

## **COVID Champions FAQs**

### **Who are COVID Champions and can anyone sign up?**

Covid Champions are local people who will help to provide the residents of Sunderland with up-to-date guidance and advice on Covid19. This will help all the residents to be able to make sense of the latest facts about the virus and make informed choices. Anyone who lives or works in Sunderland and wishes to be a champion can apply for the role.

### **What skills will I need to become a COVID Champion?**

You do not need any formal qualifications to become a COVID Champion. All we are looking for is the person who has good social skills, is sensitive and caring towards others, is reliable, dependable and appreciates other people's right of making decisions.

### **I have never done this before. Can I apply to become a COVID Champion? Do I require training?**

You can apply to become a COVID Champion, even it is your first time doing this sort of thing. No formal training is necessary. There will be provision of easy to access information about COVID19 through infographics, videos, and email. Questions will be answered quickly with public health input - there is an email address for Champions to contact us directly: [covidchampions@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:covidchampions@sunderland.gov.uk)

### **How can I apply to become a COVID Champion?**

You can register by clicking on the 'Sign-Up' button within your e-mail.

### **What will be my role as a COVID Champion?**

- You will become the point of contact within your community (family, friends, neighbourhood, place of worship, community organisation, workplace, school) and will be able to pass on the key COVID-19 messages to the community.
- You will also be able to encourage others to become COVID Champions.
- Please note that being a Covid Champion is not an enforcement or regulatory role.
- If you have any queries, please contact the Covid Champions team at [covidchampions@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:covidchampions@sunderland.gov.uk). While we welcome and value your volunteering as a Covid Champion this does not constitute a contract of employment or eligibility for internal recruitment positions.

### **Once I become a Covid Champion, how will I be able to provide the relevant information on COVID19 to my community or workplace?**

Once you sign up to become a Champion, the public health team will provide you with the latest information about COVID-19. All you will need to do is to share this information with your friends, family, colleagues and community, whichever way you want. Champions also have opportunities to feedback to us about what they are hearing and to discuss any questions they might have.

### **How will you keep us updated with the latest COVID19 information and guidance?**

Once signed up, in the New Year your welcome pack will have all the relevant information on how we will support you. We will be developing online resources, weekly online updates and briefings as well as a dedicated email address –

[covidchampions@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:covidchampions@sunderland.gov.uk) to contact us directly. It will be helpful to have access to an email address, a mobile phone with WhatsApp and a way to access Teams meetings.

We will establish regular Teams meetings with senior public health team members, to enable us to discuss key issues, and provide support.

### **What happens if I want to withdraw from being a COVID Champion?**

Should you wish to withdraw from the Champions Network at any time, please email: [covidchampions@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:covidchampions@sunderland.gov.uk) and we will ensure that your information is removed from the database within three business days.