

TALENT MATTERS PROJECT WITH THE NSDT

What is 'Talent Matters'?

Volunteering Matters is offering its corporate clients and community partners the opportunity to participate in a skills-based volunteering programme that helps volunteers share their professional skills with charities, community organisations and social enterprises. .

How does it work?

Volunteering Matters will support community partners and volunteers as they work together through the step-by-step process. This requires both parties to commit to 20-30 hours over four months for meetings and development. This can work alongside the volunteers' HR personal development plans.

Community venue profile

The North Smethwick Development Trust manages a wide variety of community development and housing schemes in a small town on the outskirts of Birmingham. The group's scope and portfolio of work has grown since its founding in the eighties as a housing regeneration scheme, recently adding a busy community centre with arts, education and health schemes.

Aim of the project

To help the charity on clarity of strategy by prioritising their various objectives and to help facilitate their development by ensuring the correct governance procedures are in place.

What happened?

The volunteer worked with the trust to develop a new strategic plan that will help NSDT with sustainable governance and also respond better to community needs in the future.

Volunteer feedback:

"The experience was hugely beneficial. A large aspect of this was showing me how much personal commitment has personally invested.... I found this to be very inspiring." – **Mat Durham, National Grid volunteer**

- **85% of volunteers increased their sense of pride in working for their employer**
- **87% of volunteers have developed skills**

Results

The new plan will help NSDT with ensuring their services meet the needs of the community and can ensure their resources are devoted to doing so in a sustainable way.

Venue feedback:

"Through the valuable input from Matt Durham, and his quick grasp of the complexities of the Third Sector, the Board of Trustees and CEO have been able to develop its 3-year business and strategic plan. Bringing in new ways of thinking like this will help us enormously going forward." -**Sue Howarth, Chief Executive of NSDT**

