Opportunity to serve as a Trustee

Dalit Solidarity Network UK is looking for new Trustees

If you are passionate about promoting the human rights of Dalits and tackling caste-based discrimination in solidarity with Dalit communities, this role as a Trustee at Dalit Solidarity Network UK (DSN-UK) is for you. Trustees are unpaid and based in the UK.

About DSN-UK

Formed in 1998, Dalit Solidarity Network UK (DSN-UK) is a human rights organisation that brings together individuals and organisations concerned about the continued violation of human rights caused by caste-based discrimination in the UK and South Asia.

DSN-UK registered as a charity in 2004 (registered charity number 1107022) and continues to grow as an effective campaigning and advocacy organisation. We do this by amplifying the voices of people affected by caste-based discrimination to those with the power and influence to help end this discrimination and put right its effects.

We are fortunate to have the support of other human rights organisations that we work closely with, including the International Dalit Solidarity Network (IDSN), which highlights caste discrimination on the global stage. Find out more about our work at www.dsnuk.org.

Our main programmes: ABCD

1. **Advocacy:** advocating for caste to be recognised as a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010
2. **Business and Human Rights:** working with businesses to address caste-based discrimination in UK workplaces and supply chains
3. **Cast Out Caste from Universities in the UK:** supporting UK higher education institutions to address caste-based discrimination on campus
4. **Data Collection:** documenting experiences of 'Everyday Casteism' in the UK

DSN-UK currently employs one part-time Director and a temporary, part-time Programme Officer. We are looking for between 2 and 4 new Trustees who will take DSN-UK forward with excellent leadership, guidance and participation. We would particularly welcome applicants with experience in finance, law, fundraising or communications.

The role

Trustees share overall responsibility for DSN-UK. Working together as a board, they make sure the charity is well run, stays true to its purpose and uses its resources responsibly.

This role is mainly home-based but will require travel to London for the DSN-UK Annual General Meeting (AGM) and at least one other in-person board meeting per year.

Responsibilities

- Setting DSN-UK's strategy and policies with the rest of the board, and checking progress against them
- Making sure DSN-UK works towards its charitable purposes and complies with charity law and its governing document

- Overseeing DSN-UK's finances, including approving the annual accounts, and making sure the charity's money and assets are used responsibly and protected
- Supporting the Director and staff, and bringing your own skills and networks to DSN-UK's work
- Attending board meetings and the AGM, and taking part in decision-making
- Acting in DSN-UK's best interests at all times, and declaring any conflicts of interest

Person specification

- Commitment to ending caste-based discrimination and to DSN-UK's aims
- Willingness to give the time and effort needed
- Good, independent judgement and the ability to think strategically
- The ability to work as part of a team, with tact and diplomacy
- Integrity, impartiality and the ability to respect confidences
- An understanding of the legal duties of a trustee, or a willingness to learn

Time commitment

Attendance at quarterly board meetings and the AGM, plus ad hoc phone and email contact; 5 to 10 hours per quarter. The appointment will normally be for three years in the first instance. This role is voluntary, but reasonable travel expenses for board meetings will be reimbursed.

How to apply

Please email an up-to-date CV with a supporting statement explaining why you would like to join us as a Trustee and how your skills and experience would add value to DSN-UK. Send them to the DSN-UK Director, Dr Elizabeth Joy, at director@dsnuk.org.

Closing date: 5pm on Friday 11 December 2026

Interviews: week commencing 14 December 2026 (to be confirmed), in person

For any questions about the role, or to arrange an informal call, please contact Mr Bal Gnanapragasam, Chair, DSN-UK, at chair@dsnuk.org.