



COLLABORATING WITH LOCAL AGE UK CHARITY

BACKGROUND

Age UK Bromsgrove, Redditch & Wyre Forest (Age UK BRWF) is a local charity supporting the over 50s. Formed in 2016 (following the merger of Age UK Bromsgrove & District, Age UK Redditch & District and Age UK Wyre Forest) Age UK BRWF's aim as a local charity is to make North Worcestershire a better place for people to grow older, by delivering a range of local support and services, promoting independence and wellbeing. Self-funding, the charity runs several shops (which are also important 'hubs' of the communities they support) in addition to an online sales & distribution operation. Although an independent charity, Age UK BRWF is a member of the Age UK network, led by the national Age UK organisation, the UK's leading charity for older people.

WHAT WAS NEEDED AND THE SOLUTION

Kate Ware, Office Manager of Age UK, Bromsgrove, Redditch and Wyre Forest states, "We were looking for support from a local organisation to review our current health and safety documentation and ensure that the whole organisation was up-to-date with current legislation. We are a charity and mindful of costings but keeping our clients, employees, and volunteers safe is vital to us. We carried out extensive research into health and safety consultants. Sentinel Safety Solutions had been recommended to us and when they visited us, we felt that they had our best interests at heart."

Sentinel Safety Solutions carried out Fire Risk Assessments, General Risk Assessments and Manual Handling Assessments at Age UK BRWF's head office, its charity shops, its 'Men in Sheds' project www.ageuk.org.uk/brwf/activities-and-events/men-in-sheds/, its retail commercial unit and its activity centres.



THE RESULT

Kate adds, "It was great to have a fresh pair of eyes on this project, particularly with a company that has a lot of experience working with charities so know the issues we face. Sentinel Safety Solution's team were always professional and helpful ensuring that we had all the help and support we needed. We feel safe in the knowledge that we are completely supported from a health and safety perspective. As we retain them as our 'competent persons' we know that for any queries or issues we will have help and support, which is complete peace of mind and allows us to concentrate on running the organisation."

Himmat Rai, Director, Sentinel Safety Solutions adds, "We have had a lot of experience assisting charities over the last 20 years and this helps us to tailor our approach specifically for charitable organisations. We know how important health and safety is, so we always offer practical, cost-effective solutions to help ensure that they meet legal requirements. It is great to be able to support a local charity too and we are pleased to say we are now also working with Age UK, Worcester and Malvern Hills."

For further information on AGE UK BRWF please visit – <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/brwf/>