



WANTED: trustees to support over 3.5 million people living with genetic, rare and undiagnosed conditions.

Genetic Alliance UK is looking for three new trustees as well as a new chair due to existing board members having served the maximum time allowed.

If you are interested in applying to be our new chair, please see here for more information - <https://www.peridotpartners.co.uk/jobs/chair-genetic-alliance-uk/>

If you are interested in being one of our valued trustees, please see below.

About us

We are an alliance of over 220 charities and support groups with an ambitious strategy focused on working together to improve the lives of the 1 in 17 people in the UK affected by rare, genetic or undiagnosed conditions. We campaign for timely diagnosis, better coordinated care, and improvements in screening, testing, services and treatment. Find out more about our work from our website at geneticalliance.org.uk.

What are we looking for?

We are seeking candidates with a personal or professional passion for driving these improvements, who can bring relevant skills and experience to help shape our work. As part of the [organisation's work to foster diversity, equity and inclusion](#), we aim to have a broad and varied membership of the Board. We encourage applications from the devolved nations of the UK. We particularly welcome applications from people with lived experience of rare, genetic or undiagnosed conditions either directly, via family and friends, or through a connection with one of our member organisations.

We are keen to recruit people with skills and knowledge in one or more of the following areas:

- Business development and income generation
- Human resources and people management
- Fundraising and philanthropy
- Media, communications and public relations
- Reproductive choice techniques and ethics
- Research in genetics or rare conditions.

What will you be doing?

Trustees play a key role in leading and supporting the charity. We ask them to:

- Attend four Board meetings each year (at least two meetings are held online, with one or two in-person Board meetings each year usually in central London)
- Attend one in-person Board Strategy Away Day each year (usually following one of the in-person Board meetings)
- Attend the one-hour Annual General Meeting in autumn each year
- Consider joining one of our sub-committees, with up to four online meetings each year.

The roles are voluntary (unpaid). We reimburse reasonable expenses necessary for attending meetings and taking part in Genetic Alliance UK activities.

Most of our trustees are sponsored by our member organisations. If you have a connection with one of [the charities in our alliance](#) or the conditions they support, please mention this on your application.

We will provide full induction for successful candidates.

All postholders will be appointed for a first term of up to three years, with a possible further three years and up to a maximum nine years in exceptional circumstances.

Genetic Alliance UK is a [Disability Confident Committed](#) employer.

TRUSTEE ROLE DESCRIPTION

Remuneration: The role of trustee is not accompanied by any financial remuneration, reasonable expenses for travel may be claimed.

Time commitment: Attend four Board meetings each year (two of the meetings are held online and there are two in-person meetings).

The duties of a trustee are to:

- Contribute to the Board's strategic direction, including setting organisational policies, defining goals, and evaluating performance against agreed targets
- Act at all times in the best interests of beneficiaries and the charitable objectives of Genetic Alliance UK

- Ensure effective administration, financial stability, and good governance of the organisation
- Declare and manage any conflicts of interest in line with the organisation's policy
- Apply relevant skills, knowledge, and experience to support sound Board decision-making
- Accept collective responsibility for Board decisions, supporting agreed outcomes constructively
- Safeguard the organisation's reputation, values, and compliance with its governing document
- Champion Genetic Alliance UK externally, supporting fundraising and ambassador activities as appropriate.

You can find out more about the role of a trustee from the Charity Commission [here](#).

Person Specification:

- Commitment to the mission, cause, and strategic objectives of Genetic Alliance UK
- Understanding of the legal duties, responsibilities, and liabilities of trusteeship
- Ideally experience of a trustee or other non-executive role
- Understanding of the respective roles of the Chair, Trustees, Chief Executive, and staff in a medium sized UK charity
- Sound, independent judgement and strategic vision
- Sufficient financial literacy to read, interpret, and scrutinise management accounts and budgets
- Impartiality, fairness, and discretion, with strong listening and interpersonal skills.
- A commitment to equality, diversity, and inclusion, and to fostering an inclusive culture within the Board and organisation
- Willingness to commit sufficient time to the role, including travel and attendance at events
- Availability to support staff with advice and enquiries on an ad hoc basis

- Ability to work collaboratively and constructively as part of a team.

Useful links:

<https://geneticalliance.org.uk/>

<https://geneticalliance.org.uk/who-we-are/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hWLukKls-EY>