

Trustee Role Description



Role: Trustee – Board Member (Volunteer)

Location: Remote meetings and various location

Commitment: Volunteer hours are flexible and negotiable. A commitment of an average of 2 hours per week.

Terms of office

- Trustees board members are appointed without a limit on the time they wish to stand.
- All trustees are nominated and voted onto the board by trustees and members.
- Trustees agree to abide by the FTS governing document and ensure that all procedures run in accordance with these articles of association.
- All appointed trustees automatically become directors of FTS due to the organisation being a company limited by guarantee as well as a charity.
- All new trustees sign a declaration of eligibility stating that they are willing and able to act as a trustee, agreeing to follow legislation and guidance from the Charity Commission.
- This is a voluntary position, but reasonable expenses are reimbursed.

About Us:

At Families Together Suffolk (FTS) we believe that children and families deserve the best start in life, to have choices and chances to live the best lives they can. We offer support through home visiting volunteers; family groups and workshops and we aim to help families through the barriers that they may face. Our services and projects are dedicated to making a positive difference to the lives of children, families and community.

Purpose of the Role:

Trustees play a vital role in making sure that Families Together Suffolk (FTS) achieves its core purpose. They oversee the overall management and administration of the charity. They also ensure that FTS has a clear strategy and that our work and goals are in line with our vision. Trustees support the management team to enable FTS to grow and thrive.

Board members have a collective responsibility. This means that trustees act as a group and not as individuals. As a small charity, there will be times when the trustees will need to be actively involved beyond board meetings. This may involve scrutinising board papers, leading discussions, focusing on key issues, providing advice and guidance on new initiatives, presenting externally, or other issues in which the trustee has special expertise.

The safeguarding of children and adults at risk of harm is the responsibility of everyone at Families Together Suffolk and is central to our charitable objectives.

Main Duties:

- The main duty of a charity trustee is to ensure that all activities and services provided are in pursuit of the charitable objects of FTS.
- Support and provide advice on FTS purpose, vision, goals and activities.
- Approve and contribute to strategy and policy, monitoring and evaluating their implementation.
- Oversee FTS financial plans and budgets and monitor and evaluate progress.
- Ensure the effective and efficient administration of the organisation.
- Ensure that key risks are being identified, monitored and controlled effectively.
- Review and approve FTS financial statements.

- Provide support to management team in the exercise of their delegated authority and affairs.
- Keep abreast of changes in FTS external operating environment.
- Contribute to regular reviews of FTS own governance. Attend Board meetings, adequately prepared to contribute to discussions.
- Use independent judgment, acting legally and in good faith to promote and protect FTS interests, to the exclusion of their own personal and/or any third-party interests.
- Contribute to the broader promotion of FTS objects, aims and reputation by applying your skills, expertise, knowledge and contacts.

What we are looking for:

We are looking for people willing to bring energy, enthusiasm and commitment to the role, and who will broaden the diversity of thinking on our board.

Personal skills and qualities:

- Willingness and ability to understand and accept their responsibilities and liabilities as trustees and to act in the best interests of the organisation.
- Ability to think creatively and strategically, exercise good, independent judgement and work effectively as a board member.
- Effective communication skills and willingness to participate actively in discussion.
- A strong personal commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion.
- Enthusiasm for our vision and mission.
- Willingness to lead according to values of the FTS charity.
- Commitment to Nolan's seven principles of public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.

What we offer trustees:

- Induction training that is specific to the role of a trustee.
- You will receive safeguarding training specific to the role.
- Ongoing support and training.
- An opportunity to develop new skills and meet new people.
- The chance to make a meaningful difference in your community.

Additional information

- We accept 'expressions of interest' to become a trustee and will arrange an informal conversation before proceeding with an application.

How to apply

- Trustee applications are made via the following Microsoft form:
<https://forms.office.com/e/LvxSv8qk04>

If you have any questions about volunteering opportunities with Families Together Suffolk or need some help with your application, please get in touch with Andy on 07936 913929 or 01379678552 or email via andy@famielstogethersuffolk.org.uk