Useful resources for trustees

About trustees and boards

The Charity Commission website is a good starting point for all information about trusteeship.

The Essential Trustee (guidance provided by the Charity Commission on the Gov.uk website) provides an excellent overview of the duties and responsibilities of a trustee.

The Charity Governance Code is a clear, accessible and practical tool to help charities and their trustees develop high standards of governance. It is widely considered to be the standard to which all trustee boards should be working and is easy to put into practice.

Financial governance: a gentle guide for the non-financial charity trustee is an excellent introduction to charity finances from ACEVO and Rathbones Investment Management.

Trustees’ legal responsibilities and liabilities (PDF, 96KB) has been written for us by Russell Cooke LLP to give an expert view of the legal responsibilities of trustees.

The Charity Governance Awards shine the spotlight on good governance in the charity sector. Categories include diversity and inclusion, embracing digital and managing turnaround. The stories of the winners and shortlisted charities offer useful lessons in how boards can lead effectively.

NPC publications from charity think tank NPC cover different facets of governance.

UK Charity Trustees is a LinkedIn group open to any trustee or anyone interested in becoming a trustee. It is moderated by Reach and the Small Charities Coalition.

For chairs, treasurers and company secretaries

Model role descriptions for chairs and trustees can be found on our website:

Chair
Treasurer
Digital trustee
Chairs

The Association of Chairs is a membership body that produces useful guides to support chairs of charities and non-profit organisations to lead their boards effectively, including:

A Chair’s Compass – a practical guide for chairs

A Question of Balance – a guide to the Chair and Chief Executive relationship which covers how to manage the relationship between the chair and chief executive.

Treasurers

The Honorary Treasurers Forum is a membership organisation offering information, support and networking to treasurers.

ICSA: The Governance Institute trains, informs and represents the interests of governance professionals across all sectors.

About Reach Volunteering

Reach Volunteering connects people, skills and good causes.

We are the leading skills-based volunteering charity in the UK and the single biggest source of trustees in the UK.

We connect charities with the skills and experience they need to make more of a difference. We inspire individuals to use their skills for social good, and to make the most of great volunteering and trustee experiences.

reachvolunteering.org.uk