### **GIVE TIME SOME CREDIT**



### **IME CREDITS**

**Time Credits can benefit you and your volunteers** Visit www.wearetempo.org







# INTRODUCING TIME CREDITS

Tempo Time Credits is the largest time-based currency in the UK. It's a community development tool that offers an innovative and accessible way to attract and retain volunteers, drive engagement in services and maximise community participation.

#### **What are Time Credits?**

Time Credits are a community currency that can be earned by volunteers or service users, simply by giving their time. Time Credits can then be used to access activities across our unique national spend network at timecredits.com, including local attractions, training courses and leisure services.

Time Credits are co-ordinated by Tempo, a charity working to enable more people to volunteer. We're growing a movement of future-thinking charities, statutory authorities, community groups and businesses, who share our belief that giving time and feeling valued improves health, happiness and future prospects.

#### Who can benefit?

Charities, voluntary organisations, community groups, public services, culture and entertainment venues, sports clubs, local authorities, CCGs, health boards, housing providers, health and social care providers, schools or any organisation that uses volunteers.



To join the Tempo Time Credits network or to find out how Time Credits could work for your organisation, contact our friendly team.

#### **Get in touch**

**Call** 029 2056 6132 **Email** hello@wearetempo.org **Visit** www.wearetempo.org/time

# THE BENEFITS OF TIME CREDITS

Time Credits provide an affordable way to increase capacity and grow, helping you to achieve more and meet your goals.







### Attract and retain volunteers

- Recruit more diverse volunteers and attract different skill sets.
   Help recruit for specialist roles (e.g. youth ambassadors)
- Attract volunteers for unsociable hours, or for one-off seasonal events / projects
- Retain volunteers for longer recognise and reward the value of people's time, building confidence and self-worth

### Drive engagement in services

- Time Credits can help you engage with key target audiences to meet specific goals (e.g. reducing loneliness, increasing participation of vulnerable adult groups or encouraging community skill sharing)
- Use Time Credits to upskill certain groups of beneficiaries or service users (e.g. using volunteering as a step towards employment)
- Offer more services and activities to the community (e.g. extended opening hours at a museum or support service users to start a new peer support group)

### Maximise community participation

- Encourage greater engagement of service users by creating new opportunities to participate in service design and co-production (e.g. joining a service user forum, helping to create promotional materials or becoming community champions)
- Attract volunteers with specific skills to support service users or offer more services (e.g. IT or translation skills, CV writing)

**Time Credits make volunteers feel more valued** 



# PROVEN IMPACT

The benefits of Time Credits for organisations are measured and proven. Organisations using Time Credits report a range of positive impacts as a result of increased volunteering and participation, including:

- 49% were able to recruit more volunteers
- 58% were more able to retain volunteers
- 83% said their volunteers felt more valued
- 53% were able to provide more opportunities for people to volunteer
- 70% promoted what they do to more people
- 73% increased opportunities for service user involvement in design and delivery of services
- 70% reported improved health and wellbeing of their beneficiaries
- 72% saved the organisation money
- 43% were able to reach more people who need their services
- 55% of people never or rarely gave time before earning Time Credits

### **EXTRA BENEFITS**

- Join a rapidly growing national network
- Online training and helpdesk support
- Advice and guidance on how to use Time Credits effectively and funding applications
- Access to our national network of activities for your volunteers to spend Time Credits
- Promote your Time Credits earning and spending opportunities on timecredits.com
- Time Credits newsletters and social media updates for your volunteers
- Access Tempo evaluation data to demonstrate impact
- Ongoing support from Time Credits experts to ensure you get maximum impact from your investment

Any questions? Take a look at www.wearetempo.org/FAQ

#### **Contact us**

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# CASE STUDY ENGAGING SERVICE USERS

**Cosgarne Hall** offers accommodation and support for homeless people in Cornwall. Time Credits were introduced as a tool to encourage residents to engage with the service and the wider community, as well as to say thank you to volunteers.

So far, 40 residents have given over 400 hours to the service or through volunteering with community projects. Residents' confidence and self-esteem has grown and residents have tried many new things thanks to Time Credits.

