



The Gas Safety Trust

(Charity No. 1110624)

Trustee role

The Gas Safety Trust is looking for new Trustees to join our Board. for a new Trustee to join our Board. Our Trustees play a pivotal role in setting the strategic direction of the Gas Safety Trust and overseeing the management of the Trust.

The Gas Safety Trust was established in 2005 as a registered charitable body and is the UK's leading gas safety research charity.

The charity has the key objectives of further improving gas/fossil fuel safety for the public and industry throughout the UK and reducing the incidents of death and serious injury from carbon monoxide (CO) exposure. The Trust does this through the funding of research and data collection relating to carbon monoxide poisoning.

We provide grant funding, advice and support to any organisation to carry out research and evidence gathering relating to gas safety. Our current areas of interest are, but are not limited to:

- The possible link between CO and other conditions (co-morbidities)
- CO exposure risks to pregnant women and the fetus
- CO in the leisure environment
- CO emissions from solid fuels

Since 2013 we have awarded £2.5 million to a variety of programmes and projects relating to gas/fossil fuel safety and carbon monoxide exposure.

The Gas Safety Trust also owns the shareholding of CORGI Services Ltd (CSL) and receives dividends from the Company on an annual basis, which forms the key funding income for the Trust. As the shareholder the control of CSL comes through its governance structure. the appointment of Directors and the quorum for meetings. The articles give the Gas Safety Trust, as majority shareholder, the right to appoint and remove Directors.

The Trust is now looking to recruit 2/3 additional Trustees with skills in the following areas -a medical background with an interest in CO issues; marketing expertise; experience in the area of gas and /or solid fuels. An understanding of carbon monoxide issues would be an advantage. We work with a wide range of stakeholders including Academics, politicians and Parliament, and the medical Community.



The Role of a Trustee

- In summary the role of the Board of Trustees is to safeguard the assets of the Gas Safety Trust and apply them for the charitable purposes as declared in its objectives. The trustee board must always act in the best interests of The Gas Safety Trust exercising the same duty of care that a prudent person of business would in looking after the affairs of someone for whom he had responsibility. The trustee board must act as a group and not as individuals.

Specifically, the duties are

- To ensure that The Gas Safety Trust complies with its governing document (its Articles of Association) and with charity law, company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations
- To ensure that the Gas Safety Trust uses its resources exclusively in pursuance of its objects: the charity must not spend money on activities which are not included in its own objects, no matter how worthwhile or charitable those activities are.
- To contribute actively to the board of trustees' role in giving firm strategic direction to the organisation, setting overall policy, defining goals, and setting targets and evaluating performance against agreed targets.
- To safeguard the good name and values of The Gas Safety Trust.
- To ensure the effective and efficient administration of the organisation.
- To ensure the financial stability of the organisation. To protect and manage the property of the Trust and to ensure the proper investment of the charity's funds.

Personal qualities include

- Be committed and supportive of the purpose, objects, and values of The Gas Safety Trust
- Have experience of operating at a strategic/management level
- Acting in the charity's best interest by making balanced and informed decisions, recognising and dealing with conflicts of interest, and being prepared to question and challenge.
- Using your skills and experience to enhance the work of The Gas Safety Trust and, where appropriate, using your network of relevant contacts
- Understand the importance and purpose of meetings and be committed to attending and preparing for them.
- To be able to make collective decisions and stand by them
- To be supportive of the values of the Gas Safety Trust



- It would be helpful, but not essential, if you had undertaken media training

Further Information

- Remuneration
 - The role of Trustees is not accompanied with Financial Remuneration. Reasonable travel and other expenses will be reimbursed
- Meetings
 - There are normally 4 main Board meetings a year, typically lasting about 2/3 hours and an additional Strategy Day.
 - They have typically been held in central London (but are currently being held by video conference)
 - There are 3 sub-committees, Grants, Finance and Marketing, each being chaired by a Trustee, and Trustees will be expected to be a member of at least one of these. The Chair is invited to attend the Committees. These are held 4 times a year, by tele- conference
- Term of office
 - There is no fixed term of office. Each Trustee's appointment comes up for renewal on a rotating 3-year basis – it is expected that a Trustee would serve a minimum 2 terms (i.e. 6 years)

Find Out More

To find out more information and to have an informal conversation about this role, please contact Adrian McConnell, Head of Charitable Operations – adrian@gassafetytrust.org

The deadline for applying is Friday 27 November 2020.