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

For Autumn 2026

Re: Street Pastor Application

Dear potential volunteer,

Thank you for your interest in joining us at 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 process of applying.

Street Pastors – from city to suburbs

Street Pastors listen to, care for and help all kinds of people, and our work is in the following main groups:

Night-time Patrols

City Centre | Fridays and Saturdays | 9:30pm - 4:00am

Evening Community Patrols

Portswood | Saturdays | 6:00pm - 10:15pm

Thornhill | Thursdays (two patrols per month) | 2:45pm - 5:00pm or 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Afternoon Patrols

City Centre | Tues, Weds and Thurs | 12:15pm - 3:00pm

Bassett and Upper Shirley | Wednesdays | 2:30pm - 4:00pm

A Street Pastor team is supported by a prayer team who prays for them specifically while they are on patrol. Our 120+ Street Pastors and 28 Prayer Pastors are from over 50 different churches in Southampton.

We first began operating night-time patrols in the city centre in April 2009. Since then, it's become evident that we are needed in a range of other times and places. In February 2012, we recruited Street Pastors to patrol around two secondary schools as the children are heading home. In August 2012, at the request of Southampton City Council, we piloted Community Patrols in parks during the early evening. In April 2016, in response to the needs of the Millbrook community, we moved the Community Patrol there with very positive results. We also have requests from additional 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 growing over the coming years. Christian volunteers from the many churches in Southampton stepping into the roles of Street Pastor and Prayer Pastor makes this all possible. You make the difference.

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

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023 8033 3387

Supported by Southampton City Council, Hampshire Constabulary, Ascension Trust, Donna Jones Police & Crime Commissioner Hampshire & Isle of Wight

Street Pastors is an initiative of Ascension Trust: www.ascensiontrust.org.uk

Is it for you?

Have a look through the enclosed/attached job description, which gives more detail about what a Street Pastor does and discover if it is for you.

Criteria and recruitment process—Street Pastor volunteers need to:

- 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);
- Come on an observation of your choice (this can be before or after applying)
- Complete the Street Pastors Application Form;
- Allow us to seek 2 references, one from your church leader;
- Come for an interview. 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.
- Complete and sign a Street Pastors Confidential Declaration Form;
- Allow us to complete and pass an enhanced DBS check;

At this point we then look forward to inviting you to the next step where you will:

- Attend 45 hours of training, usually over 3 separate weekends;
- Complete a Street Pastors Volunteer's Agreement;
- Complete and sign the Street Pastors Uniform;
- Read our Policies, Procedures and Training Documents

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 have a small amount of flexibility). 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, then we can book you into the next training round to attend what you have missed. In the mean time you can still go out as a Street Pastor in a uniformed patrol if you have only missed one or two sessions of training.

Training starts in Autumn 2026 and comprises 3 weekends.
Dates: 9-11 October, 23-25 October, and 13-15 November 2026
Timings: Fridays 7:15pm-9:15pm, Saturdays and Sundays 9:30am-4:30pm

1. 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 and trustees?

    Commissioning is a time of celebration and dedication, which 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!

2. 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 who will support you. We will work with you to help you decide which patrol you feel most suited to – Night-Time, Evening Community, Afternoon City Centre or Afternoon Community around schools. After 6 months you will be a fully-fledged Street Pastor.
3. You will usually remain in the same team with the Evening and Night Time patrols. Teams on the Afternoon patrols tend to vary depending on the availability of volunteers and only 2 people are needed for these types of patrols as it is daylight. If you need to change to a different type of patrol feel free to chat to us about your preference or change in circumstances, we always happy to accommodate your request.
4. You will be expected to attend a one-day Refresher Training Course once every 3 years. There will also be opportunities to attend social events.
5. Very occasionally there are meetings relating to a specific patrol, which we may advise you to 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.

If 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.

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
Coordinator, Southampton Street Pastors
Mobile: 07786 263804