Living Streets Trustee Candidate Pack

July 2026

We are Living Streets, the UK charity for everyday walking. Our mission is to achieve a better walking environment and inspire people to walk more.

LIVING STREETS

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Message from Chair of Trustees

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Living Streets Trustee, a voluntary role on the charity's governing Trustee board, which I Chair. Within the Living Streets family, we have a trading arm, Living Streets Services, which has a separate board with its own Chair.

Living Streets is the UK charity for everyday walking and our mission is to achieve a better walking environment and inspire people to walk more. This is a seminal time in our history: a changing political context; a dynamic and experienced Chief Executive in Catherine Woodhead; and soon to launch our new strategy that will take us towards our centenary in 2029.

With our thousands of members and supporters, we campaign for policies and change on the ground to create safer, more accessible streets. Our work ranges from encouraging families to walk to school, calling for slower safer speeds to taking action to tackle pavement parking. We manage innovative national projects, engaging with schools, communities and workplaces to encourage more people to walk short journeys. Our walk to school programme captures the imagination of children in over 2,000 schools and we work with local authorities and businesses to improve streets and public spaces. Our reports such as The Pedestrian Pound make a substantial contribution to the improvement of pedestrian spaces and the survival of local high streets.

Trustees help shape and deliver Living Streets' strategy. We are seeking to broaden the diversity and gender balance of our Board, particularly following the recent end of terms for three women Trustees. We welcome applications from across the UK, especially from candidates with one or more of the following perspectives or areas of experience:

- charity, government or private sector experience of culture change;
- charity, government or private sector experience of social research;
- based in Scotland;
- based in Wales.

However, whatever your background or experience, a commitment to the values and objectives of the charity overall will be crucial.

We've come a long way since our foundation as The Pedestrians' Association in 1929, but we have not lessened our motivation or desire. Today we are a modern

organisation with a staff team of 90+ and an excellent reputation for evidence-based policy, innovative campaigning and high-quality projects.

This is a great opportunity for the right person, and we are looking for someone who is energetic and passionate about our work. If you have these qualities, then we would love to hear from you!

Please do get in contact with me via email at **recruitment@livingstreets.org.uk** if you would like to have a chat about your interest.

John Dales
Chair of Trustees

Role Description

Living Streets Trustees

We are recruiting three new Trustees to expand the experience represented on the board and ensure a balance of skills to help the organisation achieve its strategic objectives.

As a Living Streets Trustee, you will be helping steer us forward into exciting but also challenging times, ensuring we keep the passion of our pioneers alive in the 21st century.

Living Streets is registered as a charity and a limited company. Therefore, every Trustee is also a director of the company and has legal responsibilities as well as potential limited liabilities.

General Trustee responsibilities:

a) Strategic – defining and approving the organisation's strategy and values, the strategic objectives arising from these, and arriving at appropriate policy decisions to take them forward;
b) Stewardship – to have responsibility for the organisation's assets, their presentation and exploitation, and assessing risks;
c) Monitoring – to oversee the effective management of the organisation and its service delivery, selecting and supporting the Chief Executive, and ensuring that good human resources practice is pursued for its paid staff;
d) Promotion of and advocacy for the organisation to external clients/partners/stakeholders;
e) Governance – ensuring that Trustee/ NED business is effectively conducted and that the Code of Governance is followed.

The organisation's expectation of a Trustee

Members of the board of Trustees are expected to:

a) Ensure the organisation complies with the law and Charity Commission requirements.
b) Understand and support the organisation's mission, goals, policies, programmes, services, strength, and needs.
c) Focus on strategic issues for the organisation rather than detailed management decisions.
d) Support the majority decision on issues decided by the board.

e) Assist the organisation by identifying, attracting or developing potential income streams through personal influence with others (individuals, organisations, companies etc.).
f) Attend meetings regularly, prepare for them and participate actively.
g) Maintain independence and objectivity and act with a sense of fairness and personal integrity.
h) Maintain confidentiality of confidential details of the organisation's business and of board meetings.
i) Show appropriate respect to other Trustees, staff volunteers and users of the organisation.
j) Be fully aware of the Trustees' Code of Governance (as updated from time to time) and use all reasonable endeavours to ensure that the business of the organisation is conducted in the way required by it.
k) Avoid pursuance of a personal agenda through membership of the board, inappropriate relationships with management and staff and prejudiced judgements on the basis of information received from individuals instead of following established policies and grievances procedures.
l) Avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest and disclose any possible conflicts to the board in a timely fashion and in accordance with the Conflicts of Interest Policy.

Person Specification

Candidates should be able to demonstrate the following skills:

- Strategic level experience in the private/ public or non-for-profit sector
- Connection to or interest in walking and public space issues
- A commitment to the values and objectives of Living Streets
- An understanding of or a willingness to learn about the principles and rules which govern UK charities
- Ability to work collegiately, maintain confidentiality, manage conflicts of interest and act with integrity.

In addition, for the charity board, we are looking for experience and skills in the following areas:

- Strategic level experience in the private, public or not-for-profit sector.
- Social research and the ability to support the economic, environmental and/or social contributions our work makes.

Time commitment
Trustees are expected to attend and participate in the following:

- Four board meetings a year (4-6pm) – currently held on a Thursday afternoon
- An Annual General Meeting – currently online
- Our Annual Walking Summit
- Trustee 'away' session(s), held in person
- Some Trustees take on lead roles (e.g. trustee development, sustainability)

There is currently a subcommittee of the board, the Audit and Risk Committee chaired by our Treasurer, Andy Cottrell, which meets four times a year, and we are introducing an Appointment and Remuneration Committee which will be chaired by the Chair of Trustees. From time to time, there are task focused, time limited Trustee sub-groups.

Trustees can join the meetings in person at City Road in London EC1V 2PR or via Microsoft Teams. Trustees are encouraged to come in person to as many meetings as possible, and ideally no fewer than two per year. We will fully reimburse travel expenses when attending official engagements in person.

Safeguarding
Living Streets is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk; and expects all our staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Application process

Candidates should provide a **CV** and **covering letter** which set out relevant experience, skills and the reasons for your interest in joining the Living Streets Board of Trustees, reflecting the Person Specification.

Please email these to: **recruitment@livingstreets.org.uk** by the deadline.

Closing date for applications: **Sunday 26 July 2026 (midnight)**
Interview date: Friday 7 August 2026 and Friday 14 August 2026
Shortlisted candidates will be contacted the week before the interview date.

Candidates who are successful at interview will be given a full induction briefing and the opportunity to observe a meeting of the Board of Trustees. Following this, they will be co-opted onto the Board and put forward for election by members of Living Streets at the next Annual General Meeting.

Please let us know if you have any access requirements so we can make appropriate adjustments for you to attend an interview. If you require any further information, please visit our website www.livingstreets.org.uk or contact us on recruitment@livingstreets.org.uk