



POSITIVE STEPS

# Application Information Pack

## *For the post of Transition Mentor*

(Reference number :PS/TM/09 )

Thank you for your time and effort to enquire about a position within Positive Steps. This application pack has been designed to provide you with information on the company, and to help you to provide all the information we need in our selection process, to assess your suitability for the role which you are applying for.

This application pack includes:

1. Background information on Positive Steps
2. The Recruitment Advertisement
3. The terms and employment benefits for this post
4. Some of the policies that relate to our Recruitment and Selection process
  - Equal opportunities and Diversity Statement/Turning Commitment into action
  - Policy statement on the Recruitment of Ex Offenders
  - Child protection statement
5. Guidance on completing the application form
6. The Job description
7. The application form

Detailed below is the recruitment timetable:




Recruitment Phase	Date
Closing Date for Applications	25 September 2013, 12 noon
Applicant Interview and Assessment	1/2 October 2013

**Completed applications should be forwarded to:**

The Recruitment Team  
Positive Steps  
Media Place  
80 Union Street  
Oldham  
Lancashire OL1 1DJ

Or email: [hr@positive-steps.org.uk](mailto:hr@positive-steps.org.uk)

*N.B. Please do not send your application via file sharing sites (e.g.SkyDrive).*

 0161 621 9400  0161 621 9401  [hr@positive-steps.org.uk](mailto:hr@positive-steps.org.uk)

If you have hearing or speech difficulties, and are a textphone user, you can call us direct in text using Typetalk on 18001 0161 621 9400





Dear Applicant

## What is Positive Steps (PS)?

PS is a not-for-profit, third-sector charitable trust. It is unique in England in the way it provides a range of targeted and integrated services for young people and adults on behalf of Oldham Council and other commissioners.

It comprises a group of two companies:

- Positive Steps Oldham (trading as Positive Steps) – a Charitable Trust; and
- PS Trading Ltd - a Trading arm.

Its Board of trustees (12) is drawn from the Oldham Council; statutory organisations; and the “community” (businesses, training providers and Voluntary, Community & Faith [VCF] sector);

The annual turnover peaked in 2010-11 at £10.3m, although in 2011-12 this was reduced to £ 8.0m and to £6.8m in 2012-13 as a result of reductions in public expenditure and the removal, from local authorities like Oldham, of the Area-based Grant. However, projected turnover for 2013-14 is £7.5m due to the acquisition of new contracts and increased activity in the DWP Complex Families programme.

## What Does PS Do?

It provides a range of funded and traded services to schools, colleges, young people and adults and these are described in more detail below:

Originally, PS’s prime charitable object was to assist people to access employment and so play a fulfilled role in society; and the means to support themselves and their families through the ability to earn a wage or salary. Clearly for young people, advice and support in accessing the most appropriate pathway for them at 16 is critical and the bulk of our activity with young people was focussed on them accessing and sustaining post-16 education or training so as to increase the participation age to 17 (by 2013) and 18 (by 2015) – the “Connexions” strategy.

Oldham moved the Connexions strategy forward by creating a “basket” of young people’s services and commissioned PS to deliver this range of targeted services, with a focus on working to prevent NEET (and with NEET post-16); youth crime prevention, offender management; intervention with troubled families and substance and alcohol misuse.

Recent acquisition of contracts in Rochdale and Tameside to deliver targeted IAG services (supported by commercial activity delivering universal IAG in schools and colleges) has widened the remit geographically. It also provides an opportunity to explore how these services might join up better with other young people’s services.

90% of PS’ income derives from the UK Government (via regional and local funding bodies) and 10% from European funding and company trading activities. Currently, our workforce comprises around 200 staff (180 FTE).

