

Volunteer Portability

Aim: reduce duplication of checks, training and speed up safe movement of volunteers between roles and organisations, should the volunteer wish to with their consent to share personal information.



What is Portability?

Portability is a system that allows volunteers to carry verified credentials – such as [DBS checks](#), references, ID, and core training – between organisations, reducing duplication and speeding up onboarding.



Scope for Volunteers for Health Northants:

- **Core Elements:** DBS status, safeguarding training, ID verification, training certificates, support volunteers with career pathways (i.e. NHS volunteer roles), support volunteers on employability benefits with DWP
- **Purpose:** Make volunteering across health and care seamless, especially for multi-organisation roles.
- **Boundaries:** Not a full HR record; focuses on compliance and essential training only.



Why it's good practice

- Combines volunteer recognition with career progression pathways.
- Provides real-time reporting for organisations and impact measurement tools
- Shared standards for vetting and training.
- Volunteer empowerment (ownership of data, recognition of skills).
- Integration with career pathways (e.g., NHS & VCFSE sector roles, employability).



Data & Trust Framework

- Gain consent from volunteer
- Develop Data Sharing Agreement with NHS Trusts and VCFSE partners if appropriate.
- Passporting never bypasses legal DBS eligibility rules, safeguarding duties, or proportionate risk assessment.