



Trustee — Governance & Charity Sector Experience

Compliance, Regulation & Board Effectiveness

Organisation	It's in the Bag
Role type	Voluntary trustee
Location	South West — meetings held in Bristol/hybrid
Time commitment	Approx. 3–5 hours per month (including board meetings)
Term	Three years (renewable)
Responsible to	Chair and Board of Trustees

ABOUT IT'S IN THE BAG

It's in the Bag is a South West-based charity dedicated to supporting men with testicular cancer and raising awareness of the disease. Founded in 2009, we provide practical support to those affected, run awareness campaigns across the region — including in schools and sports clubs — and advocate for men's health.

We're a small but passionate organisation with a distinctive, irreverent identity. We take our cause seriously without taking ourselves too seriously. Our volunteers and trustees are the heartbeat of everything we do.

We're looking for people who genuinely get what we're about, not CV trustees, but people who want to make a real difference.

THE ROLE

As a small but growing charity, It's in the Bag needs a trustee who can help the board stay on top of its governance obligations — not as a compliance officer, but as someone who understands the charity sector from the inside, knows what good governance looks like, and can provide practical, grounded guidance.

We're looking for someone with enough experience of the charity sector to spot when something needs attention, and the judgement to know how to respond. This might be someone who has worked in charity leadership, governance advisory work, the voluntary sector, or a related field.

What matters most is that they understand how charities work, what trustees are responsible for, and how to help a board function well — including knowing when to seek external advice.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Ensuring the charity carries out its purposes for the public benefit
- Complying with the charity's governing document and the law
- Acting in the charity's best interests at all times
- Managing the charity's resources responsibly
- Acting with reasonable care and skill, seeking advice where needed
- Ensuring the charity is accountable and transparent
- Attending and preparing for board meetings (approximately four per year)
- Getting involved in the life of the charity — attending events and engaging with volunteers where possible
- Bringing your skills, networks and experience to bear in support of the charity's mission



- Providing guidance to the board on governance best practice, regulatory requirements and Charity Commission obligations
- Supporting the development and review of key policies — including safeguarding, conflicts of interest, data protection and financial controls
- Helping the board maintain good records, sound processes and effective decision-making structures
- Acting as a sounding board for the Chair and COO on governance questions and compliance matters
- Supporting the board in its periodic governance reviews and self-assessments
- Attending and preparing for board meetings (approximately four per year)
- Knowing when to recommend external legal, regulatory or professional advice — and helping the board act on it

WHO WE'RE LOOKING FOR

Essential

- Significant experience in the charity sector — as a trustee, senior leader, governance adviser or in a related professional role
- Strong understanding of charity governance, Charity Commission requirements and trustee responsibilities
- Practical, grounded approach — able to translate governance requirements into clear, actionable guidance
- Sound judgement about when to escalate issues and when to seek external advice
- Commitment to the charity's mission and values

Desirable

- Experience of policy development, compliance or regulatory frameworks in a charity context
- Previous experience as a trustee or company secretary
- Knowledge of data protection (UK GDPR) and/or employment law as it applies to charities
- Personal connection to the cause or to men's health
- Networks in the South West voluntary sector

TIME COMMITMENT AND PRACTICALITIES

Trustees serve a three-year term, renewable by mutual agreement.

We have monthly virtual board meetings and aim for two face-to-face a year

Reasonable expenses are reimbursed.

This is a voluntary role. We ask for a genuine commitment to the charity's mission and a willingness to be involved beyond formal meetings — including attending events where possible.