In Oldham, as well as delivering services at district level through schools and other venues, we have developed a state of the art town centre facility, **The Centre** from which we deliver our education, training and employment support services, our substance misuse service and the Youth Offending Service. A number of staff from partner organisations (including general and mental health and housing support) are co-located with us to

provide a 'one stop shop' approach to the provision of advice, information, guidance and support services to young people. Underpinning our service delivery are six core values:

- We are customer focused
- We value and embrace diversity
- We work in a spirit of partnership
- We work to the highest standards
- We are innovative
- We make the difference

Since its inception in 2001, PS has focussed much of its services and activities on teenagers. We have expanded now into the provision of employment support services to adults aged 18-65 and work with troubled or complex families:

## Targeted Services

**Youth Justice Services (YJS)** aims to reduce reoffending by children and young people aged 10 – 17 years. This multi-agency team, which includes employees from the Police, CAMHS and PS works with individual children and young people aged 10-17 (and their families) to assess their risk of committing further crime, their risk to others and to safeguard them. The team oversees a wide range of pre and post-court disposals as well as young people subject to custodial sentences.

Key targets:

- Reduction in first-time entrants;
- Reduction in reoffending; and
- Reduction in use of custody

The YJS services are delivered from **The Centre**.

**OASIS** - Oldham Alcohol and Substance Intervention Service provides a substance misuse intervention service for young people.

Key targets:

- Drugs and alcohol prevention with vulnerable young people (Tier 2);
- Levels of young people in treatment services (Tier 3 & 4);
- Triage activity in A & E; and
- Increase in young people leaving treatment who are abstinent.

**Work with Troubled or Complex Families** – Located within Targeted Services, this includes three programmes:

Family Focus Teams (FFT) – small to medium caseloads, intensity of involvement;

DWP ESF Complex Families – a sub-contract with G4S to achieve progress measures and job outcomes for family members 18+ who are unemployed, payment by results.

Multi-Systemic Therapy – again small caseloads, high intensity involvement using a methodology to prevent crime and care entry for young people within complex families.

Key targets:

- Improvement in whole family behaviours;
- Achievement of progress measures;
- Reduction in entry to care and crime; and
- Entry into employment

## Prevention & Community Services

**Youth Inclusion Projects** – PS provides a range of targeted prevention programmes primarily aimed at preventing first time offending and other negative outcomes for children and young people. Five Youth Inclusion Projects work with 8 – 17 year olds to engage them in positive activities. In addition, Kickstart is a community education project involving young people and light engineering and vehicles. It was developed after public concern about local crime levels and a demand for additional/alternative youth activities. The purpose is to develop opportunities for hard to reach young people whilst prioritising social inclusion and diversionary activities. A range of accredited motor vehicle related courses is on offer for young people aged 13-16 throughout the school term, and during school holidays.

In partnership with the Police and Community Safety Unit, PS launched the **Challenge and Support Team in 2008**. This multi-agency team is designed to address anti-social behaviour amongst young people – the challenge being provided by police officers and anti-social behaviour staff and the “support” element by a team of PS youth support workers.

Key targets:

- Reduction in ASB and youth crime;
- Improved behaviour and attendance at school; and
- Supporting academies and schools.

**Kickstart** - A project aimed at KS 4 young people providing alternative curriculum on a weekly or daily basis in motor vehicle and light engineering.

Key targets:

- Commercial income

**Alliance / Hub** – an umbrella service for voluntary organisations working with young people which links them to statutory partners.

The Borough’s **Teenage Pregnancy Strategy** is co-ordinated by PS facilitating a multi-agency strategic group to co-ordinates and commission the work of service providers in the field. In 1998, the Government’s key aim was to halve the number of teenage conceptions and ensure that teenage parents were supported into appropriate pathways, including effective post-natal services, education, employment and training. to deliver the targets of the Government’s National Teenage Pregnancy Strategy. Data up to 2008, indicates that Oldham has seen the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest reduction in conceptions, nationally, and, if the trend continues, is on line to meet the Government’s target. Alongside this PS also supports and encourages schools to work towards improved Healthy School Standards.

Key targets:

- Reduction in conceptions for U18s; and
- Increase in schools achieving enhanced Healthy School standards.

**Young Carers Project** – supporting families with children and young people who have caring responsibilities within the family.

