Supporting the support sector

Managing volunteers

What did we find?

Recruiting, training and managing volunteers is a challenge for many organisations

Considerable variation in sustainability across the voluntary sector

Schemes partnering volunteers with people with learning disabilities provide mutual mentoring and support opportunities

What learning is involved?

Effective volunteering programmes promote community learning and capacity building

People with learning disabilities taking on volunteering roles creates opportunities to learn new skills and roles and to mentor others

What more can be done?

Organisations could:

• provide opportunities for progression in roles and paid work that match realistic aspirations and expectations

Local authorities could:

support organisations in volunteer-management activities and training

The volunteering environment has really dried up. It takes a lot of work to manage a volunteer... People think volunteers just go and do things. They need leaders.

