
Reporting to:	Chair of the Board of Trustees
Working closely with:	Trustees Chief Executive Leadership Team
Commitment:	Up to seven days per annum*
Remuneration:	Voluntary, with travel and other reasonable expenses payable
Based:	Devon, Cornwall and Somerset

Purpose of the role

Trustees have independent control and legal responsibility for the charity's management and administration. They support the strategic development and success of Shared Lives South West through ensuring good strategic planning, effective governance and the monitoring of the performance of the organisation.

As a trustee you will work alongside the Chair, Vice Chair and other trustees to bring good governance and strategic oversight. You will share responsibility with other trustees and the Leadership Team for the success of the organisation.

Role summary

Our trustees work as a team. We seek trustees who can contribute their expertise, thoughts and opinions. Trustees are expected to understand our aims and vision and to participate in providing high standards of governance and strategic direction. Further information is available in the Charity Commission guidance – The Essential Trustee.

Your role will be to use your skills and personal experience to:

- Ensure Shared Lives South West complies with its governing document and all charity and other appropriate laws.
- Ensure compliance with the values, ethos and ethics of SLSW.
- Approve policies and plans to achieve strategic objectives, especially those with significant financial risk or risk management implications.
- Contribute to the development of Shared Lives South West strategy and business planning processes.
- Scrutinise and sign off each year's financial accounts prior to publication and acceptance and agree each year's annual budget.
- Play your part in ensuring compliance with regulatory frameworks.
- Help ensure the Board sets challenging goals and targets for the organisation and monitors these effectively.
- Participate in the recruitment of Leadership Team members as required.

Trustees will be able to demonstrate that they have the time and commitment to be an effective Board member and will be asked to commit to:

- Endeavouring to be available for up to six (up to half day) meetings per year with a requirement to attend at least 50 per cent.
- Endeavouring to be available for the annual Board Away Day.
- Supporting Shared Lives South West staff by being able to be involved on an ad hoc basis in an identified area of interest.
- Being involved in one task and finish group/sub-group per annum if/as required.
- Attend one carer meeting per annum.
- Complete an induction programme as required during the first six months of their appointment, including a visit to a Shared Lives South West household.
- Complete a programme of mandatory training, proportionate to the role, renewed every three years.
- Attend an annual review with the Chair.

We are also particularly interested in trustees who have knowledge of the law as it relates to charities and /or the health and social care sector.

What difference will you make?

We are a charity that seeks a strong governing board, to ensure we can continue making a positive difference to the lives of the individuals and families we support.

What's in it for you?

You will help enrich the lives of people we support by becoming a part of this friendly charity, known for providing high quality support to people as recognised by our recent "Outstanding" CQC award.