

# TLA Trustee Recruitment

# 2020

### About Us

Turning Lives Around (TLA) Mission and Vision are about Preventing homelessness and delivering creative support that transforms lives and strengthens communities. Ensuring everyone has the opportunity to access the housing and support services necessary to aspire to and achieve their fullest potential.

Our team work to prevent homelessness and empower people to believe that they can change their own lives and live independently as productive members of their communities. Providing bespoke solutions for those faced with homelessness or in difficulty, we give them a sense of purpose and help them realise they have the power to change their lives. Our solutions are as unique as our clients are, and in line with our ambition to create sustainable and successful communities for everyone.

### What Being a Trustee Means

Being a trustee means making sure that the charity is carrying out the purposes for which it was set up, and supporting the charity in planning for a successful future. It means ensuring that the organisation abides by the law, manages its assets properly and safeguards the organisation’s reputation. Trustees don’t usually do the day-to-day running of the charity. Instead, they play the role of a ‘critical friend’ to the Chief Executive by giving support and advice.

Most people perceive trustees as being predominantly older, retired people giving the charities the benefit of the experience they have gleaned from long careers elsewhere. Statistics collated by the Charities Commission shows that that is true, but those qualities are not essential prerequisites by any means.

Most UK charities would welcome applications from younger people wishing to be trustees and appreciate their voice on the board.

At TLA our eight passionate, and committed trustee’s age ranges between 30 and 78 and come from a range of backgrounds including the NHS, law, education, architecture, business, the third sector and politics. Without their guidance and input as “critical friends” TLA would not be the organisation we are today.

### Why Become a Trustee?

Professionally, the experience will give you a chance to build upon your current skills and achievements, broadening your professional knowledge and bringing you into contact with a wider network of people.

The involvement will bring you confidence and the opportunity to develop and hone your critical thinking, problem-solving and analytical skills as well as developing vital strategic leadership expertise.

Current corporate practice views voluntary and community enriching activities seriously, with trusteeship considered one of the most effective methods of professional development and community engagement available to employees.

Personally, volunteering to be a trustee is an amazing way to give something back to the community, and to meet new people from a variety of backgrounds. Research has shown that it is good for your mental wellbeing, sense of self worth and reduces stress, combating depression.

“...members of the Board of Trustees have a key role to play in using their expertise and experience to ensure that TLA staff have all the support possible in their difficult work. There is nothing more satisfying for Board members than to be continually aware that they have made a contribution, however small, in helping people to get the help they need."

Michael Meadowcroft

Politician and Political Affairs Consultant

TLA Trustee

### About You

TLA is recruiting Trustees, hoping to increase diversity amongst our Board Members, so our Board can reflect our multicultural workforce and clients. We are looking for people who will support us in continuing to develop the organisation in line with our strategy. We are in challenging times, demands for services are increasing and all forecasts indicate this will continue. We are looking for people with strategic vision, independent judgement and a willingness to give time and commitment to being a trustee. We would welcome individuals with previous experience of the housing sector, academia, law, public relations and IT. We would especially welcome applications from those with a knowledge of West Yorkshire and who come from the communities we work with.

Can you offer business and governance skills that you would like to use to make a difference? Do you have local knowledge of the Leeds area and the issues surrounding housing? Would you be willing to attend Board of Trustees meetings 4 times a year, contribute to the work of sub-committees, participate in 1 strategic away day per year and commit to the Board of Trustees for at least 2 -3 years?

This is a voluntary role, but TLA will remunerate expenses inline with our expense policy.

### How to Apply

If the answer is yes to all the above, please send a covering letter and your CV to mwilliams@turninglivesaround.co.uk