

## How you can help us

Unlock is the only charity dedicated to supporting law-abiding people with convictions. We do not deliver government-contracted services. Our clients and beneficiaries are often unemployed and in poverty. Every year a quarter of a million people use our services. For a small organisation Unlock makes a big difference.

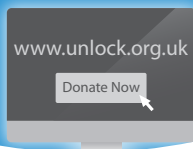
By being independent, we respond to the needs of our clients, but we can't do this without support - we rely on charitable grants and donations from individuals, so please consider making a donation.

**No matter how small,  
all donations are very important to us!**



### Mobile

Text **UNLK25** with the amount you wish to donate (e.g. £10) to 70070



### Online

Visit **unlock.org.uk** and click **'Donate now'**



### Cheque

Send a cheque, payable to 'Unlock', to Unlock, MCSC, 39-48 Marsham Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1HH

### Interested in supporting us in other ways?

If you would like to give regularly, you can become a Friend of Unlock for as little as £2 per month. For more details on this, or to find out about other ways you can help us, call **01622 230705**, email **admin@unlock.org.uk** or visit **unlock.org.uk/helpus**

## The difference your money makes

# £10

A donation of £10 helps us cover the travel expenses for one of our fantastic peer-volunteers

# £50

A donation of £50 pays for 25 people to use the Disclosure Calculator free

# £250

A donation of £250 allows us to help 22 people directly through our helpline



## Who we are

Unlock is an independent, award-winning charity for people with convictions which exists for two simple reasons.

Firstly, we assist people to move on positively with their lives by empowering them with information, advice and support to overcome the stigma of their previous convictions.

Secondly, we seek to promote a fairer and more inclusive society by challenging discriminatory practices and promoting socially just alternatives.

## Issues we cover

We focus on helping people to overcome the long-term effects of a criminal record. Some of the issues we cover include:

- Understanding the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act
- Applying to colleges and universities
- The way the Disclosure and Barring Service works
- Disclosing to landlords, letting agents and housing providers
- What's revealed on criminal record checks
- Buying insurance
- Disclosing to employers
- Travelling abroad

Sign up to receive free email updates  
- visit **unlock.org.uk/maillinglist**

**unlock.org.uk** Charity No 1079046



## Worried about your criminal record?

### theInformationHub

self help information on a wide range of issues that criminal convictions can affect

[hub.unlock.org.uk](http://hub.unlock.org.uk)

### theCalculator

helping to work out when convictions become spent under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act

[disclosurecalculator.org.uk](http://disclosurecalculator.org.uk)

### theForum

an online community for law-abiding people with convictions

[forum.unlock.org.uk](http://forum.unlock.org.uk)

### theRecord

the online magazine for law-abiding people with convictions

[the-record.org.uk](http://the-record.org.uk)

### theHelpline

confidential peer advice on overcoming the effects of criminal convictions

[unlock.org.uk/support](http://unlock.org.uk/support)

For further information:

Visit: [unlock.org.uk/support](http://unlock.org.uk/support)

Call: **01634 247350**

Email: [advice@unlock.org.uk](mailto:advice@unlock.org.uk)

## Supporting someone who has a criminal record?

### Criminal record disclosure training

We deliver a range of workshops and courses to equip probation officers, careers advisors and employment support workers with expert, accurate and up-to-date knowledge and skills on the disclosure of criminal records. These cover areas including the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act, criminal record checks and disclosure (if, how and when). Places on specific courses can be booked online or, for groups, we can run sessions in-house.

Find out more at [unlock.org.uk/training](http://unlock.org.uk/training)

Our information hub, disclosure calculator and email updates also help support workers when advising clients that have a criminal record.

More information can be found at [unlock.org.uk/helpingpeople](http://unlock.org.uk/helpingpeople)

## Employing people with criminal records?

### Recruit!

supporting the fair treatment of people with criminal records

*Recruit!* is a website from Unlock dedicated to supporting employers in recruiting people with convictions and dealing with criminal records fairly. The site:

- 1 - Promotes good recruitment practice (such as Ban the Box)
- 2 - Provides free, accurate and reliable guidance and resources for employers, and
- 3 - Shares news, updates and examples of good practice.

Visit [recruit.unlock.org.uk](http://recruit.unlock.org.uk) for more information.

### Advice and support

We work closely with larger employers that are looking to develop fairer and more inclusive 'whole organisation' policies and practices. We support employers in dealing with questions such as asking about criminal records, how to decide whether to employ somebody with a criminal record, how to ensure that suitable applicants are not discouraged from applying for jobs and what legal issues employers should be aware of.

Our advice and support is charitably funded, so it's at no cost to the employers.

Visit [unlock.org.uk/employers](http://unlock.org.uk/employers) for more information.

## Ear to the ground, voice at the top!

We listen and engage every day with people who face difficulties as a result of their convictions. We have an impressive track record of identifying issues, finding solutions and putting them into practice.

We influence policy and create systemic change, continually punching above our weight to achieve large-scale outcomes including with employers, service providers, advice agencies and government. We do this in a range of ways, including:

- Running targeting programmes of work, such as fair access to employment
- Collecting evidence and focusing on key priority issues
- Undertaking research and getting involved in strategic litigation

Key successes include establishing a national prisoner bank account opening scheme operating in over 100 prisons, and achieving much-needed reform to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

Visit [unlock.org.uk/policy](http://unlock.org.uk/policy) for more information about our latest policy and campaign work

