

RESULTS UK - Job Description for a Trustee

RESULTS creates the public and political will to end poverty, and empowers individuals to exercise their personal and political power for change.

About RESULTS UK

There are many organisations working to fight hunger and poverty around the world. RESULTS' particular focus is unique: our mission is to create the public and political will to end poverty by enabling people to exercise their own personal and political power for change.

RESULTS has been established in the UK as a charity since 1986, and is one of six RESULTS organisations around the world, the others being in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Japan, and Australia. Although not legally incorporated into an international entity and thus being independent organisations, the global RESULTS family has a strong joint mission and shares a vision of a world free from poverty, along with sharing our approach to bringing that vision into being.

'Ending poverty' is a big and complex goal – certainly larger than any one organisation can deliver on its own. For us, the building blocks of the end of poverty can be most simply articulated as “health, education, and economic opportunities”. These are the things that all people, wherever they live, need and have a right to.

We achieve these goals through advocacy, as we firmly believe that the world has enough resources – financial, technical, and knowledge – to bring about the end of poverty. What is missing is the political will to do so.

In practice this means we call for increases in resources, better policies, and increases in political leadership on issues of international development. We do this through smart, non-partisan parliamentary advocacy, and through well-researched and evidence-based policy advocacy, both led from a small staff in our London office.

In addition to policy and parliamentary advocacy, our grassroots advocacy is critical. We have volunteer groups across the UK that meet at least once a month to learn about a topical issue and take action. The dedication of our volunteers speaks to both our values and history. RESULTS grassroots are ordinary people, but extraordinary campaigners that are deeply engaged, reading, learning, and actively participating in training to become experts on our issues.

The Main Tasks of a Trustee

To take part in formulating, and regularly reviewing, the strategic aims of the organisation.

With other trustees, to ensure that the policy and practices of the organisation are in keeping with its main aims.

With other trustees, to ensure that the organisation functions within the legal and financial requirements of a charitable organisation and strives to achieve best practice.

To participate in overseeing the finances of the organisation and promoting a positive fundraising culture.

Main Responsibilities

Formulating strategic aims

- Consider the organisation as a whole and its beneficiaries, whether as a member of the trustees or any of its committees, sub-committees, groups etc.
- Reflect the organisation's vision and principles, strategy and major policies at all times.
- Contribute specific skills, interests and contacts.

Ensuring policies and practices are in keeping with these aims

- Attend meetings of the trustees.
- Reflect the trustees' policies and concerns on all its sub-groups or committees.

Ensuring best practice

- Be an active member of the trustee body in exercising its responsibilities and functions.
- Maintain good relations with senior managerial staff.
- Take part in training sessions provided for the benefit of the trustees.

Building the financial base of the organisation

- Have oversight of the finances of the charity and its fundraising strategy.
- Speak out on behalf of RESULTS to potential donors and support grassroots fundraising events.

Meetings and Work

Board meetings are held quarterly, usually in the late afternoon/early evenings after a workday. Meetings are usually face-to-face at the London RESULTS office and comprise a total of 4 formal meetings per year, with occasional additional meetings as needed by teleconference. Currently, the Board has two Committees (Finance and HR) that meet via telecon (and sometimes face-to-face) separately on different dates to advance specific projects. Trustees should be prepared to travel to scheduled board meetings and may be asked to serve on one of the Committees due to their background or skills, but committee membership is not required of all Trustees.

Remuneration

RESULTS UK does not pay trustees: these are volunteer positions. Trustees are eligible for reimbursement of agreed expenses incurred while carrying out their duties.

Skills and Qualities

RESULTS is seeking people to join our board from diverse backgrounds and life experiences, who want to work with us to do what we can to end global poverty. We are keen to ensure that our team of Trustees is as diverse as possible and come from a variety of circumstances, not just from the development and charity sectors. RESULTS welcomes applicants of all ages and BAME backgrounds. If you share our core commitment we would love to hear from you.

For the current Trustee recruitment, the Board is particularly interested in applicants who have one or more of the following skills and capabilities:

- A legal background and/or specific legal skills relevant to the work of RESULTS, including charity, HR, and company law.
- Experience working in the International Development sector, particularly in advocacy role or at a managerial/executive position in an organisation of comparable size to RESULTS.
- Media and communications skills, particularly around advocacy, campaigning, and/or public affairs.

No one Trustee will possess all the skills and qualities needed for the tasks and duties of trusteeship. The Board of Trustees acts as a team where the essential expertise is distributed amongst its members. From time to time the Board will re-assess its need for additional skills and recruit new Trustees accordingly.

Induction and Mentoring

We provide a full induction for new trustees with informal partnering with an experienced Trustee initially. The induction will include meeting the Chair and the Chief Executive, introduction to the staff and the work they do and an overview of RESULTS' strategy, approach to governance, funding, and finance.

How to apply

Please send your CV attached to a short covering email outlining why you are interested in the role. Each document should be no more than 2 pages and sent to board@results.org.uk. Applicants will be contacted by the Board about their application, and if the application looks to be a good match to the current needs of the Board the next step would normally be an interview in London at a mutually agreeable time.

For more information or an informal chat about the opportunity please contact either the current Chair Nigel Ward (nigel.ward@results.org.uk), or the Executive Director Aaron Oxley (aaron.oxley@results.org.uk).

RESULTS

Guidance from the Charity Commission

IMPORTANT NOTE: None of the information in this document supersedes the guidance provided by the Charity Commission about what it means to be a Trustee of a charity. Please make sure you have read and understand the official guidance and legal responsibilities of becoming a Trustee prior to applying:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3>