

**WHAT IS THE ROLE OF A TRUSTEE AT NEF?**

### As Trustees, we are jointly responsible for the governance and strategic direction of the New Economics Foundation. We do this by coming together formally as a Board at meetings throughout the year and informally as needed to support each other and NEF’s leadership team in carrying out the charity’s aims and objectives.

### It is our responsibility to make sure we achieve our mission to benefit the public by transforming the economy so it works for people and the planet.

Trustees prioritise the best interests of the New Economics Foundation and support the charity’s long-term sustainability using our resources responsibly. We are accountable to each other, to our funders, to charity regulators and to society.

Our responsibilities are to:

**Ensure we’re achieving our mission to benefit current and future generations by transforming the economy so it works for people and the planet**

* Oversee our plans and what we set out to achieve each year.
* Ensure our activities support our mission.
* Check that our work benefits the public.

**Check that what we do is in line with the law**

* Ensure that we are and remain demonstrably politically neutral
* Make sure we work within the rules we gave ourselves when we were set up.
* Check that we follow the laws that apply to us.

**Act in the best interests of the New Economics Foundation**

* Do what trustees collectively decide is best for us to achieve our mission.
* Help make balanced and informed decisions for both the long and short term.
* Avoid situations where your duty to us conflicts with any other loyalties or personal interests.
* Not receive any benefit from us unless it’s properly authorised and in our best interests.

**Help us manage our resources responsibly**

* Make sure we use our resources only to support our mission.
* Avoid taking inappropriate risks with our assets and reputation.
* Ensure we don’t over-commit ourselves.
* Take special care when investing or borrowing.
* Use money we’ve been given for particular reasons only for those things.

**Act with reasonable care and skill**

* Make use of your skills and experience to govern the New Economics Foundation and take appropriate advice when necessary.
* Give time, thought and energy to the role.
* Prepare for, attend and actively engage in meetings of Trustees.

**Ensure that we’re accountable to each other, our funders and society**

* Help us to comply with the law, be well-run and effective
* Support good accountability at NEF, especially when decisions are delegated.

**WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?**

We’re keen that our Board of Trustees collectively has the necessary knowledge, skills, experience and attributes to support our good governance and strategic direction.

We require all our trustees to have:

* An interest in new economics and a commitment to transforming our economy so it works for people and the planet.
* An interest in two or more of our mission areas:
* A New Social Settlement: ensuring we all have the basics for a decent quality of life.
* A Green New Deal: cutting carbon emissions, boosting nature and creating good jobs.
* Democratic Economy: giving us an equal stake in the places where we live and work.
* The capability to understand what’s required of trustees and to put that into action.
* The time to contribute effectively as a trustee, to read papers and proactively prepare for meetings
* The willingness to attend all Trustee meetings, with allowances for illness and holidays
* The ability to work well with others, to listen and share views considerately and to find common ground in reaching decisions.

We have recently concluded a Trustees skills audit, which has identified the following gaps, and are keen to recruit trustees with the following skills:

* Knowledge of new economics in order to influence policy
* Campaigning and mobilising for change
* Communication, using digital, social traditional media channels

We want to enrich the diversity and ensure the effectiveness of our Board. We make use of positive action to select between candidates of equal merit as a way to address the gaps we have identified.

We are genuinely keen to receive applications from people who identify as working class or have done so in the past, or are from minoritised ethnic backgrounds; disabled people; people who identify as LGBT+; neurodivergent people; and people with experience of mental health problems.

If you are disabled and have the essential skills and experience (as outlined above) to undertake the role we will invite you to an interview. If you need information in a different format or have any other accessibility needs related to your application please let us know.

**EXPENSES**

### Trustees are volunteers and are not paid for their time, but we will reimburse trustees for the expenses involved in being a trustee, including travel expenses when applicable.

### **TRAINING**

### We’re committed to providing training and development for trustees as well as an induction. We are also implementing a buddy system to support new Board members in the early days.