



Trustee Search

The National Organisation for FASD provides support to people with FASD (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder), their families and communities, campaigns to raise public awareness, and promotes relevant policies and practices. National FASD unequivocally promotes alcohol-free pregnancy and the Chief Medical Officers' guidance. We place a high priority on engaging those with lived experience at the core of our projects and programmes. We operate on a no-shame, no-blame ethos. We are the nation's longest-standing FASD charity and we provide a range of cutting-edge resources, training, consultation and support.

Person(s) specification

National FASD is seeking to recruit Trustees, with the goal of diversifying our existing board and rounding out the skills sets of those currently serving on the board and expanding the overall capacity of the board.

As members of the Board of Trustees, individuals will ensure continuing oversight of the charity's financial position and provide guidance as needed in strategic discussions in which the charity's financial position is involved.

Applications are particularly welcomed from individuals with experience in helping a small charity sustain growth in a challenging financial climate and who understand the balancing of risk and reward which this operational environment involves. We are at a strategic crossroads and who we need as a chair of our trustees moving forward will depend on the choices the charity makes. We will be looking to appoint a long-term chair from our Board of Trustees as the implications of our strategic choices become clear. Applicants are asked to express their interest in potentially fulfilling that role at some future point – but we are also looking for those who have no such aspirations

Beyond the quarterly meetings and committee meetings, Trustees should also be willing to respond to ad hoc requests for advice. National FASD is looking for Trustees who will bring their enthusiasm and experience in an active way that extends the reach of the charity, contributing their ideas, suggestions, support and time to make a difference.

Our Board already contains trustees with a range of skills and experiences to which we are looking to add others who might increase our pool of knowledge in one or more of the following areas:

- Professional insights into the NHS or DfE as a practitioner or a policy maker, experience promoting change on a large scale among Integrated Care Systems,

national or regional policy, public health or education. We are looking for trustees with experience thinking strategically about how to provide new services where none have existed previously, or experience in working with and engaging the Third Sector in healthcare and education service provision in creative ways;

- Experience in marketing or social media, helping to raise awareness of a cause on a national level and promotion of resources to new markets;
- Experience working with children and adults with FASD and/or other neurodevelopmental conditions. This could be through lived experience, familiarity with relevant safeguarding issues, how to create projects and employment opportunities for adults with neurodevelopmental conditions and/or learning disabilities, or experience with disability and human rights legal guarantees;
- Experience in charity finances and oversight, and other best practices for charities seeking to grow in challenging financial climates;
- Experience in promoting change in national education policy for those with special educational needs and disabilities.

Required for this role

- **Trustee ready** Sitting on a trustee board requires the ability to take a more advisory approach than in executive roles. If you have not previously held any trustee or non-executive positions, you should demonstrate a track record of influencing the direction of your organisation at board level. If you already have significant trustee or non-executive experience, please detail this.
- Trustees typically attend 4 quarterly full trustees meetings and 4 quarterly committee meetings of either the finance/governance committee or the programme/strategy committee.

Board composition

Alasdair Bovaird (acting chair)
Tania Griffiths KC
Dr Patricia Jackson, OBE, FRCPCH
Nikki Pasek MBE
Róisín Reynolds

Process

This process is being run in-house by the organisation. Please send your cv and a cover letter to admin@nationalfasd.org.uk.

Connected Parties

If you know someone at the organisation please mention it in your cover letter.

Questions & feedback

In the event you have any questions or feedback about the way the role or your application has been handled, please contact admin@nationalfasd.org.uk.

Role timetable

Deadline for applications: 19 May 2025

We aim to have completed the process by the early summer with the aim of getting appointments confirmed by the full Trustees meeting on 16 June. We hope to have the expanded Board of Trustees fully operational by our September/October meetings.