Key targets:

- Maximise the identification and support of young carers

## Career Guidance & Support Services

**Career Guidance Services for young people (formerly Connexions).** Originally Connexions was designed as the support service for all young people aged 13 - 19 in England, providing integrated information, advice and guidance on education, training and employment. It provided access to a range of opportunities to help young people make a smooth transition to adulthood and working life. It delivered a universal information, advice and guidance service covering choices in education, training and employment, to young people in mainstream learning (schools and colleges). Around 40% of its resources were targeted at those young people who are likely to experience most difficulty in sustaining a settled destination when they leave school or who are Not in Education, Employment and Training (NEET) post-16. It also delivers a number of programmes and activities aimed at Teenage Parents, young offenders, care leavers and those with Learning Difficulties an/or Other Disabilities who are NEET. A key aspect of the work is to track young people in their later teens and know the destinations of 95% or above of all 16-18 year olds.

Nowadays, little remains of the original Connexions strategy:

- Oldham, Rochdale and Tameside Councils commission PS for £2.15m to deliver targeted interventions to prevent and subsequently deal with NEET;
- Oldham Council has also made available some residual 14-19 funding to also address this targeted strategy; and
- Schools across all three areas have chosen to “buy back” additional universal services with an estimated value of £300k.

Key targets:

- RPA at 17 & 18 (Year 12 and 13);
- Reduce NEET 16-18 (Year 12-14);
- Reduce NEET and improve participation for key target groups and geographies

**Adult Information, Advice and Guidance Service** delivers education, training and employment advice to adults (age 18+) living or working in Oldham. It does this through the provision of the National Careers Service in Oldham and a Work Programme sub-contract which started in June 1011. It succeeds by being part of a well-organised partnership of service providers which ensure that it receives appropriate referrals and is able to provide high quality careers information, advice, guidance and training to over 8,000 people each year.

Key targets:

- Commercial income based on outputs and outcomes

### PSO Trading Ltd

is a subsidiary which covers all the commercial and non-charitable activity undertaken by the organisation. This includes sales of IT products and services and a range of training and consultancy services. PSO Trading Limited is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Positive Steps and any trading surpluses are covenanted into the Positive Steps charitable trust.

Key targets:

- Commercial income based on existing and new contracts

If you are looking for an exciting challenge in an organisation that recognises that people are at the heart of our success, then I would encourage you to apply, as I believe your ambitions will be met by ours! For further information on Positive Steps why not visit our website – [www.positive-steps.org.uk](http://www.positive-steps.org.uk)

Would you like to be part of something special? Then why not join Positive Steps to help to make a real difference to the lives of individuals living, working or learning in the community of Oldham and Rochdale.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Mitchell', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tim Mitchell  
**Chief Executive**  
**Positive Steps**



POSITIVE STEPS

## Terms of Employment and Benefits

**Job Title:** Transition Mentor  
**Salary Range:** £18,000- £19,000  
**Salary Grade:** C  
**Hours of Work:** 36 hours (F/T), 18 hours (P/T)

*This summary is for your general guidance and is not intended to form part of any contract of employment. As a new employee, you will be provided with a statement of your terms and conditions of employment, which will then become part of the contractual provisions of your employment.*

### Salary

All employees of Positive Steps are placed on a **two-point** salary scale (unless they are appointed as a trainee). New employees will be placed on the lower point. A probationary period of six months will follow appointment. A twelve month review and appraisal against a range of agreed personal targets will then determine progression through to the second point of the salary scale.

Salary is paid on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month, unless that falls at a weekend or bank Holiday, in which case it will be paid on the last banking day before. Payment will be directly into a bank or building society account.

### People Friendly Policies

Positive Steps values its employees and provides a range of policies that allows its employees to balance work and family life. Examples of people friendly policies include:

- Flexitime *Plus*
- Part-time, job share, term time only and compressed hours
- Time off for dependants
- Compassionate and special leave.

### Annual Leave

The annual leave period is from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> March. The basic leave entitlement is:

- For 1 year to 4 years service – 26 days
- For 5 years to 9 years service – 28 days
- For over 10 years service – 31 days.
- You are also entitled to eight Bank and Public Holidays per year.

Entitlements are calculated pro-rata for part-time employees (i.e. anyone working less than 36 hours per week).

The above leave entitlement includes three 'directed' days which may be required to be taken on dates nominated by the Chief Executive, for example, to cover shut down over holiday periods.

### Smoking Policy

The Company operates a no-smoking policy.

