



The Weymouth and Portland 2012 Operations Team opens second recruitment phase
The Weymouth and Portland Ambassador Programme
“Be the welcoming smile in 2012”

500 Ambassadors have been appointed to join the team following the successful first phase of recruitment last year. To grow the team to its operational strength of 800 Ambassadors, the second phase of recruitment has now started. This is the last chance for enthusiastic individuals to become part of the official local team for the greatest sporting event on earth. You can apply now by visiting www.dorsetforyou.com/london2012/wpa

Seb Coe, Chair of the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games, said: *“We're delighted to support the Weymouth and Portland Ambassador Programme, which is a great opportunity for local people, who are passionate about Weymouth and Portland, to get involved during Games time.”*

Weymouth and Portland Ambassadors will greet, steward, answer questions, give advice and be the welcoming smile to people visiting Weymouth and Portland during Games time this year. The Olympic and Paralympic period for the Weymouth and Portland Ambassador Programme will run from 26 July – 9 September 2012; a total of 46 days. Volunteers will be asked to give up to 60 hours of commitment over the Olympic and Paralympic period which will be divided into 10 shifts lasting 6 hours.

Weymouth and Portland Borough Council 2012 Brief holder, Councillor Howard Legg, said: *“Our volunteers will be on hand to guide visitors, provide information and answer any queries that are put to them. This will be a demanding task which they will achieve with full training to supplement their enthusiasm and eagerness to want to help.”*

Sarah Kennedy, leading on the Weymouth and Portland Ambassador Programme, added: *“Our Ambassadors will wear officially branded uniforms, be provided with a bus travel card, meal and refreshments during their volunteer shift and will be acknowledged for their valuable commitment.”*

The Weymouth and Portland Ambassador Programme has been awarded the prestigious Inspire Mark by the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games (LOCOG). The Weymouth and Portland Ambassador Programme is an all inclusive programme that promotes equality and diversity. The only criteria set is that Ambassadors are:

1. Enthusiastic about the Olympic and Paralympic Games and their values.
2. Committed to the Weymouth and Portland Ambassador Programme.
3. Passionate about Weymouth and Portland.
4. 16 years old by 1 May 2012.

To apply to become a Weymouth and Portland Ambassador visit the online application form at www.dorsetforyou.com/london2012/wpa. Applicants, who meet the criteria will be notified by 16 March 2012 and then asked to attend an interview. WPA interviews will take place from 20-22 March 2012 in Weymouth. Successful applicants will be notified soon afterwards.

As London 2012 makes its pledge of being the ‘greenest Games’ to date we are trying to encourage all applicants to apply online – all that is needed is a valid email address. If people need help with their online application form or want to access the internet free of charge then they can contact their [local library](#), the

[Volunteer Centre Dorset](#), [Weymouth Community Volunteers](#), [Island Community Action](#) or [Weymouth College](#) who are all offering free internet access and application form help and support.

If applicants do require a paper application form then they can pick one up at their [local library](#), complete it and drop it back into their library; which will then send it on their behalf, free of charge.

If applicants need the application form in any other format such as braille, audio or easy read please ring 01305 224320 for assistance and quote WPA.

The Weymouth and Portland Ambassador Programme Phase 2 launches today –
“Be Inspired, Be Part of It!”

NOTES TO EDITORS

For more information contact Sarah Kennedy – sarahkennedy@weymouth.gov.uk – 01305 838158 / 07896931386

Led by the Weymouth and Portland 2012 Operations Team; the Weymouth and Portland Ambassador Programme is the only officially recognised volunteer programme, in Weymouth and Portland, outside of the London 2012 Games Maker programme.

The Weymouth and Portland Ambassador Programme is the result of researching other authorities' plans, looking at existing successful models, working with the Government Olympic Executive (GOE), LOCOG, the Volunteer Centre Dorset, Weymouth Community Volunteers, Weymouth College and other key stakeholders and partners.

Have a question about the Weymouth and Portland Ambassador programme? Why not visit our frequently asked questions page on www.dorsetforyou.com/401070