



TRUSTEES

ROLE SUMMARY

Trustees are jointly responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of the New Economics Foundation.

Together, our trustees ensure that we're achieving our mission to benefit the public by transforming the economy so it works for people and the planet.

Trustees act in the best interests of the New Economics Foundation and support us in using our resources responsibly. Our trustees ensure that we stay accountable to each other, to our funders and to society.

BENEFITS OF BEING A TRUSTEE

Being a trustee should be a rewarding experience. It provides an opportunity to:

- Make use of your skills and experience and make a difference to a cause you care about
- Learn about charity governance and strategy
- Work with new and interesting people from different backgrounds

Trustees generally meet as a whole board four times each year, so it's the perfect volunteering opportunity for busy people. The experience will enhance your CV and may open doors to new career paths.

EXPENSES

Trustees are volunteers and are not paid for their time, but we expect to reimburse trustees for their expenses involved in being a trustee, including travel expenses.

PRIOR EXPERIENCE AS A TRUSTEE

We generally do not require new trustees to have prior experience as a charity trustee. If we do need this experience then we'll be clear about that in our advertising.

We're committed to providing training and development to our trustees as well as an induction for all new trustees.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of trustees are to:

Make sure we're achieving our mission to benefit the public by transforming the economy so it works for people and the planet

- Oversee our plans and what we set out to achieve from year to 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

- 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.

KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE, SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES

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 also want our Board to represent the society we serve.

We generally do not require previous experience of being a charity trustee. We are committed to providing support and training for new trustees.

We require **all trustees** to have:

- An understanding of our mission and a real commitment to transform our economy so it works for people and the planet.
- The ability to understand what's required of trustees and to put that into action.
- The time to contribute effectively as a trustee.
- An ability to work well with others, to listen and share views considerately and to find common ground in reaching decisions.

We require **some trustees** to have:

- Particular knowledge, skills or experience which we have identified we need but lack.
- Have particular attributes, experience or backgrounds to ensure we reflect the society we serve.

These last two requirements change depending on who our existing trustees are, and therefore what gaps we need to address.