

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?

- A McKenzie Friend cannot give legal advice. She/he is not an advocate and cannot act as a legal representative. Appellants are advocates for their own cases.
- A McKenzie Friend does not have the right to speak in the courts, unless given permission by the appellant and the judge.
- A McKenzie Friend cannot provide funds for food, accommodation or expenses.
- A McKenzie Friend cannot offer ongoing moral support. Involvement is limited to the duration of appeal procedures.

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN
BECOMING A McKENZIE
FRIEND?**

**Contact :
BEACON:**

**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.

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

**BEACON
01274 727525/721626
or 07531 576330**



McKenzie Friends in Bradford

**Are you an asylum seeker
facing an appeal in court
against a decision to refuse
you asylum and unable to
find a solicitor?**

**McKenzie Friends may be
able to help you**