

benefits

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Volunteering should not affect an individual's state benefits. Individuals in receipt of benefits are asked to inform their advisers if they take up voluntary work but often choose not to for fear of any misunderstandings. As an organisation you have no duty to inform the benefits office of who is volunteering for you and should leave this decision to the volunteer.

Volunteers who receive benefits may be required to show their advisors information about their voluntary work and about any expense payments received. You can support the volunteer by providing relevant documentation and a letter to explain the nature of the voluntary work, if required.

Further guidance is available from Volunteering England* and other national volunteering development agencies*.

*see contacts page 69