

Candidate pack

Clinical Trustee



Every day...

we're here for people affected by Motor Neurone Disease (MND).

A diagnosis of MND brings home the preciousness of every day. So we do all we can to make every day count. We bring understanding and guidance. We deliver practical and financial support. We raise awareness and campaign for better care. We're not just here for now – as the UK's leading charity funder of MND research, we're striving for breakthroughs to develop new treatments and, ultimately, a cure.

MND moves fast. It takes away time, it takes away independence and it has no cure. Every piece of support, every research project, every pound raised, every kind word, and every day lived well...

matters.

Hello

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Clinical Trustee of the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

This is a distinctive opportunity to help shape the strategic direction of the UK's leading MND charity at a time of significant progress and opportunity for the MND community. Advances in science, growing public awareness and increasing collaboration across research, healthcare and policy are creating new opportunities to improve lives today and accelerate progress towards effective treatments for tomorrow.

We are seeking a respected senior clinical leader who can bring credible insight, independent judgement and constructive challenge to our Board. As a Clinical Trustee, you will contribute to important decisions that shape how the Association responds to emerging opportunities, navigates complex challenges and remains focused on delivering meaningful impact for people living with and affected by MND.

This is not an operational role, but it is an influential one. You will join a committed and collaborative Board, working alongside Trustees, volunteers and executive leaders who share a determination to improve outcomes for everyone affected by MND. Together, we have an opportunity to build on the significant progress made in recent years and help shape the next chapter of our work. MND Association is the largest funder of MND research and aim to spend £20 million per year by 2030.

We hope this pack gives you a sense of both the responsibility and the opportunity this role offers. We would be delighted to hear from candidates who share our ambition for a world free from MND and who want to play a part in shaping that future.

Yours sincerely,

Anna Walker
Chair, Board of Trustee

About MND and the MND Association

Motor neurone disease is a fatal, rapidly progressing neurological condition that affects the nerves in the brain and spinal cord. It can affect how people move, speak, eat, drink and breathe. There is currently no cure, and the impact on individuals, families and carers is profound.

The Motor Neurone Disease Association is the leading charity in England, Wales and Northern Ireland dedicated to improving life for everyone affected by MND. We fund research, improve care, provide information and support, campaign for change and work with partners across health, social care, research and policy.

As a membership organisation with a strong volunteer network, we are rooted in the experience and voice of people affected by MND. Our vision is a world free from MND, and our work is shaped by the belief that people

with MND, their families and carers must remain at the heart of everything we do.

The Association is also one of the largest funders of MND research in the UK and a significant convenor of the MND research community, working to accelerate progress towards effective treatments while improving the quality, consistency and accessibility of care and support.





MND
Association

MND
Association

MND
Association
Change matters.
Thank you.

MND
Association

Today, six people will
be diagnosed with
Motor Neurone Disease.
Your donation matters.

Our values

Four values guide everything we do, and the way we do it. From how we behave day-to-day, to strategic decisions about our priorities, our values shape it all.

We're one strong team.



We work together as one MND Association – a community of people affected by MND, staff, volunteers and partners. We share a common vision and direction. We value diversity. We support each other. We are collaborative and work in partnership with external organisations and with professionals, scientists and others to further our impact.

We make every day count.



Time is precious. We make the most of it to help people with MND. We are proactive, responsive and efficient. We listen to what people need and support them in doing what's important. We deliver at pace, but take the time needed to do things thoroughly. Every day we create impact for people with MND.

We think big.



We are the UK's leading MND charity. People look to us for expertise and inspiration. We support new approaches, new treatments and new understanding. We are bold and ambitious – we think big and make ideas happen. We go beyond what's expected to find new and better ways of doing things. We help set standards, influence care and drive change to shape a better future for people with MND.

We are determined.



People affected by MND are at the heart of all we do. We work with determination and a drive to make a difference. We have compassion and treat people with dignity and kindness. Every interaction is a chance to show that people affected by MND are heard and valued.

Role Purpose

Why this role matters now

The MND community is entering a period of significant opportunity. Advances in scientific understanding, growing awareness of the disease and increasing collaboration across healthcare, research and policy are creating new possibilities to improve outcomes for people living with and affected by MND. At the same time, charities, healthcare systems and research organisations are navigating a rapidly evolving landscape, bringing both opportunities and complex strategic decisions.

The Association is playing a leading role in shaping that future. We are the largest charity funder of MND research in the UK and one of the largest worldwide, funding activity across the innovation pathway from discovery research through to healthcare studies. Earlier this year, we launched an ambitious new research strategy and are increasing our investment, with the ambition of spending £20 million a year on research by 2030. Alongside this, we continue to work with partners across health and social care to improve care, strengthen support and influence the systems that shape outcomes for people affected by MND.

We are seeking a Clinical Trustee who can help the Board navigate an increasingly complex clinical, research and healthcare landscape. The role will be particularly important in supporting the Board to understand emerging evidence, assess opportunities and risks, and keep the needs of people affected by MND at the centre of strategic decisions.

This is not an operational clinical role. It is an opportunity for a respected senior clinical leader to bring expertise, judgement and perspective to Board discussions, helping to shape the future direction of the Association and maximise its impact in delivering our strategic goals.

