



**Pathway to resettlement:** Guided mentorship program

## Why join the scheme?



Volunteering with the **Pathway to Resettlement** scheme is a chance to make a real difference in someone's life. By offering guidance, support, and friendship, you help newly released Muslim prisoners reintegrate into society with dignity. Your time and kindness can inspire hope, rebuild confidence, and create a stronger, more compassionate community for all.

This is an opportunity that enhances your skills in mentorship, communication, and conflict resolution - valuable for any career. You'll gain hands-on experience in rehabilitation and social support while expanding your network and demonstrating leadership. This role strengthens your CV, showcasing empathy, adaptability, and a commitment to positive social change.

[Sign up here](#)

## Using your **paid** volunteering days



There is a set number of paid volunteering days for many Civil Servants. Whilst the scheme is open to everyone, it's especially convenient for government staff, allowing you to support newly released Muslim prisoners while staying within your allocated work benefits. To make the most of this opportunity, it's important to get agreement from your line manager and department. You can do this by explaining how volunteering develops key skills like communication, mentoring, and problem-solving - all valuable in the workplace.

Highlight how the experience aligns with Civil Service values, such as inclusivity and social responsibility. Consider discussing your plans in a one-to-one meeting with your manager, outlining how the scheme works and how you'll manage your workload. You could also submit a formal request through internal volunteering policies or HR channels. By securing department approval, you can make a meaningful impact while gaining experience that benefits both your personal growth and professional development.

[Sign up here take part in supporting the ummah](#)

## **Simple** six-step process

1. Fill out [this form](#) to express interest and wait for to be welcomed from the MCA team
2. Get approval to use your volunteer days or you can do this outside of work too
3. Send your details to the MCA to get trained up in online
4. Visit a prisoner 2-3 times over a period of 4 months with full support from the Chaplaincy

5. Establish contact upon their release
6. Support the brother or sister establishing themselves into society. This may involve talking, helping with CV, interviews and words of encouragement – up to 1 hour per week, online or in person for up to 12 months.

## About MCA?

MCA stands for **Muslim Chaplaincy Association**, a registered Muslim charity run by a board of experts in the field of prisoner rehabilitation.

MCA Provide care and support to our Muslim brothers and sisters who have been in custody. All praise to Allah, a large number of Muslim chaplains who work in prisons are part of the MCA. During the year 2002 a few concerned Muslim Chaplains came together, to discuss how they could support the fast growing number of Muslim prisoner population and reduce the high number of re-offending rates. This heralded the birth of 'Muslim Chaplains' Association' (MCA). With the grace of our Creator, support of chaplaincy headquarters staff, HMPPS management board and wider community organisations, years later MCA has a strong network of supporters and well wishers, within HMPPS and the wider community.

## Key priorities

### Resettlement work in the Community

Crime in the Muslim community is at a far higher proportion than it should be and Muslims are disproportionately represented in Prisons. This is something that most of the wider community is unaware of hence, there is very little being done to tackle this.' MCA are planning to create an awareness within communities and encourage local and national organisations to work towards reducing this figure.

### Pastoral Care & Development of Muslim Chaplains

Providing pastoral support for our colleagues is a key aim of the organisation we also endeavour to support and sign post fellow colleagues in progressing their skills and converting ambitions into realities

### Increased provision for Muslim Women in Custody

Female prisons have a large number of women suffering emotional issues. Our members believe that through our 'Partnership Scheme' this is an area where we, the community need to stand hand in hand in their support. It is high time we made a difference by helping the most vulnerable.

## Useful articles

### **Wellbeing:**

[Prayers in Islam: Duty, Wellbeing, and Science](#)

[15-Minute Home Blast: Get fit fast!](#)

[Healthy Eating in Islam: Faith, Body, and Mind](#)

[Islamic Voluntary Fasting: Focus and Tranquillity](#)

[Confidence, Expressiveness, and Authenticity in Islam](#)

[Finding Your Compass: Marriage Matters](#)

### **Practical tips:**

[Leading Friday prayers at work](#)

### **Other volunteering opportunities:**

[Muslim volunteering programme with Simply Guided](#)