

Glaucoma UK

Trustee Recruitment Pack



Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the role of trustee with Glaucoma UK.

Glaucoma UK is the only UK charity solely dedicated to ending preventable glaucoma sight loss. We're a membership charity and are passionate about making sure that people living with glaucoma have a say in how and where their care and treatment is delivered.

We provide a host of support services to help people at all stages of their glaucoma journey, but we're also here for the professionals too – providing support and resources and helping them keep in touch with what matters most to people with glaucoma. You can read more about the breadth of our work and the impact it has on our website.

It's an exciting time to join the charity. We recently rebranded, launched a new website and took on the new operating name of Glaucoma UK. We are ambitious for our future, and are now actively developing our team and our services so we can meet the needs of the growing number of people living with glaucoma.

We have a vacancy on our Board for a trustee with lived experience of glaucoma, and if you feel you have the experience and passion we need to take Glaucoma UK forward then we would love to hear from you.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Osborn". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Karen Osborn
Chief Executive

Vision and values

Vision

Our vision is an end to preventable glaucoma sight loss

Values

Our values guide how we conduct ourselves and what we prioritise. They are:

- Compassion
- Support
- Collaboration
- Expertise
- Integrity





Campaigning & Awareness

Fewer
people
go blind



Advice & Support

People with
glaucoma live well
and stay well



Research

Better
diagnosis,
care and
treatment

Background and ambitions

Glaucoma UK is *the* charity for people with glaucoma. Our vision is to end preventable glaucoma sight loss. We want everyone with glaucoma to be able to live well with the disease. To make this a reality we do three things:



1. Raise awareness of glaucoma

Over 700,000 people in the UK are living with glaucoma, and half of them don't know they have it. If glaucoma is detected early, most people can retain useful sight for life, but it can cause serious sight loss if undiagnosed and untreated.

Our awareness work aims to get these key messages across to the general public, so that people are able to look after their sight. But some people are particularly at risk of sight loss from glaucoma, and we're currently aiming to improve our reach within these communities: people of African and South Asian heritage, older people and those with a family history of glaucoma, people in socioeconomically disadvantaged areas, and those who may find it hard to engage with health services and health information.



2. Support people to live well with glaucoma

Glaucoma is a complicated disease, and the range of treatments available for it can be complex, confusing and frightening. To help people actively manage their condition and make positive treatment choices, we offer a wide range of free information and advice leaflets, a telephone helpline, digital support groups (and hopefully face to face soon), an online patient forum, and volunteer Buddies who provide peer to peer support.



3. Fund research

We fund research into the causes, diagnosis and treatment of glaucoma and typically allocate around £250,000 each year for research. We also support the Glaucoma UK Chair of Glaucoma and Allied Studies at University College London, Professor David 'Ted' Garway-Heath.

The incidence of glaucoma increases with age, and the majority of the people we support are aged 60+.

Our services are open to anyone, and thanks to the generosity of our supporters, they are free to all who need them.

As well as supporting people living with glaucoma, we work closely with healthcare professionals to improve care and increase understanding of patients' needs. Our membership of c.5,000 includes many professionals as well as people living with the disease.

Further details of our structure, governance and finances are given in our annual accounts, available on our website. You can also find brief details of our Trustees and our Clinical Advisory Panel on the website.





About the role



Glaucoma
UK

The role of trustee

The duties of a trustee are to:

- ensure that Glaucoma UK pursues its stated objectives (purposes), as defined in its governing document (Articles of Association), by developing and agreeing a long-term strategy
- ensure that the charity complies with its governing document, and with charity law, company law and other relevant legislation or regulations
- ensure that the charity applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its charitable objectives for the benefit of the public
- ensure the charity defines its goals and evaluates performance against agreed targets
- ensure the effective and efficient administration of the charity, including having appropriate policies and procedures in place
- ensure the financial stability of the charity
- follow proper and formal arrangements for the appointment, supervision, support, appraisal and remuneration of the Chief Executive (CEO)

In addition to these statutory duties, all trustees are asked to use their specific skills, knowledge or experience they have to help the Board of Trustees reach sound decisions. This may involve scrutinising Board papers, leading discussions, focusing on key issues and providing advice and guidance.

Time commitment

Trustees normally meet at least five times a year. Currently all meetings are virtual but when face to face and hybrid meetings resume, most will be held in London, with occasional meetings at the Glaucoma UK office in Ashford, Kent. Ad hoc meetings and online discussions may also take place throughout the year, and time will be needed to read paperwork before and between meetings. The maximum length of service for new Glaucoma UK trustees is three terms of three years.

Reimbursement

The role of trustee is not paid, but reasonable out of pocket expenses are reimbursed.

Training

A full induction programme and a range of training courses and ongoing support are available. All trustees are expected to take advantage of appropriate training opportunities.

To be considered for the role

To express an interest in the role and to be considered, please send us either a copy of your CV or a letter/email containing:

- Your contact details
- Your work and education history

Please also add a brief supporting statement covering what you can bring to the Board and why you're interested in the role.

Equality and diversity

We would also ask you to complete and submit the equalities monitoring form on our website. The information on the form will be treated as confidential, and used for statistical purposes only. It will not be treated as part of your application.

Completed expressions of interest and equality forms should be sent to:

- Email (preferred): k.osborn@glaucoma.uk
- Post: FAO K Osborn, Glaucoma UK, Woodcote House, 15 Highpoint Business Village, Henwood, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8DH

Recruitment Timetable

There is no formal closing date for this role; the trustees will consider expressions of interest as they are received, and schedule meetings to discuss the role with everyone who meets the criteria.

We look forward to hearing from you!



Glaucoma UK

Woodcote House
15 Highpoint Business Village
Henwood
Ashford
Kent TN24 8DH

glaucoma.uk

Glaucoma UK is the operating name of The International Glaucoma Association.
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