



South Yorkshire POLICE

Police Chaplain VOLUNTEER ROLE SPECIFICATION

Role Title:	Volunteer Police Chaplain
Location:	Chaplains are required Force Wide but will ideally cover a cluster of force bases or a district
Role Supervisor:	Revd Derek Pamment, SYP Force Chaplain

Purpose

The Chaplain's role is a supportive and pastoral one offering support to officers and staff, regardless of their faith background or lack of it. The Chaplain will seek to build a relationship of acceptance, friendship, and trust with officers and staff and offer a source of comfort during times of stress.

Volunteer Chaplains, subject to the guidance of the Lead Chaplain, support the police service by providing impartial, confidential, spiritual, and pastoral support to officers and staff, regardless of their faith or belief. Volunteer Chaplains build relationships of acceptance, friendship, and trust with officers, staff, and communities by listening to their needs and offering a source of support.

Main Tasks

- A Voluntary Police Chaplain will usually be expected to take responsibility for an Operational Policing Unit and / or Departmental / Specialist Units/ District. A minimum time commitment equivalent to two hours per week is recommended (negotiable). The Chaplain will demonstrate reliability and be accessible to those he or she serves.
- The Chaplain should develop an up-to-date awareness of the structure and culture of the police service and be sensitive to the stress officers and staff may experience in their everyday work.
- The Chaplain should be a familiar visitor to their area, gaining the trust of those whom we serve to enable support and conversations to take place in confidence.
- The Chaplain should endeavour to develop positive supportive working relationships with the Local Policing Area management teams.
- The Chaplain should be aware of current ethical or moral issues affecting police personnel.
- The Chaplain should keep abreast of new developments, and it will be beneficial for them to attend relevant in-service training courses.
- The Chaplain should keep regular contact with sergeants and inspectors and meet with officers and staff in order to identify ways to help in building links with the local community.

- Provide impartial and confidential (where appropriate) pastoral support, in line with equality and diversity legislation, force policies and procedures to police officers, staff and their families in order to support individuals' wellbeing.
- Be sensitive in providing appropriate corporate ritual and religious ceremonies in order to respond to organisational and individual needs especially at times of crisis and trauma.
- Support a coordinated chaplaincy response to major and critical incidents, in order to give pastoral care to police officers and staff and where appropriate to assist community recovery.

This job description is intended to identify a framework in which Chaplains can flourish, it is not definitive or intended to constrain. It will evolve in conjunction with the lead chaplain and the skills and availability of volunteers.

Skills/Training Required:

- Good communication skills with the ability to listen to others.
- Able to proactively develop effective working relationships with colleagues, partners, and other stakeholders.
- Caring with an ability to remain calm and understanding of the pressures and needs of stressful situations.
- Ability to remain non-judgemental and empathetic in a range of situations
- Able to break down a straightforward problem into component parts and determine appropriate action.
- Able to interpret and apply guidance to a specific activity.
- Able to work effectively in a team to achieve shared objectives, demonstrating awareness of individual differences and providing support as required.
- Able to review own performance objectively and to take steps to maintain and enhance competence and professional standards appropriate to the role.
- Able to appropriately prioritise and plan own work.
- Open to using potential applications of new or improved technologies related to own area of work to improving chaplaincy provision.

Volunteer chaplains will be required to attend a course of induction before commencing the role provided by Police Chaplaincy UK. This usually takes the form of one day's training along with chaplains from other Forces, at a regional centre, for which travel expenses will be offered. Volunteer roles will be subject to vetting and DBS checks.

Professional Registration/Licenses:

Be authorised, and if appropriate duly licensed by their own faith or sending authority to undertake the Chaplain role. This accountability should be maintained by the Chaplain whilst in post. Candidates will be expected to provide two appropriate referees.

Commitment

I confirm that using a volunteer in the outlined role, will complement and support staff roles, and will not replace officers or staff or prevent the employment of a new staff member. I confirm the Volunteer is not employed within South Yorkshire Police and this document does not constitute a contract of employment, a contract for services and/or evidence of any such contract.

Signed **Supervisor** (Lead Chaplain)

Print Name.....

Date.....

I confirm that as a volunteer I am happy to perform the outlined role to complement and support staff and officers. For further information on volunteering in general, conduct and regulations can be found in the Volunteers Policy, which is available from the Lead Chaplain or Volunteer Coordinator.

Signed **Volunteer**.....

Print Name.....

Date.....

Date Issued:

Review Date: