

## MINISTRY OF WELFARE FAQ'S

What is welfare?

Giving help to people in a massive variety of ways, we have a big section on this on our website; please have a read of this if you don't know if welfare is for you.

What Festivals do you do?

In 2011 we are hoping to attend; Leeds Summer Ball, Download, Isle of Wight, Lovebox, High Voltage, Sonisphere, Global Gathering, Leeds Festival, Leeds Asian Festival and Leeds Caribbean Festival.

How old do you have to be to work for MOW?

You must be 18 or over. ID will be asked for at you first event.

I've never done anything like this before; will I be OK?

If you have a caring side to you, a willingness to learn, get on within a team and like going to festivals you'll be fine. We have a massive diversity of people in MOW and you often learn skills you never thought you would. We always work in teams so there is always someone around to ask.

Will I get paid?

At all the events we have a variety of paid and volunteer roles; we try to allocate these fairly and everyone will know what role they have been allocated before the event. Paid roles are paid at £5.93 per hour.

Do I need any experience or qualifications?

No, full training will be given at the event. We have a huge diversity of people on the team and this is what helps to make the team strong. You do need to have a willingness to help others and to learn.

How much training will I have to do?

Each year we expect our crew to do about 3 hours training as a minimum. This is all done at your first event of the year. More training is done specific to the events but some of this is not compulsory.

How long will I have to work?

We generally run 6 or 8 hour shifts, on average at the large events you will be asked to work 24 hours and at the small events about 12 hours.

I have a criminal conviction, can I work for MOW?

In short, it depends on the crime and other factors. Because of the nature of the work you will be asked to do a CRB check. This will all be considered before offering you a position with MOW.

Can I work with my friends / partner?

Yes, we try and at least pair people up with someone they know but large groups of friends will probably get split up. If you are coming to a festival on your own it won't take you long to get to know people and make new friends.

Can I choose when I work?

Yes to a certain degree, we ask people before the event to state their preferences and we endeavour to make people happy. With very popular bands it may not be possible for everyone to get exactly what they want. Everyone will know what shifts they have been allocated before the event.

Will I get to see the bands?

You will get a staff wristband; this allows full access to the festival the same as a punter. You will definitely get to see some bands but you may not get your first choice, if demands for that particular night off, are high.

Do I get any perks with the staff wristband?

A few, generally getting around the festival is easier and you can often queue jump. You can get into staff areas which usually means nicer toilets and nicer showers. Occasionally you can get back stage or into VIP. We strictly forbid people from hassling bands and trying to get on stage, anyone caught gets their wristband removed.

Do you have a deposit scheme?

We are debating whether to bring this in for 2011. We may have to as last minute drop outs cause havoc when trying to organise shifts and cover. If we do it will be less than the ticket price probably around £100.

Do we have accommodation on site?

No, well not indoors anyway. All crew must bring their own tents and we camp in a secure area. This is usually in staff camping or behind the welfare tent.

Will we get food?

At some events we get meal tickets, others you have to bring your own food. This will be made clear on the brief. When we do get meal tickets it is usually only one a day.

Do I get travel expenses?

At some events you do others not, it depends on budgets. You will be told if there is travel expenses and how much on the briefing sheet well before the event.

Are festival toilets as bad a people say?

Yes they are, generally but not always we have access to better toilets but they are still grim at times. You learn to hold your breath!

I worked for you last year, do I need to re-apply?

No, we will still have you on record. If you have forgotten the password or contact details. Please fill in a contact form, off the website.