### Pension

Positive Steps provides a final salary pension scheme, which is operated by the Greater Manchester Pension Fund (GMPF). Membership of the GMPF is not compulsory; you can opt out at any

time. However, if you want the opt-out to apply from the start of your appointment you must make your decision within two months of that date. Contributions are around 6% of your salary with Positive Steps contributing 13.8%.

### Probationary Period

The first six months of your employment will be "probationary". Your suitability for continued employment will be reviewed throughout this period and a performance review will be held at the end of the six months.

### Sickness Provision

Your entitlements during any absence due to sickness or injury are:

- during your first year of continuous service one months full pay and (after four months service) two months half pay
- during your second year of continuous service two months full pay and two months half pay
- during your third year of continuous service four months full pay and four months half pay
- during your fourth and fifth years of continuous service five months full pay and five months half pay
- after five years continuous service six months full pay and six months half pay.

The rules relating to sickness, injury and sick pay are contained in the Company policy – Attendance and Absence Management and may be amended from time to time. Your entitlement to payment is subject to those rules and also the notification of absence and production of medical certificates as set out in those rules.

The Company reserves the right to require you to attend a medical examination by a qualified practitioner either before or during employment. All relevant costs will be borne by the Company. You authorise the qualified practitioner to disclose to and discuss with the Company's medical adviser, or other nominated officer of the Company, the full results of or any matter arising out of this examination. The Company shall keep all such information in accordance with the Medical Records Act 1988 and the Data Protection Act 1998.

### Car User

If your post is designated as a "Casual Car User" or "Mileage User" you will need to ensure that your private motor insurance policy is comprehensive and permits the use of for the purposes of business use as the driver is personally liable for any incident, not Positive Steps.



## Equal Opportunities and Diversity Statement

Positive Steps aspires to become an exemplary “Equality and Diversity Employer”.

All selection, recruitment, training and promotion processes are regularly examined to ensure that all individuals are treated on the basis of merit and ability.

No job applicant or existing employee is treated less favourably on the grounds of their gender, race, ethnic origin, disability, age, nationality, national origin, sexual orientation, religion or belief, marital status, social class or other justifiable reason.

All employees are recruited, trained and promoted on the basis of ability, the skills requirement of the job and other relevant criteria.

Everyone involved in the recruitment process is trained in recruitment and selection and equality and diversity issues.

All employees are responsible for implementing our Equal Opportunities and Diversity Policy - it is important that everyone applying for employment within Positive Steps appreciate that they have an important role to play in the provision of equality and diversity.

### Turning commitment into practice

Positive Steps team members believe that they are part of something special and worthwhile. We work with commitment and enthusiasm to make a real difference for our customers and stakeholders. We believe that, by broadly reflecting the community we serve, we are more likely to increase their confidence in us.

We therefore welcome applications from all sections of the community for appointments within the company. We encourage applications from groups who have been under-represented in the past. All decisions on recruitment will be based on an objective assessment of the ability to perform the duties of the job, as defined in the job description.

Individuals will be encouraged to develop their potential to make the maximum contribution to our objectives, goals, mission and values.

This means that all human resources policies and procedures will be administered in a non-discriminatory manner. We aim to create an environment free from harassment where the dignity of the individual is respected.

If you have any cause for concern or complaint you will be able to use a confidential grievance procedure.

RS(PR)-FM5 (issue 8, 02.04.2013)

Schemes to implement our commitment include:

- Flexitime *Plus*
- Career Break
- Childcare Voucher Scheme
- Job Share, part time working, term time only, annualised and compressed hours
- Compassionate and special leave
- Time off for dependants
- A policy to deal with harassment, bullying or victimisation
- A Whistle Blowing Policy
- A confidential and independent Employee Assistance Programme – providing welfare and counselling services
- Confidential feedback for job applicants
- Disability Symbol accreditation, including an interview guarantee for suitably qualified candidates.

