



Chair of Trustees Recruitment

May 2026



Welcome

the
lullaby
trust

Since 1971, The Lullaby Trust has played a pivotal role in saving babies' lives and supporting bereaved families through trusted advice, research and evidence-based public health action. In recent years, the charity has significantly broadened its reach and remit, expanding our prevention and bereavement support to families affected by all sudden and unexpected infant deaths, and extending our work into Scotland following the transfer of activity from the former Scottish Cot Death Trust. These developments reflect our ambition to reach more families, address inequality, and maximise our impact across the UK.

This is a pivotal moment to join The Lullaby Trust as Chair of the Board of Trustees. Having strengthened our governance arrangements and committee structure, the next phase of our journey will focus on developing a new organisational strategy to support planned growth. Working in close partnership with the Chief Executive, the incoming Chair will provide inclusive, values-led leadership to a skilled and committed Board, ensuring effective oversight, constructive challenge and long-term sustainability.

We welcome applications from people who share our commitment to saving babies' lives and supporting families, and who bring the leadership experience to help us navigate this next chapter.

Dr Stephanie Henderson Begg
Outgoing Chair of Trustees





Who we are

The Lullaby Trust is a charity that exists to keep babies safe and keep grieving families supported. We give families a safer start to life, and create a supportive space for anyone whose baby or infant has died suddenly or unexpectedly. We do this by:

- Empowering parents, carers and professionals with trusted advice on baby safety including safer sleep and infection prevention.
- Funding research into sudden and unexpected death of babies and young children, to save lives.
- Offering anyone affected by the sudden or unexpected death of a baby or young child a supportive space to grieve, with bereavement support.

Ten babies die suddenly and unexpectedly each week in England and Wales. We won't stop until that number is zero. Our mission is to stop babies dying unexpectedly from sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), accident or illness.

Each year, we train thousands of health professionals to support parents in sleeping their baby safely.

We support around 1,000 families with our bereavement support. We reach millions of families with our baby safety advice, and answer thousands of safer sleep questions from parents and carers. We campaign tirelessly to save lives.



About the role

The Chair of Trustees will hold the Board and Senior Management Team to account for The Lullaby Trust's mission and vision, providing inclusive leadership to the Board of Trustees, ensuring that each trustee fulfils their duties and responsibilities for the effective governance of the charity.

The Chair will also support, and, where appropriate, challenge the Chief Executive and ensure that the Board functions as a unit and works closely with the entire executive team of the charity to achieve agreed objectives. They will act as an ambassador and the public face of the charity in partnership with the Chief Executive.

This is a rare opportunity to steward a deeply respected charity through an exciting and carefully planned period of development, and to help shape its impact for years to come.

The role



Post:
Chair of Trustees

Location:
London/hybrid

Salary:
The role of Chair of Trustees is not remunerated, but travel expenses may be claimed

Hours:
Up to 12 per month

Responsible to:
Board of Trustees

Principal responsibilities

Governance

- Ensure that the governance arrangements are working in the most effective way for the Charity; will oversee the review of governance, performance and skills as required
- Support development of the knowledge and capability of the Board of Trustees
- Appraise the performance of the Trustees and the Board
- Work within any agreed policies

Strategic leadership

- Provide leadership to The Lullaby Trust and its Board, ensuring maximum impact for the charity's beneficiaries
- Ensure that Trustees fulfil their duties and responsibilities for effective governance
- Ensure that the Board operates within its charitable objectives, and provides a clear strategic direction
- Ensure that the Board is able to regularly review major risks and associated opportunities,
- Ensure that the Board fulfils its duties to ensure sound financial health of the charity, with systems in place to ensure financial accountability

External Relations

- Act as an ambassador for The Lullaby Trust and its cause, where needed
- Maintain close relationships with key stakeholders
- Act as a spokesperson for The Lullaby Trust when appropriate

Relationship with the Chief Executive and the wider senior management team

- Establish and build a strong, effective and a constructive working relationship with the Chief Executive, ensuring that they are held to account for achieving agreed strategic objectives
- Liaise with the Chief Executive to maintain an overview of the Charity's affairs, providing support as necessary
- Conduct an annual appraisal and remuneration review for the Chief Executive in consultation with other Trustees

Who we are looking for



In addition to the qualities required of a Trustee of the charity, the Chair must also meet the following requirements:-

Personal Qualities

- An understanding of public health issues and the need for bereaved families to be offered high quality support
- Demonstrate a strong and visible passion and commitment to the Lullaby Trust, its vision, values and strategic objectives
- Exhibit strong inter-personal and relationship building abilities
- A commitment to partnership working and the ability to identify and develop close working ties with other organisations
- Demonstrate tact and diplomacy, with the ability to listen and engage effectively
- Strong networking capabilities that can be utilised for the benefit of the charity
- Ability to foster and promote a collaborative team environment
- Ability to commit time to conduct the role well, including travel and attending events out of office hours

Experience

- Experience of operating at a senior strategic leadership level
- Successful track record of achievement through their career
- Experience of charity governance and working with or as part of a Board of Trustees is desirable
- Experience of external representation, delivering presentations and managing stakeholders
- Significant experience of chairing meetings, committees and events

Knowledge and skills

- Broad knowledge and understanding of the Civil Society sector and current issues affecting it
- Strong leadership skills, ability to motivate staff and volunteers and bring people together
- A broad understanding of charity finance issues
- Good understanding of charity governance issues
- Good understanding and/or experience of opportunities and challenges in embracing new technologies and platforms in support and delivery of the functions and services of Refuge

We are keen to continue strengthening the diversity of perspectives around our Board and warmly encourage applications from candidates whose skills, experience or lived perspective would enhance our leadership.

To apply

To apply please email your CV with a covering letter telling us a bit about yourself and explaining what you can bring to the role of Chair to office@lullabytrust.org.uk.

Applications will then be shortlisted by a sub-group of the Board of Trustees working with our Senior Leadership Team, and we will have calls with those applicants who are shortlisted.

