



Room 35, St. Mary's Fire Station
St Mary's Road
Southampton
SO14 0BJ

For Spring 2023

Re: Street Pastor Application

Dear Volunteer,

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with Southampton Street Pastors. We are really pleased to hear from you and hope that your calling to being a street pastor is confirmed through the application process.

Street pastors – from city to suburbs

Street pastors listen to, care for and help all kinds of people, and our work is with three main groups: **Night-Time Patrols** (Fridays and Saturdays from 10pm–3.00am, when the clubs are fully open again patrols may go on until 4am), **Evening Community Patrols** (Saturdays 6pm – 10.30pm), **Afternoon City Centre Patrols** (from 12.15pm to 3.00pm engaging mostly with homeless people and **Afternoon Community Patrols** (usually 2.30-4.00pm near schools, parks and suburbs).

Street pastors are supported by a prayer team who pray for them specifically while they are on duty. Our 115 street pastors and 34 prayer pastors are from 56 different churches in Southampton.

We first began operating night-time patrols in the city centre in April 2009. Over the last year it has become evident that we are needed in a range of other times and places. In February 2012 we recruited street pastors to support 2 secondary schools. In August 2012, at the request of the city council, we piloted Community Patrols in the early evening in parks. In April 2016, in response to the needs of a community, we moved this patrol to the Millbrook area with very positive results. We also have requests from Schools, the police and local communities to provide more street pastor patrols. We particularly enjoy doing patrols for events such as Black Friday before Christmas, New Year's Eve, special football matches and a few others throughout the year.

We have many opportunities to serve our city in these various contexts and aim to continue steadily growing over the next few years. It all depends on people from the churches stepping forward to join in.

Is it for you?

Please have a good look at the enclosed/attached job description, which gives more detail about what a street pastor has to do, and the sort of person we are looking for.

Criteria:

Street Pastor volunteers must all be:

- Over the age of 18;
- Be committed to a local Christian church for at least 12 months (talk to us if your time at a church is less than this);
- Complete the Street Pastors Application form;
- Complete and pass an enhanced DBS check;
- Allow us to seek 2 references, one from your church leader;

Southampton Street Pastors is a registered charity (no. 1137759) and a company registered in England (no. 7292166).

southampton@streetpastors.org.uk
www.southamptonstreetpastors.org
023 8033 3387

Street Pastor Cover Letter Generic for Spring 2023

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- Complete and sign a Street Pastors Confidential Declaration Form;
- Complete a Street Pastors Volunteer's Agreement; and
- Complete and sign the Street Pastors Uniform and policies Agreement.

Recruitment process

1. Discuss your desire to be a Street Pastor with someone in leadership at your church. Ask them if they will be your referee and if they are supportive of your application.
2. Fill in the application form. As well as your church leader you need one other referee.
3. Once we receive your application by email or by post:
 - a. we will arrange a time for you to come out and observe the street pastors and prayer pastors
 - b. we will take up references
4. We will invite you for interview as soon as we can. Ideally your interview will take place after you have been out to observe a street pastor patrol, so you can reflect on your experience during the interview.
5. We will publish training dates and send them to you by email when you are accepted for training. It is important that you attend all the training (some modules we have a small amount of flexibility on). This is a condition of our insurance cover and it means that street pastors across the nation are all trained to the same level. Training normally takes place twice a year, Spring and Autumn. You only have to do your Street Pastor training once. If you do miss one or two sessions that we can be more flexible on we can book you into the next training to catch up:

Dates for the Spring 2023 training are:

Friday eve 7pm – 9.30pm, Sat all day 9am-4.30pm, Sunday all day 9am-4.30pm

- Fri, 17th, Sat, 18th, and Sun, 19th March 2023
 - Fri, 24th, Sat, 25th and Sun, 26th March 2023
 - Fri, 21st, Sat, 22nd and Sun, 23rd April 2023
6. When you have completed the training, we'll invite you to a commissioning, where you are asked to make the following promises:
 - Do you acknowledge God's call on your life to serve Him as a Street Pastor in Southampton?
 - Do you acknowledge your dependence of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit as you serve as a Street Pastor?
 - Do you seek, with His help, to demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ in word and deed on the streets of Southampton?
 - Do you promise to serve as a Street Pastor in accordance with the policies and procedures determined by the Coordinator, management & trustees?

Commissioning is a time of celebration and dedication and includes a special time of prayer for all new volunteers. Friends and family are invited. The service last about an hour and there is always cake afterwards!

7. At the end of initial training you will join a team and gain experience for 6 months on probation (this just means you are under the wing of your Team Leader who will mentor you). Teams include experienced street pastors and will support you. We will work with you to help you decide where you want to begin – Night-Time, Evening Community or Afternoon Community. After 6 months you will be a fully-fledged street pastor.
8. You will usually remain in the same team with the Evening and Night Time patrols (teams on the Afternoon patrols tend to mix about), although we sometimes have to make changes as people come

and go for various reasons, and you may need to change if your circumstances change.

9. You will be expected to attend Refresher Training which is once every 3 years. There will also be opportunities to attend occasional conferences, regional events and social events.
10. Occasionally there are meetings relating to a specific patrol where we advise you attend.

Working with children and vulnerable adults

We operate a safer recruitment policy and request that all applicants complete a self-declaration form when you visit us for an interview/chat. We use the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) to assess applicants' suitability for being a street pastor and we comply fully with the DBS Code of Practice, undertaking to treat all applicants fairly.

In the event that you are successful in your application to be a street pastor, we will look at your self-disclosure statement and request a Disclosure from the DBS. We guarantee that this information will only be seen by those who need to see it as part of the recruitment process. Please contact us if you have any questions on this matter.

Funding

It costs about £300 to train and equip each new street pastor. However, there is no fee or charge for street pastor training or uniform etc.

So how do we cover the costs? We encourage you to ask your church, friends, family and work mates to support you. We find this is a good opportunity to involve them in praying for you and generally helping you through training and this could mean financial support. So we suggest you look to raise the funds from various sources, particularly from people who want to feel part of your journey, as maybe they themselves can't be a street pastor. Effectively they are sponsoring you. **There is no pressure or time limits put on you** to raise funds before or after your training but as we are a charity we always encourage people to contribute, so we in turn are not out of pocket if we can help it. We supply some leaflets and flyers when you start training to help you get the message across as to what being a street pastor involves so others can understand why God is calling you to this role.

Remember, it is not a problem if you can't raise the money but very helpful if you can.

Thank you!

If there is anything else you need to know, please feel free to call us on the number below or send us an email. We look forward to hearing from you!



Jenny Coleman

Administrations Manager, Southampton Street Pastors

Enclosed:

- Street Pastor Job Description
- Street Pastor Application Form

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