Do you have the resources to work with volunteers?

Before you involve volunteers in your organisation you need to consider:

• Have you a member of staff to support volunteers? This could include induction, support sessions, supervision and training. Will your staff need training to take on this role?

• Do you have the space for a volunteer? It’s pointless asking a volunteer to come in every Wednesday morning if there is nowhere for them to carry out their task.

• Do you have the appropriate equipment? Resources such as desks, computers, telephones, tools and equipment.

• Do you have the financial resources to pay out of pocket expenses to your volunteers?

• Do you have the financial resources to pay for a DBS Check if needed for your volunteers?

• Do you have the financial resources to pay for further equipment or insurance?

These are all things which you need to be aware of and consider before you decide to involve volunteers within your organisation.

Consider future funding bids – include a volunteer role in these and include the financial costs.

In addition you should always be realistic about what an individual volunteer or group of volunteers can achieve.