrals and identify those who are rough sleeping.
- Passing information about referrals to the Outreach team to follow up on – they will help the person find accommodation and link them into non-accommodation-based support for example around physical or mental health.
- At this stage you will not be directly interacting with those rough sleeping, although the role does offer development pathways.
- Adhere to St Mungo's Policies and Procedures at all times.
- Promote St Mungo's work in an appropriate manner.
- Actively promote equality, diversity and inclusion among staff, fellow volunteers and clients.

Where/ When will I be volunteering?

- Reading: Mondays and Fridays, between 6am-10am (1 shift per month)
- Tower Hamlets: Mondays and/or Thursdays, 9pm-12am (1 shift per month)
- Westminster: Monday to Sunday, 8:30pm-12am, and/or Saturday 6am-10am (1 shift per month)



Do I need to have specific skills?

- Ideally a person who lives, works or studies near the relevant borough.
- Have personal resilience.
- The ability to work closely with other volunteers and without direct supervision from a member of staff.
- The physical ability to work on the streets – there can be a lot of walking involved.
- Client and customer focused.
- A friendly personality, good interpersonal skills, enthusiasm and motivation.
- Willing to learn and develop within the role.
- Collaborative with good communication skills.
- An understanding of the causes of homelessness and its impact.
- Genuine interest in and commitment to St Mungo's work and client group.



**Ending homelessness.
Rebuilding lives.**

- An understanding of and commitment to diversity & equality.

We particularly welcome applicants with experience of using and moving on from support services.

What support will I receive in return?

- Our First Response volunteer training as well as access to further learning and development opportunities from our specialised Volunteer Services team.
- Regular support from the First Response team.
- Reimbursed volunteering expenses.
- New skills and experience within the largest homelessness services provider - both extremely valuable if you seek paid employment in the sector.
- Opportunity to become an Enhanced Volunteer after 3 months regular volunteering – engaging with found referrals and passing on information gathered to the Outreach worker, enabling them to re-prioritise their shift and support rough sleepers more effectively.
- Professional references after 3 months volunteering.
- A dedicated Volunteer Services team to support your volunteering.
- Access to our Volunteer Development Pathway to help you to develop the skills and experience to support your progression.

How can I apply?

Complete our online application form. Or contact us at firstresponse@mungos.org

