

CHARITY TRUSTEE – APPLICATION INFORMATION

Responsibilities of trustees

As a trustee for a local charity, you will be required to attend trustee meetings. You may also be required to attend other functions/activities related to the charity's main aims and objectives. Local knowledge of the area in which your charity operates will be useful in helping you deal with requests for assistance from members of the community.

As a trustee you would have a duty to act solely in the best interests of that charity. General information about being a trustee is available on the Charity Commission's website which you should read before applying.

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

Who can be a Trustee?

Trustees can come from all walks of life and varied backgrounds. The Council promotes equality of opportunity, and hopes to be able to appoint trustees who reflect the diverse communities served by the charities. The Council is looking for people who have the following qualities:

1. **Commitment:** Taking time to understand the workings of the body, and the need for regular attendance at meetings.
2. **Conscientiousness:** Reading briefing papers thoroughly, and playing a full part in the process.
3. **Confidence:** Speaking up at meetings and expressing a point of view.
4. **Common Sense:** Assessing the impact of proposals on individuals and bring an independent view to discussions.
5. **Courage:** Asking the question that no-one has asked, and querying why a certain approach is being recommended.
6. **Clarity:** Making sure that you understand what is happening and what is proposed.
7. **Committee Experience:** Ideally, you should have experience of taking decisions as part of a committee.
8. **Community Involvement:** The Council wishes to appoint Trustees who are committed to and connected with the local community.

All Trustees must be at least 18 years of age, and not be disqualified from being a Trustee under the Charities Act 1993. Trustees are not paid for their work, but in some cases expenses can be reimbursed.

Appointments Process

The appointment of trustees to the charities is made by the Council's Voluntary Bodies Appointments Panel as and when vacancies arise. There is no interview process, trustees are appointed on the basis of their application form and references for a period of 4 years (3 years for St Olave's and St Saviour's Schools Foundation).

Please provide your nominated referee with the 'charity trustee reference form'.

The panel appoints to the following charities:

- Camberwell Consolidated Charities
- Rotherhithe Consolidated Charities
- St George the Martyr United Charities
- St Olave and Bermondsey United Charities
- Court of Governors of St Olave's and St Saviour's Schools Foundation

The above named charities are an amalgamation of smaller charities that have been in existence since at least the early 1900s and the defined 'area of benefit' (the area the charity covers) and the area the trustee must reside or work in are based on the areas that existed at the time, known as 'ancient parishes'. These ancient parishes came under the former Metropolitan Boroughs of Bermondsey, Camberwell and Southwark, now known as the London Borough of Southwark.

With the exception of Camberwell Consolidated Charities and Court of Governors of St Saviour's and St Olave's Schools Foundation it is a requirement of the charities that appointed trustees must reside, work or alternatively (in some cases) have specialist knowledge of the area covered by the particular charity.

The boundary areas have changed or been renamed over time. Set out below for your information is the list modern day areas (by ward) that now cover the ancient parishes/former metropolitan boroughs referred to in the 'Information about each charity' section below. Please use this information to ascertain whether you qualify under the 'must reside or work' criteria to be a trustee of your chosen charity. If you are unable to ascertain from the information as to whether you do qualify then please contact Everton Roberts of the Constitutional Team 020 7525 7221 for assistance.

Ancient Parish of St Marys, Rotherhithe

Wards covered - Surrey Docks, Rotherhithe, part of Livesey (area north of Verney Road), part of South Bermondsey (area south of Catlin Street/Rotherhithe New Road and area north of Galleywall Road).

Former Metropolitan Borough of Bermondsey

Area covered by wards – Surrey Docks, Rotherhithe, Riverside, Grange, South Bermondsey, part of Chaucer (area north of Great Dover Street).

Former Metropolitan Borough of Camberwell

Wards covered – College, Village, East Dulwich, Peckham Rye, Nunhead, South Camberwell, The Lane, Brunswick, Camberwell Green (up to Bethwin Road) , Peckham, Livesey (the area of Rotherhithe New Road where it meets Ilderton Road) South Bermondsey (the area south of Rolls Road and Catlin Street) Faraday Ward (south of Albany Road).

