



BRITISH HEN WELFARE TRUST
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Company No: 8057493
Registered Charity No: 11473556

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Thank you very much for your interest in becoming a volunteer for the British Hen Welfare Trust.

Please carefully read the information below before returning your application form.

Please note: All successful applicants will receive full training. Applicants will also be required to sign and complete a volunteer agreement and a confidentiality letter.

We have a national team of volunteers who help to re-home tens of thousands of hens into happy retirement homes each year. We also raise awareness about the egg industry and lead the way in changing attitudes towards commercial egg production. We are proud of our policy to work with farmers and do not concur with extremist views or tactics.

MISSION STATEMENT

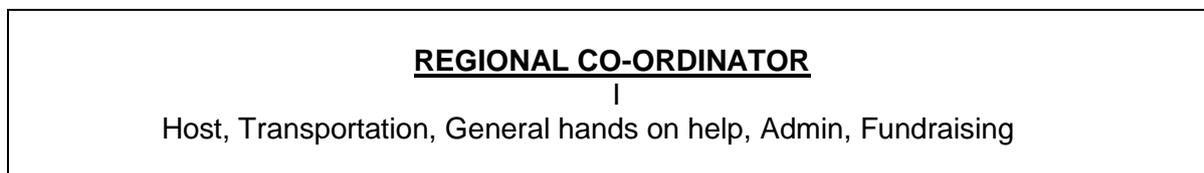
The British Hen Welfare Trust is a national charity that re-homes commercial laying Hens, educates the public about how they can make a difference to hen welfare, and encourages support for the British egg industry. Its ultimate aim is to see consumers and food manufacturers buying only UK produced free range eggs, resulting in a strong British egg industry where all commercial laying hens enjoy a good quality life.

Basic requirements for all volunteer positions

- A sound understanding of the BHWT. Please visit the 'About Us' section on our website. It is vital to us that volunteers are spreading the right focused message.
- An ability to work well within a team.
- An ability to communicate politely and diplomatically with re-homers.
- Good organisational skills, reliability and flexibility.
- Discretion. Our relationship with farmers is built on trust and confidentiality. It is crucial that all volunteers respect this relationship. Farmer and re-homer information is protected by the Data Protection Act 1998 and access to this information will be restricted. Please note we will carry out routine call and email audits to monitor standards, compliance with BHWT policy and confidentiality.

REGIONAL TEAMS:

Being a BHWT volunteer is very rewarding, but can be time consuming and for this reason we aim to build regional teams to share the workload. Below is an illustration of a typical team structure.



Area co-ordinator:

This role carries overall responsibility for a regional team. A regional team can expect to carry out an average of ten re-homings per year, although this will vary according to region and demand for hens. The regional co-ordinator is responsible for organising the team on each re-homing day and ensuring the paperwork is completed and returned promptly to Hen Central.

Hen reservations/info and advice:

All hen reservations are handled directly by Hen Central, every re-homer is vetted by phone prior to a reservation, to ensure the best homes for the hens.

Host:

Most hen collections involve 200-400 hens and secure covered accommodation is needed albeit for a short time (typically four hours). Examples of good accommodation would include stables, barns, large sheds etc. Birds are usually collected and re-homed on the same day.

Parking/access: An average re-homing of 250 hens can typically involve between 35 and 45 vehicles arriving during the afternoon. Whilst hen re-homings are staggered over 2-4 hours, good parking facilities and road access are necessary in order to avoid restricting highways and/or interfering with neighbours etc.

Transportation:

Suitable vehicles include medium to large vans (with good ventilation), horse trailers, trailers or 4WD cars with fitted tow bars. We aim to ensure each team has three available vehicles to allow flexibility and spread the workload.

Hands on re-homing day help:

- **General:**

This role typically involves loading and unloading hens, nail clipping, crate cleaning and re-homing. An ability to work well within a team is vital as well as having the fitness level required to undertake the physical demands of a re-homing day. A hands on volunteer can typically be needed ten times per year, but this will vary considerably from region to region. We aim to have up to fifteen people available in this role in each regional team.

- Equipment care:

This is an important job, if unglamorous! Each regional team needs to know the equipment is accounted for, cleaned and disinfected at the end of each re-homing day.

- Special hen care:

There are usually a few hens unsuitable for re-homing and this role requires someone with the facilities, time and a caring nature to look after and help the hens recuperate before re-homing them at a later date. Support and advice will be provided by Hen Central.

Re-homing day admin:

This involves accepting donations and recording details on the re-homing day data sheets as well as ensuring Gift Aid forms are completed. Good administration and people skills are required.

Re-homing day returns:

At the end of the re-homing day, all completed paperwork must be returned to Hen Central, this includes:

- Completed re-homing day data sheet (contains details of all re-homers, hens homed and monies).
- All Gift Aid forms.
- Expenses sheet (with relevant receipts)

Fundraising:

We need a regional team member to organise community fundraising events and occasionally attend local shows. This role will involve working closely with Hen Central who will offer guidance and assistance. Some experience in fundraising will be useful (although not a prerequisite) and references will be required.

EXPENSES:

The charity remains heavily reliant on the goodwill of its volunteers, but please note we are able to cover the following operational expenses:

Fuel costs:

These will be reimbursed to those transporting hens; unfortunately we are unable to cover fuel costs for hands on helpers who do not transport hens.

Bedding, feed costs etc:

Any costs relating to hen collection days will be reimbursed in full to the host/regional co-ordinator.

An expenses claim form can be requested from Hen Central; all claims must be supported by relevant receipts please. Please call Hen Central on 01884 860084 if you have any queries about expenditure.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information.

If you would like to apply please complete and submit the volunteer application form on the website or download and complete a copy, returning it to Wendy Reynolds at wendy.reynolds@bhwt.co.uk or via post to Wendy Reynolds, BHWT, Hope Chapel, Ash Moor, Rose Ash Devon EX36 4RF

Patrons: Jamie Oliver, Duchess of Richmond, Pam Ayres, Amanda Holden, Anthony Worrall Thompson, Harbour & Jones, Jimmy Doherty, Antony Cotton, Philippa Forrester, Julia Kendell.