



## Black Country Take Part Pathfinder Buddying Scheme

### What buddies can offer

#### **Buddy A from Walsall can offer**

50 years of getting into it and how I did that

#### **Buddy B from Dudley can offer support to:**

Develop an argument or business case  
Participate with confidence in a partnership  
Become an encouraging leader and motivating others  
Make change happen in an organisation or partnership  
Start and manage a project  
Develop a positive culture in teams or organisations

#### **Buddy C from Wolverhampton can offer knowledge of:**

Local authority  
Public involvement / participation  
Running meetings  
Minute taking  
Some public speaking  
Drawing up constitutions  
Regeneration projects - site appraisals  
Funding schemes - applying, returns, outputs  
Working with the private sector  
Working in partnership

#### **Buddy D from Wolverhampton can offer:**

To be friendly, approachable and supportive - I like people and I enjoy helping to empower people  
A broad knowledge base of how to become involved and processes  
A large network  
I work with a number of groups  
Facilitation skills  
Good communicator

#### **Buddy E from Wolverhampton can offer:**

Facilitation skills  
Public engagement  
Governance - how the public sector works  
Influencing skills

Policy, strategy, report writing  
Partnership working  
Process mapping and planning

**Buddy F from Wolverhampton can offer:**

Knowledge of statutory services - 20 years working for the council  
Knowledge of overall workings of the council- adults and community  
About to start a new job - as I learn, someone could learn with me  
Running meetings  
Qualified adult tutor  
Mother returning to life after a baby  
Listening and encouragement

**Buddy G from Wolverhampton can offer:**

General support and guidance  
Help to communicate an idea, thought or desires  
Support in developing constitutions  
Pointers about how or where to acquire information  
Practical demonstrations and advice  
Ability to listen and be a sounding board for ideas  
Feedback and comments  
Personal experiences and acquired knowledge

**Buddy H from Wolverhampton can offer**

Her previous experience  
Knowledge of the Take part programme (has completed the Learning Programme)  
Confidence - happy to support with challenges  
Enthusiasm  
Able to turn individual weaknesses into strengths through my communication skills  
Time!

**Buddy I from Dudley can offer:**

Running meetings - and minute taking  
Good at following constitutions, Memorandum and Articles development from a practical point of view  
Public speaking and presentations  
Coaching skills- not mentoring or teaching about - but a 3<sup>rd</sup> way

**Buddy J from Wolverhampton can offer:**

Some time  
Knowledge and experience  
Inspiration  
I will support and listen  
Networks and signposting  
Opportunities  
Varied experiences in a variety of roles  
Friendly and approachable and so much more

**Buddy J from Dudley can offer**

Insight into the 'police family' and partnership working  
Community engagement programmes neighbourhood watch and other programmes  
Nearly 40 years police service and share those experiences  
'Book of life' experiences to share  
Help  
Signpost to partner groups etc

**Buddy K from Dudley can offer**

Knowledge and advice on developing user centred services  
Knowledge and advice on developing systems and methods of recording and evidencing engagement  
A listening ear/soundboard  
Constructive advice and feedback  
Knowledge of qualitative research and exploration of meaning  
Knowledge of engagement and empowerment theory  
Knowledge of technology and how to use it to help you  
Systems thinking  
How to develop systems, materials and process to support people  
Knowledge and advice on evaluation  
Advice on communication methods  
Knowledge and advice on how councils work and operate

**Buddy L from Dudley can offer**

Knowledge around service providers - how they work, how to challenge, how to raise an issue  
How to prepare a presentation - personal skills such as voice pitch/tone, how to prepare a PowerPoint presentation  
Listening without judging  
Encourage personal development  
Celebrate success and achievement  
Making connections put in touch with the right people who have the 'can do' attitude  
Prepared to work outside given boundaries

**Buddy M from Wolverhampton can offer**

Knowledge about how Wolverhampton works  
Experience of running and arranging community meetings  
Confidence and assertion  
Help with presentations  
Experience of chairing meetings  
Good networking skills  
Experience of managing staff and projects

**Buddy N from Dudley can offer:**

I run/organise a public health care forum every 2 months and we have a subcommittee for the group (public) who sets the agenda  
I help/advise/offer on setting up patient panels at GP surgeries looking at terms of reference and constitutions

I enable engagement and so give guidance on how to consult with the public, give feedback, statutory guidance etc  
How to smile in the face of adversity!!

**Buddy O from Dudley can offer:**

I have knowledge and understanding of what it means to be open to influence and how to work in an empowering way. However I believe the thing I have to offer most is a “can do” attitude, enthusiasm and a positive solution focused way of thinking. I am not afraid to ask if I do not know something and have gained many contacts in various departments within the council and partnership organisations. I have experience of writing reports and delivering presentations so could act as a sounding board and offer practical advice in these situations.

**Buddy P from Wolverhampton can offer:**

I have recently been shadowed by someone from the Operation Black Vote Project and understand that individual participants have a wide range of interests. Therefore The Take Part Participant can shadow me in any of my work that would be of interest, as a administrator of a small voluntary sector funded organisation or as a Wolverhampton City Councillor as a Local Politician I am open and happy to share any of the skills, knowledge and experiences that I have that may be of some interest, these will also include computer skills and website design.

**Buddy Q from Dudley can offer:**

- Advice and guidance - about how the local authority / democratic process works and how to get involved
- Sounding board - listen to ideas / questions and offer feedback
- Experience - offer a view from where I sit within the local authority
- Skills - e.g. feedback on report writing, help buddy to practice a presentation, etc.

**Buddy R from Wolverhampton can offer:**

Advice and support in running meetings (I have experience as both a secretary and a chair)  
Experience in public speaking  
How to be effective in running meetings including school governorships  
Standing for election ( I am an active Labour Party member)  
Participation in civic life  
Being a local councillor.



The Black Country Take Part Pathfinder project is managed by Wolverhampton Voluntary Sector Council. It forms part of the Take Part Pathfinder programme which is funded by the Department for Communities and Local Government and managed by the Community Development Foundation.