APTG Volunteer

Role Description

Title:	A Place To Grow Volunteer
Purpose:	To support vulnerable people enabling them to participate in organic gardening
Reporting to:	John Beckett (APTG Co-ordinator)
Location:	A Place To Grow, Mill Lane, Enderby, LE19 9LX

Tasks

To support and encourage vulnerable people on a 1:1 basis or in a group setting in a variety of organic gardening activities which may include:

- Planning and preparing areas ready for cultivation of fruit, vegetables and herbs
- General upkeep of site and care and maintenance of plants
- Cleaning and maintenance of tools and equipment, ensuring health and safety measures are adhered to
- Assist in the setting up and tidying away of equipment before and after sessions
- Listen and communicate with service users
- Ensure that service users are treated with respect and dignity and confidentiality is observed at all times
- Monitor and report progress and any concerns about service users to the APTG Co-ordinator or a designated safeguarding officer (DSO) at Blaby District Council
- Inform the APTG Co-ordinator when unable to volunteer
- Assist with project evaluation by completing evaluation forms occasionally from a volunteer's perspective

Support and Supervision

- Should any issues arise it is advised that volunteers approach the APTG Co-ordinator or failing this, contact Health & Leisure Services at Blaby District Council

Qualifications, Skills and Experience

- No formal qualifications are necessary for this role, although a desire to work with people experiencing mental health difficulties is essential and some knowledge of mental health needs would be advantageous, as well as enthusiasm about organic gardening
- Good communication skills and understand the need to maintain safe working boundaries with service users
- It is also essential that volunteers understand the need for service user confidentiality and having some knowledge of safeguarding vulnerable adults would be advantageous
- Volunteers must also be able to work independently