

What is a McKenzie Friend?

This is a non-legal member of the public who assists an appellant when they have no legal representative, at a time that is often bewildering and full of anxiety.

A McKenzie Friend is a volunteer, independent of the court system and the Home Office.

Bradford McKenzie Friends is a voluntary group based in Bradford and affiliated to BEACON (Bradford Ecumenical Asylum Concern).



What is a McKenzie Friend able to do?

- ▶ Provide moral support throughout the appeal procedure.
- ▶ Provide informed (non-legal) help.
- ▶ Work with the appellant in preparing their case and assisting them with research.
- ▶ Accompany the appellant to the courts, take notes, act as a witness to the proceedings, organise papers and/or quietly give advice.

We are a small group of volunteers and it will not be possible for us to support everyone.



What is a McKenzie Friend not able to do?

- ▶ Cannot give legal advice. She/he is an advocate and cannot act as a legal representative. Appellants are advocates for their own cases.
- ▶ Does not have the right to speak in the courts, unless given permission by the appellant and the judge.
- ▶ Cannot provide funds for food, accommodation or expenses.
- ▶ Cannot offer ongoing moral support.

Involvement is limited to the duration of appeal procedures.



Are you interested in becoming a
McKENZIE FRIEND?

Contact the BEACON
Coordinator to request a
volunteering application form:

01274 727525 / 721626

Or

beacon@beaconbradford.org

We recruit volunteers throughout
the year.

New volunteers are encouraged
to attend hearings at the Bradford
Immigration Court at Thornbury
before training.

Get in touch for further info.



IF YOU THINK THAT WE CAN
HELP YOU, CONTACT US **AS**
SOON AS YOU RECEIVE THE
DATES OF YOUR COURT
HEARINGS:

01274 727525 / 721626

or

07531 576330

or

beacon@beaconbradford.org

For more information about
BEACON and any of our other
projects, please get in touch.

**32 Merton Road
Bradford, BD7 1RE**

 @BEACON_Bradford

 BEACON Bradford



***McKenzie
Friends***

Are you an asylum seeker
facing an appeal in court
against your decision or
wanting to submit a fresh claim
and unable to find a solicitor?

McKenzie Friends may be
able to help you