Former Metropolitan Borough of Southwark.

Wards covered – Newington, Faraday (from north of Albany Road), East Walworth, Chaucer and Cathedrals Ward.

INFORMATION ABOUT EACH CHARITY

CAMBERWELL CONSOLIDATED CHARITIES

(Clerk to the Trustees – Mrs Janet McDonald, Tel: 020 7525 7511)

What does the charity do?

- It aims to alleviate poverty and hardship for pensioners in the former Metropolitan Borough of Camberwell.
- It pays small grants of £100 per annum to beneficiaries (payable in 2 instalments - June and December).

You will be required to:

- Assist the charity in undertaking its work as a member of the board for a period of four years.
- Attend four board meetings a year (February, May, September and November – usually on a Thursday evening from 6:30 – 8:30pm).

ROTHERHITHE CONSOLIDATED CHARITIES

(Clerk to the Trustees - Mr John Clarke, Tel: 01992 444466)

What does the charity do?

- The main object of the charity is that the income of the charity should be applied to the general benefit of the poor.
- The main activity is to provide an allowance to a number of elderly people who live in the area. The charity also arranges holidays for the elderly and local school children, as well as providing grants to individuals in the area.
- The beneficiaries of the charity are the elderly and those in need who live within the boundary of the ancient parish of St. Mary's, Rotherhithe.

You will be required to:

- Reside or work within the ancient parish boundary of St Mary's or have a close attachment to the area.
- Assist the charity with its work.
- The trustees meet four times a year. The meetings normally last for one to two hours.
- Outside the meeting trustees are expected to visit applications for the stipend and this will involve the completion of an application form and also the assessment of the person to see whether they are in need of the charity's grants.

ST GEORGE THE MARTYR UNITED CHARITIES

(Clerk to the Trustees – Mr Paul Leverton, Tel: 020 7407 2994)

What does the Charity do?

- The Charity provides pensions, holidays, hampers, outings and relief in need for almost 400 local pensioners and their spouses and partners living in the area of the former Borough of Southwark. Priority is given to those pensioners living in the area of the former parish of St. George the Martyr.

You will be required to:

- Reside or work in the area of the former Metropolitan Borough of Southwark.
- Attend board meetings, held quarterly in the evenings, which last approximately two and a half hours. Special meetings are called occasionally.
- Attend Sub-Committee meetings for Sub-Committees that may be established for specific purposes e.g. investments.
- Help and participate in the social events run for the pensioners.

ST OLAVE AND BERMONDSEY UNITED CHARITIES

(Clerk to the Trustees – Ms Angela O’shaughnessy, Tel: 020 7407 2530)

What does the charity do?

- Provide assistance to residents within the boundaries of the former Metropolitan Borough of Bermondsey, priorities to the aged and needy.

You will be required to:

- Reside or work in the area covered by the former Metropolitan Borough of Bermondsey, or have specific knowledge of the area.
- Attend board meetings, held quarterly with the addition of special meetings that may be required. Meetings are held at 1.30 p.m. and usually last two hours.

COURT OF THE GOVERNORS OF ST OLAVE'S AND ST SAVIOUR'S SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

(Clerk to the Trustees – Mr Russell Walters, Tel: 020 7945 6007)

What does the charity do?

- Supports two Schools, St Saviour's & St Olave's Church of England School in Southwark and St Olave's & St Saviour's Grammar School in Orpington.
- Supports young people (under 25 years) and young people's organisation in the Borough of Southwark known as the St Olave's Foundation Fund.
- Supports Southwark Cathedral Choirs

You will be required to:

- Attend Charity meetings on a twice-yearly basis, in the afternoons, in September at the St Saviour's & St Olave's Church of England School, Southwark, and in February at St Olave's & St Saviour's Grammar School, Orpington.
- All Southwark nominated Trustees are automatically members of the St Olave's Foundation Fund which meets four times a year in the afternoon.

This particular charity is looking for applicants with experience of the following:

1. Experience of the management of a commercial portfolio of properties;
2. Experience of the management of a portfolio of financial investments;
3. Experience of the current requirements of young people in Southwark;
4. Experience of the strategic environment in which schools operate