#### All schemes are regularly monitored and reviewed

For more information please contact:

Human Resources  
Positive Steps  
Media Place  
80 Union Street  
Oldham  
OL1 1DJ



0161 621 9400



0161 621 9401



[hr@positive-steps.org.uk](mailto:hr@positive-steps.org.uk)

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# Policy Statement on the Recruitment of Ex-Offenders

## 1. BACKGROUND

All individuals and organisations using the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) to help assess the suitability of applicants, for positions of trust and who are recipients of Disclosure information are required to comply fully with the DBS Code of Practice. Amongst other things, this requires them to treat all applicants for positions who have a Criminal Record fairly and not to discriminate unfairly against the subject of a Disclosure on the basis of conviction or other information received. It also requires them to have a written Policy Statement on the recruitment of such individuals, which can be provided to all applicants for positions where a Disclosure is requested and to ensure that a body or individuals at whose request applications are received are countersigned has such a written Policy Statement.

The following is the Positive Steps Policy Statement.

## 2. POLICY STATEMENT

2.1 As an organisation using the DBS service to assess applicants' suitability for positions of trust, Positive Steps complies fully with the DBS Code of Practice and undertakes to treat all applicants for positions fairly. It undertakes not to discriminate unfairly against any subject of a disclosure on the basis of conviction or other information revealed.

However, as a provider of direct community services, Positive Steps is also committed to the protection of young people and vulnerable adults.

2.2 Positive Steps is committed to the fair treatment of its employees, potential employees or users of its services, regardless of their gender, race, ethnic origin, disability, age, nationality, national origin, sexual orientation, religion or belief, marital status, social class or any other justifiable reason.

2.3 We have a written policy of the recruitment of ex-offenders, which is made available to all Disclosure applicants at the outset of the recruitment process.

2.4 We actively promote equality of opportunity for all with the right mix of talents, skills and potential and welcome applications for a wide range of candidates, including those with criminal records.

We select candidates for interview based on their skills, qualifications and experience.

2.5 A Disclosure is only requested after a thorough risk assessment has indicated that one is proportionate and relevant to the position concerned. For those positions where a DBS Disclosure is required, applications forms, application packs and advertisements will identify that a Disclosure will be requested in the event of the individual being offered the position.

2.6 Where a Disclosure is to form part of the recruitment process, we encourage all applicants called for interview to provide details of their criminal record at an early stage in the application process. We request that this information is sent under separate cover, to the Human Resources Manager of Positive Steps Oldham, we guarantee that this information is only seen by those who need to see it as part of the recruitment process.

2.7 We ensure that all those in Positive Steps who are involved in the recruitment process have been suitably trained to identify and assess the relevance and circumstances of offences, or have access to those who have. We also ensure that they have received appropriate guidance and training in the relevant legislation relating to the employment of ex-offenders, e.g. the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

2.8 At interview, or in a separate discussion, we ensure that an open and measured discussion takes place on the subject of any offences or other matter that might be relevant to the position. Failure to reveal information that is directly relevant to the position sought could lead to withdrawal of an offer of employment.

2.9 Positive Steps complies with the DBS Code of Practice, which is intended to ensure that information released in Standard and Enhanced Disclosure is used fairly. In telling you this we are making every subject of a DBS Disclosure aware of the existence of the DBS Code of Practice and will make a copy available on request.

2.10 We undertake to discuss any matter revealed in a Disclosure with the person seeking the position before withdrawing a conditional offer of employment.

Having a criminal record will not necessarily bar you from working with Positive Steps. **This will depend on the nature of the position and the circumstances and background of your offences.**



## Child Protection Policy Statement

The following Policy Statement was agreed by Positive Steps on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2005:

- As an organisation we are committed to the nurturing, protection and safeguarding of children and young people
- We are committed to supporting parents and families
- We recognise that child protection is everybody's responsibility
- We are committed to following the agreed procedures and following statutory and specialist guidelines
- We will support those in the organisation affected by abuse
- We will endeavour to keep up to date with national and local developments relating to children and young people
- We will review this policy statement and the full child protection policy annually
- The organisation is represented on and adheres to the terms of reference, guidance and policy of the Local Safeguarding Children's Board.

**If you have any concerns for a child or in relation to any child protection matter then speak to one of the designated child protection coordinators, names can be found in the full policy document.**

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Mitchell'.

02 December 2005

Tim Mitchell, Chief Executive



# Guidance on Completing the Application for Employment

## General Guidance

These notes are to provide you with guidance on completing your application form.

