



Trustee role description

Our vision

The best quality of life for older people needing care

Our purpose

Care Rights UK is your care champion, the charity focused on promoting the rights of people in care.

We want people to know their rights and how to use them. We offer information, advice and support to empower people using care services and the relatives and friends who help them.

As a community of families and experts, we fight for better lives for people in care. We identify poor care and highlight good practice, and demand a better care system.

Our values

Well-informed

We value knowledge, particularly from people's every day experiences of care and support services. We are trusted for our expertise on care and rights, and for our integrity.

Independent

We're proud of our independence. It gives us the freedom to speak out, adapt to changing circumstances and work with others to make care services better.

Courageous

We fight for change where it's needed so that people who need care and support have their rights respected.

Empowering

We value each other and are more powerful together. We listen and we support one another. Our community makes us stronger.

Role description

The duties of a Trustee of Care Rights UK are as follows:

- Ensuring that the charity pursues its stated objects, as defined in its Memorandum & Articles, by keeping under review the Strategic Plan 2023-26
- Ensuring that the charity complies with its Memorandum & Articles, charity law, company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations
- Ensuring Care Rights UK applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its charitable objects for the benefit of the public
- Ensuring Care Rights UK defines its goals and evaluates performance against agreed targets

- Safeguarding the good name and values of Care Rights UK
- Ensuring the effective and efficient administration of the charity, including having appropriate policies and procedures in place
- Ensuring the financial stability of Care Rights UK
- Protecting and managing the property of Care Rights UK and ensuring the proper investment of the charity's funds
- Following proper and formal arrangements for the appointment, supervision, support, appraisal and remuneration of the director
- Using any skills, knowledge or experience to help the Board of Trustees to reach sound decisions, including scrutinising Board papers, leading and contributing to discussions, providing advice and guidance on new initiatives, or other issues in which the trustee has special expertise.

Person specification

- A commitment to Care Rights UK
- A working understanding or experience of the adult social care sector
- Skills and experience in financial management, governance, business development or management, policy, campaigns, or experience as a relative or user of adult care services
- A willingness to devote the necessary time and effort
- Strategic vision
- Good, independent judgement
- An ability to think creatively
- A willingness to speak your mind
- An understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship
- An ability to work effectively as a member of a team
- A commitment to the values of Care Rights UK and of Nolan's seven principles of public life (selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership)

Expectations

- Attendance and active participation in meetings of the Board of Trustees (4-6 per year)
- Active participation in occasional, ad hoc Board-level decisions over email between meetings
- Willingness to join Board sub-committees (eg Audit & Risk Committee) and active participation in meetings/ad hoc decisions over email
- Any potential conflicts of interest should be declared on application

Message from Chair

"Formerly known as the Relatives and Residents Association (R&RA) Care Rights UK has over thirty years of experience as a valued consumer voice, fearless in representing the interests of older people. We are needed now more than ever as social care services for older people are under-funded, short-staffed and in a state of crisis. They are equally important as the NHS, which cannot function safely and effectively without them."
Trish Davies, Chair of Care Rights UK

Message from Director

“Leading the small, dedicated, friendly team of staff and volunteers is a real privilege. As we invest to grow our services and increase our reach across the UK, now is an exciting time to join the Board. We look forward to welcoming new trustees.”

Helen Wildbore, Director of Care Rights UK

More information

For information about our current trustees and our staff team, see the Care Rights UK website [here](#).

Information about our three-year strategic plan is on our website [here](#).

For an informal discussion with our chair or one of our current trustees, please contact us at team@carerightsuk.org.

To apply

To apply, please write to our chair, Trish Davies, explaining why you are interested in joining the Board and how you meet the criteria set out in the person specification. Letters should be no longer than 3 pages. Applicants may also submit a CV. Please send applications to team@carerightsuk.org by 9am on Monday 23 September. Interviews will take place (in person or via video conference) the week of 7 October (date and time to be confirmed).