#### The impact

- Increased volunteering: Residents at the scheme are giving more time, as well as helping others around the accommodation.
- Better community connections: Residents have earned Time Credits at community events such as litter picks and beach clean-ups, making them feel more connected to the community.
- More community activities: Residents have pooled their Time
   Credits for extra group activities including trips to local attractions.
- Improved independence: Residents have spent Time Credits on activities such as swimming, going to the gym and cinema visits, helping to improve their mental health and giving them a sense of purpose and belonging.

### **OUR NATIONAL NETWORK**

Spend partners are a fundamental part of the Time Credits model – they provide the exciting opportunities and activities that inspire people to get involved in community action, many of them for the first time.



partner organisations in our networks



people have earned Time Credits to date



Time Credits earned across England and Wales

Our spend network is constantly growing and currently includes worldclass attractions such as the Tower of London, Lord's Cricket, Barbican Centre, Wales Millennium Centre, National Botanic Gardens of Wales, The Royal Mint and many National Trust properties. We also partner with many leisure and arts facilities across England and Wales, to offer volunteers activities on their doorsteps.



# HOW TO USE TIME CREDITS

You can offer Time Credits to valued volunteers or service users, in exchange for them giving their time. They can then spend their Time Credits on activities with our local and national partners.



### You can set up Time Credits for your organisation in the way that meets your needs:

- Capping to 5 Time Credits per week
   Useful if you have a lot of volunteers or time given, or if they won't realistically spend Time Credits for each hour they give.
- Capping to 1 Time Credit per session
   Incentivise people to come back to additional sessions, or to ensure everyone earns Time
   Credits equally, regardless of time given. This is also a great way to turbo-charge a specific objective such as getting people active.
- 1 hour = 1 Time Credit
   For specific projects, community engagement or co-design / consultation. If people can't give a whole hour at a time, smaller blocks of time can add up to an hour.
- Time Credits offered for specific roles
   A great way to attract people with certain skills, from diverse backgrounds or for specific opportunities.
- Time Credits used as a one-off
   For example, to hand out at a celebration event or as a thank you.

Not sure if these options are right for your organisation? We can help you find a set-up that works for you

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# CASE STUDY BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY

Flintshire DO-IT are a community interest company working to create stronger, more inclusive communities. "We use an asset-based approach to bring people together, tell us about their strengths and passions and mobilise new groups to co-create new activities", says co-founder Mark John-Williams.

Flintshire DO-IT are using Time Credits to support the financial inclusion of people living below the poverty line and to encourage greater inclusion for people with disabilities: "We're using Time Credits because it's a great way of

valuing what our members do", says Mark. "We're hoping that Time Credits will help us recruit more DO-IT volunteers because of the added benefits. So far, Time Credits are supporting our project-based approach because we are able to use them to mobilise people around a project or idea". Eventually, DO-IT are hoping to integrate Time Credits into their membership offer, so that all members of DO-IT are automatically enrolled as Time Credits members. This would help further connect members with their communities and encourage

people to make full use of the opportunities available through earning and spending Time Credits.

Time Credits are also supporting DO-IT to get different people involved. Mark adds, "This is helping to change the demographic of people involved in designing and delivering services. In turn, people are making new connections and building strong relationships that contribute to a sense of togetherness and greater wellbeing".

#### Give time to those who give theirs

Time Credits provide dual benefits for your volunteers and service users. Both earning and spending Time Credits help to improve their health and wellbeing. They also enable you to reach people who don't normally volunteer, making a positive difference to their lives as they become more active members of their community.



report improved quality of life



never or rarely gave time before earning Time Credits



feel more able to contribute to the community and other people



can afford to do more things



have developed new friends and acquaintances



shared their skills with others



feel less isolated and lonely



report improved



established a new community group or project



know more about community based services and support available to them



feel more confident



feel more positive about their future

# JOIN OUR GROWING NETWORK

You can join the Tempo network and start using Time Credits in your organisation from as little as £400. Choose from 250, 500, 1000, 1500 Time Credits, or any combination of these amounts.

Getting involved is easy – our team can talk you through the whole process – from deciding which set-up is right for you and figuring out how many Time Credits you need, through to making sure you have the right reporting tools in place, so that you can demonstrate your return on investment.

