Start Your Volunteering Experience as a

Community Panel Member

**Are you:**

* Over 18?
* Non-judgmental?
* Willing to undertake training?

**Do you have:**

* an interest in youth justice
* a couple of hours spare each week?

**Please contact Jan Moate  
Mobile: 07917 263844  
E-mail:** [janet.moate@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:janet.moate@torbay.gov.uk)

What do we want from you?

To abide by the Torbay Council Code of Conduct and work within all policies, procedures and guidelines as explained through the training programme or contained in the Volunteer Handbook and Policy.

To attend supervision and training provided by the service - to help maintain practice competencies.

## To serve for at least one year.

## **IYSS** Mission Statement

Torbay Integrated Youth Support Service (IYSS) will always have the highest aspirations for young people.

In order to support the achievements and challenges they may face, we will ensure that all the young people in our care receive the best services and support possible.

This will help young people to grow and develop to reach their goals and aspirations as they enter adulthood.

**If volunteering is something you are interested in and would like to have a chat then please contact:**

**Jan Moate**

**Mobile: 07917 263844**

**e-mail: Janet.moate@torbay.gov.uk**

**This document can be made available in other languages and formats. For more information telephone (01803) 208400.**

## Who are the Integrated Youth Support Service (IYSS)

They encourage positive change for families and ensure improved outcomes for the children and young people.

The IYSS support young people who have been referred for additional support by Children’s Services Targeted Help. (Age 10+)

**IYSS YOT** work with young people who have offended or are at risk of offending or being exploited. (Age group 10 -17).

### Who can volunteer?

People of all ages and backgrounds can volunteer, although you do need to be over 18 for our volunteering roles.

No previous experience is needed, just enthusiasm and a passion to help others.

Volunteering is hugely rewarding and fun but it can also be very challenging as it is not always an easy role.

We are required to carry out a full Disclosure and Baring Service (DBS). Previous convictions, especially those which are minor in nature or old, will not automatically prevent you from becoming a volunteer.

### What do you get in return?

* Training to help you develop your skills as a volunteer.
* Reimbursement of expenses (travel expenses will only be paid for mileage accrued within Torbay).
* Support and supervision.
* Further training opportunities.

**What is a Referral Order?**

**A Referral Order is the first court order from court.**

A young person is referred to the panel by the courts through a sentence called a Referral Order. A Referral Order can be given to 10-17 year olds who appear in court and plead guilty; *unless the crime they committed was serious enough for them to receive a sentence in custody*.

It can be for a minimum of three months and a maximum of twelve months depending on the seriousness of the crime. The youth offender panel is headed by volunteers from the local community and a member of the youth offending team.

**What is a Panel Member?**

A Panel Member is a trained member of the community - it makes no difference where they come from or what work they do, as long as they are over 18 years old and are willing to make a difference in their community.

Panel Members chair the meeting or assist the chair in co-producing a contract with a young person who has offended. The contract will include reparation to the victim or the wider community to repair the harm caused.

The panel meeting also addresses difficulties the young person may be experiencing and a programme of work and support will be agreed to help reduce the risk of them re-offending

**The Youth Offending Team work on the principles of the Trauma Recovery Model.**

*A model for helping troubled kids to recover*.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Volunteer Role | **Community Panel Member** |
| Salary/Grade | **Expenses only** |
| Training Required | **Foundation Training &**  **Panel Matters Training** |
| Time Commitment: | **Four to six hours a month – depending on Orders received from Court.** |
| **Key Purpose of Role**  To be part of a Referral Order panel meeting. To Chair or assist the chair in co-produce a contract with a young offender, to include reparation to the victim or the wider community and agree a programme of work and activities to address re-offending. | |
| **Key Duties**  To sit on Referral Order Panel meetings when required.  To read and understand the reports prior to each panel meeting and to negotiate a Referral Order contract with a young person.  Responsible for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children at all times. | |
| **Person Specification**  An ability to understand documents, to identify and comprehend relevant facts.  An ability to be objective and think logically, to weigh arguments and reach conclusions with realistic expectations.  Reliability and consistency essential.  A respect for different ethnic, cultural and social backgrounds.  Commitment to serve for at least a year. | |

**Are you concerned with Youth Crime in YOUR local community?**

**Do you have the skills to talk with young offenders and victims of crime?**

## Are you interested in preventing offending behaviour by young people and ‘putting things right’ for victims?

## How do you apply to become a volunteer?

If you think volunteering is something you would be interested in and you would like to continue with the process of becoming a volunteer you can complete the online application form on the IYSS website:

[www.torbay.gov.uk/iyss-volunteers](http://www.torbay.gov.uk/iyss-volunteers)

Alternately you can contact Jan Moate, on

**07917 263844** and you will be e-mailed a   
volunteer pack.

## What happens next?

When we receive your completed application form we will contact you to arrange an interview.

This gives you a chance to ask any questions you may have about the role of a volunteer and enables the Volunteer Service to explore your application further.

After a successful interview you will then be invited to attend the next available training.

This will include Foundation Training and Restorative Panel Matters Training.

You will be expected to undertake Torbay Council Safeguarding Training.