



Where: Michael Roberts Charitable Trust (MRCT)

When: Attend 3 or 4 board meetings a year with online communication between meetings.

Time commitment: Approximately 2 hours per month.

Overview of the role:

Michael Roberts Charitable Trust (MRCT), a cornerstone of Harlow's community support network, is seeking four passionate and dedicated practicing Christians to join its Board of Trustees.

MRCT provides vital services to those in need in and around Harlow. These services include the Harlow Foodbank, Maybury Open Door (drop-in centre), Bump to Five (baby bank), Harlow Community School Uniform Exchange, the Bounty Club Community Supermarket, the Hive Community Forum and the Community Cafe.

We rely on the commitment of our Trustees to ensure responsible governance and continued impact, all motivated by our strong Christian ethos. Currently, we are seeking to recruit new trustees to bring extra skills and experience to our board.

Responsibilities

As a Trustee, you will play a crucial role in shaping the future of the MRCT. Your expertise will be vital in guiding the Trust's strategic direction, overseeing financial management, and ensuring compliance with UK charity law.

Key tasks:

- Embrace the organisation's vision, mission and values.
- Ensure the charity complies with its governing document and charity law.
- Ensure focus on strategy, performance, risk and assurance rather than operational matters.
- Act with integrity, making objective decisions without undue influence by special or personal interests.
- Ensure openness and accountability, build public trust and confidence in MRCT's work and legitimacy in representing beneficiaries and stakeholders.
- Uphold collective responsibility of the board.
- Commit sufficient time and energy to the role of trustee and make reasonable use of own skills and experience to support the work of the board and MRCT.

- Ensure an understanding of, and commitment to, the principles of equality, equity, diversity and inclusion.

About you:

We welcome applications from individuals who are committed to their local Christian church. Our ideal candidates would:

- Share our passion for supporting the Harlow community.
- Possess strong strategic thinking and decision-making skills.
- Be an effective team player with excellent communication skills.
- Demonstrate the 7 principles of public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.
- Able to commit the time and effort required.
- Bring relevant capabilities that help the board perform its role effectively and achieve MRCT's vision.
- Pray for and thus actively contribute to the Trust's work.

MRCT would particularly welcome applications from those with experience in one (or more) of the following areas:

- **Finance:** To provide guidance on financial best practice.
- **Marketing & Communications:** Helping to raise awareness of the Trust's work and attract new supporters.
- **Human Resources:** Providing guidance on recruitment, management, and development.
- **Volunteer Management:** Providing guidance on recruitment, management, and development of volunteers.
- **Fundraising:** Providing insight with regard to effective fundraising strategies.
- **Legal:** experience or knowledge of Charity Law.

Impact of your role

This is a voluntary role offering the rewarding opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of others. By supporting the governance of MRCT, you are part of a team providing a vital holistic support function in your local community, ensuring a dignified experience to anyone visiting or anyone who comes into contact with MRCT.

Support

A full Trustee induction is in place to support the prospective candidate within their role, as well as access to local Voluntary Action trustee training.