



TRUSTEE RECRUITMENT 2024

Samworth Foundation, Chetwode House, 1 Samworth Way, Melton Mowbray LE13 1GA
Registered Charity Number 265647

Introduction

Would you like to play a key role in a charitable foundation committed to tackling social and environmental issues? If so, we are looking for a trustee to join the Samworth Foundation, a grant-making charity, to help us invest our money in organisations working to bring about positive change.

For this position, we would really like to hear from people who have lived and/or learned experience of modern slavery, human trafficking, and/or exploitation.

We are a small team of four trustees and three employees. You can find out more [here](#).

The Samworth Foundation

Established in 1973, the [Samworth Foundation](#) is a grant-making charity founded and funded by the Samworth family. As a funder, we aim to bring lasting change to issues that impact on people, communities, and the environment, in the UK and internationally.

Our core grant making focuses on two themes:

- Building lives free from modern slavery and exploitation.
- Better farming systems that enhance nature and address climate change.

We are a proactive grant-maker, identifying potential grant holders and inviting them to submit applications.

The Trustee role

Trustees share responsibility for governing the Foundation and directing how it is managed and run. You will help us effectively distribute our money to organisations working to address social and environmental issues in the UK and overseas.

Trustees are not paid, but reasonable expenses incurred whilst on trustee business, for example travel costs to attend a meeting, will be reimbursed.

A role profile can be found on page 3, and you can find out more about the responsibilities of a trustee [here](#).

About you

We are looking for someone with a commitment to the vision of the Samworth Foundation, who is thinking about taking their first step into a trustee role or who is or has been a charity trustee before.

We are committed to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion, and as outlined above, we would like to hear from people who have lived and/or learned experience of modern slavery, human trafficking, and/or exploitation.

By lived experience we mean the knowledge gained from your own personal life experiences. By learned experience we mean the understanding you have gained from your anti-slavery work.

How we will support you

To help you carry out your role effectively, we will:

- Offer an induction to the Samworth Foundation, which will include copies of all relevant documents, the opportunity to meet with the Chair, other trustees, and the staff team.

- Offer training to support you in your role.
- Ensure that trustee meeting papers are circulated electronically one week in advance of meetings so that you can prepare.
- Ensure that you are kept up to date on matters relating to the Foundation.
- Organise and accompany you on visits to grant holders.

How to apply

Please send a written statement of no more than one side of A4 or a short video of up to 2 minutes to nathalie@samworthfoundation.org.uk outlining:

1. Why you are interested in the role.
2. How your skills are an asset to this role.
3. The value you would bring to the Foundation.
4. The difference you hope to make to the Foundation.

If you would like a discussion before you apply or any help with your application, please contact Nathalie Walters, Director on 07984 317808 or email nathalie@samworthfoundation.org.uk

Deadline for applications: 5pm, 2 June 2024

Trustee role profile

- Salary: Unpaid. None of our trustees are paid. We will reimburse reasonable expenses incurred while travelling to and attending meetings or events for the Foundation.
- Hours: 4 meetings a year, each usually up to 4 hours long. Trustees are also invited to other events and activities relevant to the role. Estimated time commitment, 4 hours per month.
- Other: 4 trustee meetings are held each year. 3 in Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, and 1 in London, all during office hours (usually 10am-2pm, with breakfast and lunch provided).

Main purpose of the role

Trustees are responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of the Samworth Foundation, its financial health, probity of its activities, and for setting and overseeing the delivery of the organisation's aims and objectives.

Under the Charities Act 2011, trustees are responsible for:

1. Ensuring the charity is carrying out its purposes for the public benefit.
2. Complying with their charity's governing document and the law.
3. Acting in the charity's best interests.
4. Managing the charity's resources responsibly.
5. Acting with reasonable care and skill.
6. Ensuring the charity is accountable.

Person specification

The following skills, knowledge, and experience, would be helpful for the role of Trustee:

- A commitment to the aims and objectives of the Foundation.
- An understanding of the charity/not-for-profit sector.
- Lived and/or learned experience of modern slavery, human trafficking and/or exploitation.
- Good communication skills.
- Good, independent judgement and strategic vision.
- The confidence to constructively express your views.
- The ability to grasp relevant issues.
- An ability to work effectively as a member of a team.
- Willingness to learn about and take responsibility for the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of being a charity trustee.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

We want to build a diverse and inclusive organisation, and welcome applications from all sections of the community. If you have lived or learned experience of modern slavery, human trafficking and/or exploitation and are excited about this role but your skills, knowledge and experience aren't perfectly aligned with every requirement of the person specification, we encourage you to apply anyway.

We are happy to consider any reasonable adjustments that candidates may need during the recruitment process, and you will be asked whether you require any adjustments if shortlisted for interview. Where needed, we will also make reasonable adjustments if you are selected to become a trustee.

We will reimburse your travel costs if you attend an in-person interview.