

**Supporting people with serious sight loss**

**on the Isle of Man since 1936**

**VOLUNTEER DRIVER**

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

**WHO WE ARE.**

Manx Blind Welfare Society (“MBWS”) is a registered charity and the only charity on the island providing support services to the blind and visually impaired community. Sight Matters is the trading name of the charity.

Those who use our services are called members; we have over 700 and provide services to children and adults which include social activities, an audio library, talking news, provision of IT, resources and independent living aids, a lunch club, an acoustic shooting club, a younger members activity group and a walking group.

Volunteers are essential to the delivery of these services in many and varied ways, including driving members to and from events, activities and lunch club.

**ROLE PURPOSE.**

Volunteer drivers transport MBWS members to and from activities and events. Transport may be in the volunteers own vehicle or one of MBWS cars or minibuses. This will include:-

* Collecting members from their home and transporting and from a venue,
* Assisting members to and from the vehicle,
* Assisting members to and from the venue.

**ROLE RESPONSIBILITIES.**

* Assisting members in and out of vehicles,
* Assisting members safety by the use of seat belts,
* Complying with safe moving of members,
* Making informed decisions on a member’s suitability to be transported.

**TRAINING.**

* Undertake appropriate training relevant to the role.
* Minibus drivers will be required to undertake a MIDAS (for minibus driving) provided by MBWS

**SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE.**

The role requires:

* Full IOM driving licence held for a minimum of 12 months (D1 entitlement for minibus)
* Be over 25 years of age
* Vehicle business insurance (if using your own vehicle)
* Valid Road Tax (if using your own vehicle)
* Good overall health
* Physical ability to guide and support members, if necessary
* Patience
* Friendly nature
* Good communication skills
* Interest in and empathy with vulnerable people

**MBWS SAFER RECRUITMENT.**

* Disclosure and Barring Service basic level every 3 years
* Two personal references
* Declaration of correct information every 12 months

**COMMITMENT.**

Most volunteers commit to working one half-day per week, however this is entirely negotiable. Some activities occur outside of regular working hours, if these hours are better suited.

**BENEFITS.**

* The opportunity to meet people and make new friends
* A sense of pride and accomplishment for helping Visually Impaired People maintain independence
* Make a rewarding contribution to your community
* Learn new skills
* Re-enter the workplace
* Enhance your CV
* Training opportunities, including MIDAS training (for driving minibuses) and moving and handling
* Lunch if a driver for lunch club
* Refreshments at activities or events
* Participation in different activities.