The successful candidate will join a committed and collaborative Board, working alongside Trustees with a range of professional and lived experience, the Chief Executive and the Executive Leadership Team. As part of the Board's collective leadership, they will contribute to strategic decisions that shape the future of the Association, ensuring it remains ambitious, evidence-informed and focused on what matters most to people affected by MND.

Main responsibilities

To contribute senior clinical expertise, independent judgement and strategic insight to the Board, helping the Association deliver its mission and safeguard the quality, credibility and impact of its work for people living with and affected by MND.

- Contribute to the Board's collective responsibility for the strategy, governance, performance and sustainability of the Association.
- Help ensure that the Association carries out its charitable purposes for the public benefit and remains focused on the needs of people affected by MND.
- Bring clinical and scientific insight to Board discussions, particularly where decisions involve care quality, service development, research, treatment innovation, ethics or risk.
- Support the Board to interpret complex evidence and understand its strategic implications.
- Provide constructive challenge and independent judgement while working collaboratively with fellow Trustees and the Executive Leadership Team.
- Contribute to oversight of risk, safeguarding, quality, reputation, financial stewardship and organisational impact.
- Participate in relevant Board committees, including the Care Services and Research Committee.
- Act as an ambassador for the Association and uphold its values, reputation and commitment to inclusion.

Clinical contribution

- Advise the Board on the evolving clinical, care and research landscape for MND.
- Help translate emerging science, clinical evidence and models of care into clear strategic considerations.
- Bring insight from specialist MND services, multidisciplinary care, healthcare improvement, research leadership or comparable fields.
- Support proportionate consideration of clinical, ethical, safety, quality and benefit considerations.
- Help the Association understand opportunities for partnership across clinical, academic, NHS, social care, policy, funding and lived-experience communities.

Essential criteria

- Significant clinical, academic or healthcare leadership experience, with substantial expertise in MND.
- A deep understanding of the MND landscape, including developments in research, care, support and service delivery.
- The ability to interpret complex clinical, scientific and service evidence and assess its implications for strategy, risk and organisational impact.
- A strong commitment to improving the lives and experiences of people living with and affected by MND.
- An appreciation of the importance of lived experience in shaping organisational priorities, services and decision-making.
- The ability to contribute effectively to Board discussions through strategic thinking, independent judgement and constructive challenge.
- The ability to communicate complex issues clearly and build understanding among colleagues with a range of professional and lived experience.
- Personal integrity, independence of thought and a commitment to the highest standards of governance.
- Commitment to equality, diversity, inclusion and the Association's values.
- Capacity to fulfil the expected time commitment and participate actively in Board and committee work.

We are particularly interested in candidates with experience of:

- Leadership within specialist MND services, MND centres or multidisciplinary MND care.
- Influencing MND research, care, service development or policy at a local, regional or national level.
- Improving the quality, consistency and accessibility of care for people affected by MND.
- Building productive partnerships across healthcare, academia, research, policy and the voluntary sector to improve outcomes for people affected by MND.
- Governance, advisory, committee or board level roles.

Additional information

Person specification

We are seeking a highly credible senior clinical leader with substantial expertise in motor neurone disease (MND). The successful candidate will bring strategic insight, sound judgement and a deep understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing people living with and affected by MND. You will be able to contribute confidently at Board level, combining clinical credibility with a commitment to collaboration, constructive challenge and collective leadership.

Term, time commitment and support

Trustees are expected to prepare for and attend Board meetings, participate in discussion and decision-making, and contribute to committee work. Board meetings are held four times a year, with an annual overnight Board Away Day. The Clinical Trustee is also expected to sit on the Care Services and Research Committee, which meets four times a year online.

Trustees are appointed on a voluntary unpaid basis. Reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out trustee duties are reimbursed in line with the Association's policies. The expected term should be confirmed as part of the appointment process.

Induction and development

All new Trustees receive an induction, including opportunities to meet the Chair, fellow Trustees, the Chief Executive and members of the Executive Leadership Team. Trustees are supported to understand the Association's governance, strategy, finances, risks, policies and ways of working.

Eligibility, inclusion and conflicts of interest

To be appointed as a Trustee, candidates must be eligible to act as a charity trustee and company director, be willing to become a member of the Association if required, complete relevant checks, and comply with the Association's Code of Conduct, confidentiality requirements and declaration of interests procedures.

The Association welcomes applications from the MND clinical and research community. We recognise that prospective candidates may have professional relationships, collaborations and affiliations within the MND field. Actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest will be managed transparently and robustly through the Association's governance processes. Trustees are expected to declare relevant interests and withdraw from discussions or decisions where appropriate, particularly in relation to grant-making, partnerships, commissioning or matters involving their own organisation.

We are committed to building a diverse and inclusive Board that reflects the communities we serve. We welcome applications from people of all backgrounds and particularly value diversity of thought, experience and perspective.

You can find further details of our commitment to [inclusion here](#)



Applying for a role

To apply, please submit the required supporting documents by the closing date. Your application should explain your interest in the role, how your experience meets the person specification, and what you would bring to the Board as Clinical Trustee.

If you would like an informal conversation before applying, please contact governance@mndassociation.org

Alternative application formats

We want the process to be accessible. If you would prefer to submit your expression of interest in an alternative format, such as audio or video, please contact governance@mndassociation.org.



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Every day we support people affected
by Motor Neurone Disease.
Because with MND, every day matters.