

## “Please, budget for volunteer expenses”

An article by Rob Jackson, UK. 3 October 2023

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“Many UK organisations are currently involved in planning and budgeting for 2024. As they look forward to the year ahead, I seriously hope they are budgeting for volunteer expenses.

Earlier this year, NCVO’s Time Well Spent study found that:

- 14% of those who haven’t volunteered through a group, club, or organisation in the past 12 months are worried about out-of-pocket expenses (up from 9% in 2018). This figure was higher among 18-24-year-olds (20%).<sup>[1]</sup>
- Only 55% of volunteers say their volunteer group, club, or organisation would reimburse their expenses if they wanted them to. 16% don’t know if they would.

And from a more recent report by Human Appeal:

- 33% of all volunteers stated that they volunteer less frequently as a direct result of the Cost Of Living crisis.<sup>[2]</sup>
- Just 8% of all UK volunteers had their expenses reimbursed by the organisation they volunteered with.

Organisations frequently complain of a shortage of volunteers. One source reported that almost 60% of charities say volunteer recruitment over the past year has been difficult.

With demand for services rising, and the need for volunteers growing, it is now a financial necessity to budget for and reimburse volunteer expenses.”

*Interested in hearing more from Rob Jackson? [Follow him on 'LinkedIn' here!](#)*