# **Social Bite Village Community Volunteer**

**Location:** Social Bite village, 23 W Shore Rd, Edinburgh EH5 1QJ. [**See on map here**.](https://www.google.co.uk/maps/place/22+W+Shore+Rd,+Edinburgh+EH5+1QT/@55.9824977,-3.2462208,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x4887c881d5959d25:0x15dbc6eff78d7103!8m2!3d55.9824977!4d-3.2436459?entry=ttu&g_ep=EgoyMDI1MDQwOS4wIKXMDSoASAFQAw==)

You will live in shared accommodation with your own bedroom at the village community. You will not pay for accommodation or food during your stay. We will also provide a weekly allowance for food.

**Hours:** 30 hours per week for 6 months. The stay may be extended with agreement with staff. Rota is agreed with other volunteers in agreement with staff.

**Visa requirements:** If you are applying from outside the UK (and are not a British citizen or resident in the UK), we can support you in finding more information regarding the visa.

## **What is our Social Bite Village?**

[**The Social Bite Village**](https://cyrenians.scot/how-we-help/796-social-bite-village) is the vision of Josh Littlejohn. It provides a home for up to 20 people affected by homelessness at a time. We help provide residents with one-to-one support to achieve individual goals.

Together with volunteers, we create a safe and nurturing environment that fosters personal growth, development, and empowerment for vulnerable people

**What will you do as a volunteer?**

You will be a peer mentor to the community residents who lives within our Social Bite Village community. You will be a central part of a compassionate and dedicated team. Residents manage the day-to-day domestic tasks and decisions within the building.

You will build trusting relationships, offer emotional support, and assist with daily activities. Volunteer tasks can vary and may include:

* helping a resident to cook a meal for the whole community
* organising activities with residents
* supporting with domestic tasks and decisions within the building
* help to create a fun, secure and stimulating space of living
* supporting residents to keep to new commitments such as volunteering, learning, and training
* being a point of contact when there is a problem or difficult situation
* offering guidance to residents.

## **What can you gain from this volunteering opportunity?**

* Be a part of a positive and supportive community
* Support and help people affected by homelessness to participate in activities
* Gain experience in social care
* Meet new people and develop your interpersonal skills further
* Develop understanding of housing and homelessness in Scotland.

## **Does this sound like you?**

Everyone is welcome to join our community to volunteer.

If you…

* are min 18 years old
* can speak, write and understand English
* would not mind living for 6 months at our village
* have an interest in adult social care
* enjoy engaging with people
* enjoy listening actively to others’ stories
* are friendly and easy to approach
* are reliable
* can be flexible to needs and ability of individuals and groups
* can work with individuals who may have different support needs
* do not judge and are respectful of confidentiality.

Then let us know your interest and get in touch by filling in the online form. We can then arrange a chat to get to know each other better, and we will share more information about the place and volunteering opportunity.

## **Your accessibility**

Please let us know in the online form, if you need any support or adjustments to make our first chat together and volunteering a positive experience for you.

If you for any reason cannot fill in our online form, not to worry. Please reach out to us on (+44) 7983 437 714 (ask for Lesley) or via email on: [communitiesplacement@cyrenians.scot](mailto:communitiesplacement@cyrenians.scot).

You are also welcome to submit a short video (MP4 format) via our online submission tool instead. Please include the information that we ask for in our application form.

We will ask you for the contact details of a person, who you have known for more than 6 months (1 reference). If you need support identifying a reference, please let us know.

## **Keeping everyone safe**

When volunteering, you will engage with people, who are either young people under 18 years old and / or considered particularly vulnerable in our society. It is therefore required that you are a member of the[**PVG scheme in Scotland**](https://www.mygov.scot/pvg-scheme).

If you are not already a member, then we will process your application with you. There are no costs to you in becoming a PVG scheme member for volunteering.

You can read [**our safeguarding policy here**](https://cyrenians.scot/assets/000/001/672/Safeguarding_Policy_original.pdf?1729240047) that details our commitment to keeping everyone safe. It is expected of everyone to adhere to these commitments. We expect all volunteers to do relevant training, so you can help keep yourself and others safe from harm.