

Person Specification – Trustee with Financial Expertise

In addition to the core skills and qualities expected of all Trustees, we are seeking one Trustee who brings enhanced financial expertise to strengthen the Board's oversight of financial governance. This Trustee will not be expected to undertake day-to-day financial duties, which remain the responsibility of the Director of Finance and Senior Leadership Team.

Essential Experience:

- Strong financial acumen gained through senior experience in managing the finances of a business or charity.
- Professional qualification (e.g., Chartered Accountant, CIPFA, CIMA, ACCA).
- Experience of reviewing management accounts, budgets, forecasts, risk registers and annual financial statements at a strategic level.
- Experience of working with or on a Board, committee, audit & risk group or in another senior governance role.
- Demonstrated experience in engaging with internal and external auditors, overseeing audit processes, and approving statutory accounts and financial reports.

Key Responsibilities (Finance-Skilled Trustee):

- Provide additional insight and constructive challenge to the Board on financial matters, ensuring effective financial decision-making and long-term sustainability.
- Support the Board in interpreting financial information and assessing financial risks and opportunities.
- Work collaboratively with the Chair, CEO and Director of Finance to strengthen financial oversight and assurance processes.
- Act as a member of the Governance, Finance, Operations and Risk Committee 5 to 6 times a year including an annual audit planning meeting.
- Champion strong financial governance, transparency and accountability while recognising the Executive's operational responsibilities.

Skills & Qualities:

- Ability to explain financial concepts clearly and accessibly to Trustees with differing levels of financial expertise.
- A strategic mindset, able to balance financial prudence with organisational ambition.
- Experience in areas such as audit, investment oversight, reserves strategy, or financial systems and controls.
- Understanding and experience of charities, including reporting, audit, risk and compliance (or willingness to develop this).
- Understanding of charity finance, financial governance, and risk management (or willingness to develop this knowledge).

Time Commitment Clarification:

This role does not involve routine financial work, bookkeeping or operational management. The role is focused on strategic oversight and good governance, supported by the Director of Finance and CEO.