



Living Streets Trustee Candidate Pack

July 2025

We are Living Streets, the UK charity for everyday walking. Our mission is to achieve a better walking environment and inspire people to walk more.





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Message from Chair of Trustees

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Living Streets trustee, a voluntary role on the charity's governing trustee board that I chair. Within the Living Streets family, we have a trading arm, Living Streets Services, that has a separate board with its own chair.

We are Living Streets, the UK charity for everyday walking. Our mission is to achieve a better walking environment and inspire people to walk more. This is a seminal time in our history: a newish political context; a dynamic and experienced new Chief Executive, Catherine Woodhead; and we are developing a new strategy that will take us towards our centenary in 2029.

With our thousands of members and supporters we run campaigns for positive change and for campaign policies that improve our streets such as encouraging families to walk to school, 20 mph speed limits and controlling pavement parking. We manage innovative national projects, engaging with schools, communities and workplaces to encourage more people to walk short journeys. Our year-round walk to school challenge captures the imagination of children in over 2000 schools. We work with local authorities and businesses to improve streets and public spaces. Our reports such as The Pedestrian Pound (updated in 2024), make a substantial contribution to the active travel agenda.


Our charity trustees play a key part in strategy development and then bringing that strategy to life. We would welcome applicants with:

- Senior finance experience across the charity, government or private sectors
- Legal experience in Charity Law or legal expertise relevant to the third sector

We're especially interested in candidates bringing diverse experience from the corporate sector. Additional digital skills would be desirable. But whatever your background, a commitment to the values and objectives of the charity overall will be crucial.

We actively welcome applications from people from a diverse range of backgrounds generally and from all parts of the UK.

We've come a long way since our foundation as The Pedestrians' Association in 1929, but we have not lessened our motivation or desire. Today we are a modern organisation with a staff team of 90 and an excellent reputation for evidence-based



policy, innovative campaigning and high-quality projects. We shall be planning our 100th birthday in the coming years.

This is a great opportunity for the right person and we are looking for someone who is energetic and passionate about our work. If you have these qualities, then we would love to hear from you!

Please do get in contact with me via email at info@livingstreets.org.uk if you would like to have a chat about your interest.

Dame Jane Roberts
Chair of Trustees

Role Description

Living Streets Trustees

As a Living Streets trustee, you will be helping steer the organisation forward into exciting but also challenging times, ensuring we keep the passion of our pioneers alive in the 21st century.

We are recruiting one new trustee to expand the experience represented on the board and ensure a balance of skills to help the organisation achieve its strategic objectives. On the charity board we are especially keen for applicants with skills and experience in finance in the private, particularly the corporate sector. Digital skills in addition would be beneficial.

Living Streets is registered as a charity and a limited company. Therefore, every trustee is also a director of the company and has legal responsibilities as well as potential limited liabilities.

General trustee responsibilities:

- a) Strategic – defining and approving the organisation’s strategy and values, the strategic objectives arising from these, and arriving at appropriate policy decisions to take them forward;
- b) Stewardship – to have responsibility for the organisation’s assets, their presentation and exploitation, and assessing risks;
- c) Monitoring – to oversee the effective management of the organisation and its service delivery, selecting and supporting the Chief Executive, and ensuring that good human resources practice is pursued for its paid staff;
- d) Promotion of and advocacy for the organisation to external clients/partners/stakeholders;
- e) Governance – ensuring that trustee/ NED business is effectively conducted and that the Code of Governance is followed.

The organisation’s expectation of a trustee

Members of the board of trustees are expected to:

- a) Ensure the organisation complies with the law and Charity Commission requirements.
- b) Understand and support the organisation’s mission, goals, policies, programmes, services, strength, and needs.

- c) Focus on strategic issues for the organisation rather than detailed management decisions.
- d) Support the majority decision on issues decided by the board.
- e) Assist the organisation where appropriate by attracting potential income streams through personal influence with others (individuals, organisations, companies etc.).
- f) Attend meetings regularly, prepare for them and participate actively.
- g) Maintain independence and objectivity and act with a sense of fairness and personal integrity.
- h) Maintain confidentiality of confidential details of the organisation's business and of board meetings.
- i) Show appropriate respect to other trustees, staff volunteers and users of the organisation.
- j) Be fully aware of the trustees' Code of Governance (as updated from time to time) and use all reasonable endeavours to ensure that the business of the organisation is conducted in the way required by it.
- k) Avoid pursuance of a personal agenda through membership of the board, inappropriate relationships with management and staff and prejudiced judgements on the basis of information received from individuals instead of following established policies and grievances procedures.
- l) Avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest and disclose any possible conflicts to the board in a timely fashion and in accordance with the Conflicts of Interest Policy.

Person Specification

Candidates should be able to demonstrate the following skills:

- Strategic level experience in the private/ public or non-for-profit sector
- Connection to or interest in walking and public space issues
- A commitment to the values and objectives of Living Streets
- An understanding or a willingness to learn about the principles and rules which govern UK charities

In addition, for the charity board, we are looking for experience and skills in the following areas:

- A qualification in accountancy and senior experience in finance in the private, ideally corporate sector
- Legal experience in Charity Law or legal expertise relevant to the third sector

The board is keen to widen our diversity further and we would welcome applications from disabled people and people from a minority ethnic background from all parts of the UK.

Time commitment

Trustees are expected to attend and participate in the following:

- Five board meetings a year (4-6pm) – currently held on a Thursday afternoon
- An Annual General Meeting
- Our Annual Walking Summit
- Trustee ‘away’ sessions, held in person, no less frequently than two yearly
- Some trustees take on lead roles (eg safeguarding, membership)

There is currently a subcommittee of the board, the Audit and Risk Committee chaired by our Treasurer, Andy Cottrell, which meets three times a year. From time to time, there are task focused, time limited trustee sub-groups.

Board meetings have historically been held in London, but since the Covid pandemic, trustees can join the meetings via Microsoft Teams. Trustees are encouraged to come in person to some meetings. We will fully reimburse travel expenses of trustees when attending official engagements in person.

Safeguarding

Living Streets is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk; and expects all our staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Application process

Candidates should provide a **CV** and **covering letter** which set out relevant experience, skills and the reasons for your interest in joining the Living Streets Board of Trustees, reflecting the Person Specification.

Please email these to: recruitment@livingstreets.org.uk by the advertised deadline.

Closing date for applications: 18/08/2025, 5pm

Interview date: 03/09/2025

Shortlisted candidates will be contacted the week before the interview date.

Please let us know if you have any access requirements so we can make appropriate adjustments for you to attend an interview which will be held virtually by video conferencing.

Candidates who are successful at interview will be given a full induction briefing and the opportunity to observe a meeting of the Board of Trustees. Following this, they will be co-opted onto the Board and put forward for election by members of Living Streets at the next Annual General Meeting.

If you require any further information, please visit our website www.livingstreets.org.uk or contact us on HR@livingstreets.org.uk