

Volunteer Role Profile



Volunteer Role

Trail Watcher

Volunteer Manager

Rights of Way Volunteer and Trails Officer

Where you will be based

Outdoors

Why we want you

There are several trails in Somerset that are promoted by the Council to support local businesses and encourage tourism in the County. To make sure these trails provide amazing experiences for all. We are looking for volunteers to "watch" the trails, let us know of any issues and help us identify opportunities to make them even better!

Volunteers have so much passion and enthusiasm for our promoted trails. This is a great opportunity to get out and survey the trail to check it is open and easy to use. Additionally, we need people to chat with members of the public to find out about their experiences with the trails.

With six trails in the county - there is plenty to do and lots of opportunities to get involved!

What you will be doing

- Surveying the condition of the county's promoted trails ensuring they meet the criteria as set out in the survey guidelines
- Reporting issues on the trail via the Explore Somerset Interactive map
- Helping us prepare the annual "State of the Trail" reports where applicable
- Carry out light cutting back of vegetation from around gates, stiles, bridges, signposts, etc.
- Regularly (min. 3-4 times a year) walk your "watched" section, recording your findings
- Waymarking the trail, ensuring the route is easy to follow
- (Optional) Promote the trail in local communities
- (Optional) Take part in voluntary working parties on maintenance and improvements to the trail
- (Optional) Conduct user surveys on the promoted trails

The skills you need

- Fit and able to walk along rough and rugged terrain
- Use hand tools to cut back vegetation and add waymarks
- Basic ICT literacy skills to report issues via the internet on Explore Somerset Interactive map
- (Optional) Be willing to speak with members of the public in a polite and



friendly manner

- (Optional) Capture user survey responses clearly and succinctly

What's in it for you

- It's a great opportunity to get out onto the trail
- Help others to use and enjoy the Rights of Way network
- Opportunities to meet with other volunteers
- Chat with members of the public, to hear their views on the trail
- Sharing your knowledge of the trail and local area with others

Disclaimer

Somerset Council is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all volunteers to share this commitment.