- It is important that the information you provide is correct. Make sure that you check the dates and details of qualifications and previous employment. If you provide false information or deliberately omit any relevant facts it will disqualify your application or, if discovered after appointment may be grounds for dismissal.
- Please read this following carefully before completing your application form. The information below will explain each section of the application form and help you to complete your application more effectively.

With your application form, you will also have received:

**A Job Description** containing details about the job, listing all the main tasks and duties which the post-holder will be required to undertake. This in summary is about what you will do if you are successful.

**A Person Specification** outlining the skills, knowledge and experience a person must possess to carry out the duties of the job description. We use a competency-based framework and Personal Specification which outlines both the essential criteria, and ideally the desirable criteria too.

The decision to invite you for interview and assessment will be based entirely on the information you provide on your application form. It is therefore extremely important to provide examples on the application form of the skills, knowledge and experience that you possess which relate to the points on the person specification.

We would advise you not to copy the same application form for different jobs as the requirements will vary between posts.

**Please note that a Curriculum Vitae will not be accepted. However, if as a result of any disability you have difficulty in completing the application form you may submit a CV in a text or audio tape form.** Please note:

- On your CV use the key heading from the application form in the same order.
- Ensure that the Applicant Reference Number (if available) and Job Reference Number are contained on **ALL** sheets.
- The Personal Details Section and Equal Opportunities Monitoring Section must be capable of separation from the rest of the CV and each other.
- Applicants **must transfer** the Data Protection and Declaration Statements to their CV.

- The same conditions relating to honest and complete information supplied via an application form will also apply to the CV of the successful candidate.

Please ensure that your application is legible and completed in black ink. If you type your application the font size must be a minimum of **12 point**. If you attach any 'additional sheets' to support your application, please include the Applicant Reference Number (included on the enclosed letter, please note if applied by email or if your application was collected in person then you may not have one) – **DO NOT include your name or any other personal identifiers.** Please ensure any additional sheets attached are A4 size and either stapled once or paper clipped to your application form.

If you would like to receive a copy of the Application Form electronically, please contact – [hr@positive-steps.org.uk](mailto:hr@positive-steps.org.uk)

## Personal Information and Equal Opportunities Information

- ✓ Please note that this section will be separated from the main application form and will not be seen by the selection panel.

Provide your full name, title, address, postcode and telephone number(s) where we are able to contact you throughout the day. If you do not wish us to contact you at work, please ensure you indicate an alternative number where a message can be left.

## General Details

- ✓ Complete this information using the job description and advertisement details for the post applied for.

## Current or most recent employer

- ✓ If you are currently employed, provide details of your present post. If you are not working at present, identify your last employer and when you **ceased** employment with specific date(s).

## Previous Employment

- ✓ List any posts held since leaving full-time education including full, part-time, voluntary or unpaid work with details of start and finish dates. Please also give details of periods of time when not in employment.

## Education and Qualifications

- ✓ Provide details of any qualifications and training achieved beginning with your secondary school education.
- ✓ Successful candidates will need to produce original certificates / qualifications prior to an offer of employment being confirmed.

## Current Membership of Professional Organisations

- ✓ Please provide details of any professional organisations where you are currently a member.

## Details of any Relevant Training and Development

- ✓ Detail any relevant training and development relating to your past employment or your present job which you have either attended or are completing at present.

### Suitability for the Job

- ✓ You should be aware that the "Suitability for the Job" section of the application form is **one of the most important tools** for the selection panel. Read the person specification requirements in the Job Description and, in **no more than 750 words**, explain why you are suitable for this post. You should address each of the relevant essential / desirable requirements listed, giving evidence of your skills, experience and knowledge in each area.
- ✓ This section gives you the opportunity to describe how you can match your experience, attributes, knowledge, skills etc. to the requirements of the job.

For each criterion, you should aim to give evidence of:

- ✓ the nature of the problem, task or objective
- ✓ exactly what **YOU** did and when
- ✓ the outcome or results of your actions and the extent to which the problem was solved, the task achieved or objective met
- ✓ how much of the outcome was directly attributable to YOU and with hindsight, would you have done things differently?

