

Time to change



Enabling young adults
to volunteer

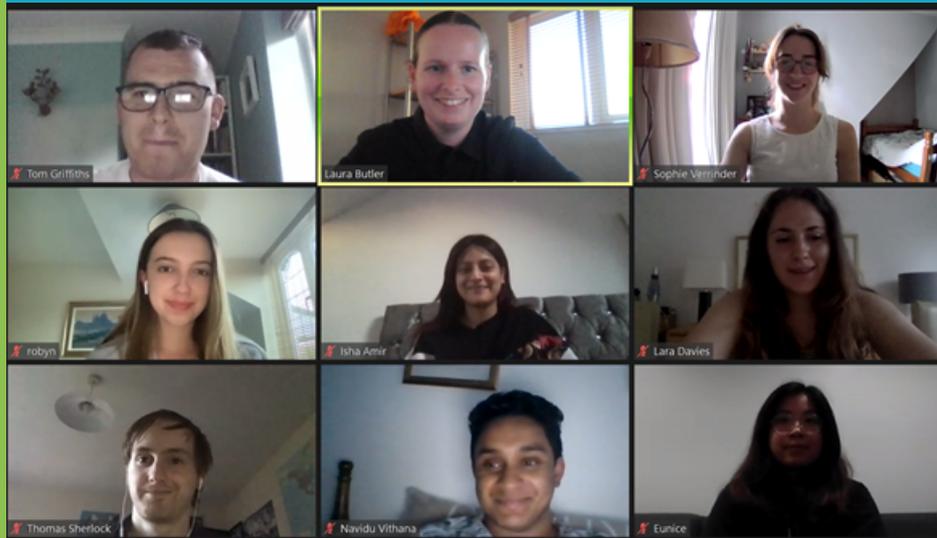
AMBASSADOR INSIGHT

AUGUST 2021

THIS MONTH

- 1. WHERE DO YOUNG PEOPLE LOOK FOR VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES?**
- 2. WHAT MOTIVATES YOUNG PEOPLE TO VOLUNTEER?**
- 3. WHAT DO YOUNG PEOPLE LOOK FOR IN A VOLUNTEER ROLE?**

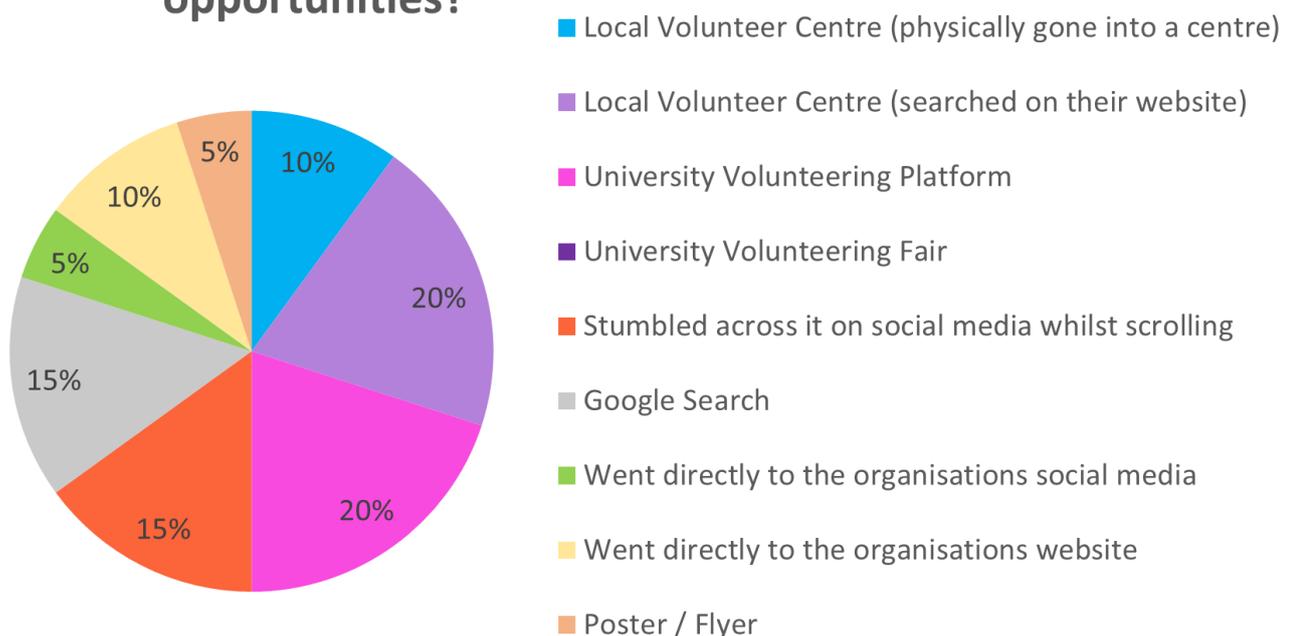
Our Volunteering Ambassadors are helping to support voluntary organisations across Surrey with their goal of recruiting more young volunteers aged 19–25 years old.



Our Volunteering Ambassadors had their first meeting last week via zoom. Read on to see their answers to this month's questions and their other top tips!

1. WHERE DO YOUNG PEOPLE LOOK FOR VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES?

Where do young people (19-25) look for volunteering opportunities?



85% looked for volunteering opportunities via an online source

Many of the Ambassadors were recruited via the volunteer centres and therefore the figures for volunteer centres are a little higher than we would expect and we also have a higher proportion of University students involved too. However, the fact that most people found opportunities online is to be expected and highlights the need for voluntary organisations to ensure they have good website and social media content. These findings would suggest that it is vital to promote opportunities via a range of methods too.

2. WHAT MOTIVATES YOUNG PEOPLE TO VOLUNTEER?

What motivates you to volunteer?



Gaining experience for their CV is a big motivator, but it's not the only motivation for young people

Many young people are motivated to volunteer if an opportunity provides them with valuable experience to put on their CV and enables them to learn new skills. Whilst this is a very common motivator, there are a variety of other things that motivate young volunteers which are just as important to them.

3. WHAT DO YOUNG PEOPLE LOOK FOR IN A VOLUNTEER ROLE?

- Opportunities to learn new skills and try new things
- Opportunities to meet new, likeminded people and socialise
- Roles which allow me to see how my contributions will help the organisation
- Roles where I can do a variety of tasks from day to day
- The opportunity to have my voice heard
- Flexibility within the role so that I can fit it in around my other commitments
- Roles where I can learn more about how the organisations operates and be involved in decision making
- A chance to help a good cause and feel part of a team
- Staff who will support me in my role and my personal development
- Look for organisations who have other young volunteers already

First impressions count for a lot

Make sure you are clear from the start about the support available to potential young volunteers and how they will fit within the team and the organisation as a whole. Shout about the benefits that young people can gain from volunteering with you. If you have other young volunteers, use their voice to attract more young volunteers.



TOP TIPS

Here are some other top tips suggested by our Volunteering Ambassadors:

**TOP
TIP**

Encourage service users / beneficiaries to stay on as volunteers when they leave your service if appropriate

**TOP
TIP**

Is it predominantly an older audience that views your social media? If so, aim your messages towards parents who may know interested young people

**TOP
TIP**

Roles stating that they are targeted at a specific age range are more appealing as it makes us feel more confident that we would be suitable for the role

**TOP
TIP**

Young people like the flexibility to be able to book a suitable timeslot from a series of options so they can volunteer at a time that suits them