### Notes for completion

- ✓ You can draw on achievements which have resulted through things you have done in any kind of setting, for example, paid employment, voluntary work, at school or college, or in connection with your hobbies or interests.
- ✓ For each section you should focus on a specific one-off incident, or the results of sustained effort over a period of time.
- ✓ Please give examples that are recent, preferably within the past two years.
- ✓ If you use more than 750 words, we will only consider the first 750 words when assessing your application.

### Additional Information

- ✓ Please complete this section of the form fully.

In addition, please note:

**Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974** - All posts within Positive Steps Oldham are exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. You are required to declare any pending prosecutions or convictions you may have, even if they would otherwise be regarded as "spent" under the Act. You must also declare any cautions or bind-overs.

If you have been convicted or cautioned you may still be eligible for appointment depending on the nature and circumstances of the offence. However, failure to disclose details will result in your application being rejected and if appointed, may lead to dismissal.

For further information, please refer to the enclosed policy statement on the recruitment of ex-offenders.

**Safer Recruitment and Selection** - As the post which you are applying for provides substantial direct / indirect access to young people / vulnerable adults, your appointment will be subject to rigorous vetting processes including checks by the Disclosure and Barring Service and other relevant bodies.

With the successful applicant we will apply for an **Enhanced Disclosure** via the DBS to check for convictions or cautions prior to your employment.

If you are registered with the DBS update service we request to see a copy of your Disclosure certificate and with your permission, will check its status online

**Asylum and Immigration Act 1996** – For any new employee, we are required by law to check whether you are entitled to work in the United Kingdom and therefore will require you to produce relevant documentation before employment is confirmed.

### References

- ✓ Please give names and addresses of **Two** references, not related to you, who are willing and able to provide up-to-date information on your qualifications, experience and skills. One of these **must be** your current or most recent employer, a referee related to relevant voluntary or community work or, if appropriate, your head teacher or lecturer/tutor from your last school or college or university.

Remember, unless indicated, references may be requested before interview and assessment. Please indicate, if you do not wish us to ask for references until **after** the interview / assessment stage.

### Data Protection Act 1998

- ✓ Positive Steps Oldham will process the information provided on this form for the purpose of personnel administration, including pay and pensions. It will only be disclosed outside of Positive Steps to organisations that are under contract to process data in these areas. Any information provided on the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Section will only be used for statistical purposes and you will not be identifiable from this process.

### Declaration

- ✓ Finally, you should sign the declaration and return your completed form by the closing date.
- ✓ Positive Steps can only contact candidates who have been shortlisted for interview / assessment. This would normally be within fourteen days following the applicant initial selection date.

### Some final points to bear in mind

- Your form should be neat, tidy, free from spelling errors and completed in black ink / typed.
- Do not submit a Curriculum Vitae, unless you have a disability which prevents you from completing the form. If this is the case, please refer to the 'General Guidance' section of the Application Pack which relates to 'Guidance on Completing the Application Form'.
- Your form should be completed in a concise, well-organised and positive way.
- Do a rough draft as this avoids mistakes and allows you to organise your application properly.
- Ensure your application form is received by the closing date. If it is received after this date, it will not be considered.
- Keep a copy of your application form so that you can refresh your memory before interview and assessment (if selected).
- Complete all sections fully. Failure to do so may result in your application not being considered.
- You **must not** canvas (ask for help or favours) employees or any member of its committees or working groups in order to help your application or to give you an unfair advantage. If it becomes clear that you have canvassed then your application will not be considered. If evidence comes to light after you have been appointed you will face disciplinary action and possibly dismissal.

© Positive Steps Oldham, June 2013

**Send your completed application form in confidence to:**


The Recruitment Team  
Positive Steps  
Medtia Place  
80 Union Street  
Oldham  
Lancashire  
OL1 1DJ


Or email to;


hr@positive-steps.org.uk

*(please remember to quote the job reference number on the envelope/email)*

• **If you need to contact us:**

 0161 621 9400

 0161 621 9401

 hr@positive-steps.org.uk

If you have hearing or speech difficulties, and are a textphone user, you can call us direct in text using Tynetalk on 18001 0161 621 9400

**Please remember to:**