



# **Nuffield Trust**

## **Trustee recruitment information**

January 2022

# Overview

The Nuffield Trust is seeking to appoint an individual with an interest in health and care and associated policy to join our Board of Trustees.

As a Board, we have four key roles:

- Stewardship of the Trust's resources, in particular our endowment;
- Oversight of the running of the organisation, with day to day responsibility delegated to the management team;
- Setting the strategic direction for the trust and assessing its impact; and
- Supporting the management team with subject matter expertise relevant to the Trust's work.

We recognise that we would benefit from increasing the range of diverse voices around the Board table so that we ensure that our work is truly relevant to all those who deliver and use health and care services across the UK, and takes account of innovative thinking from other sectors. We are keen to hear from people with a wide range of perspectives, and are happy to consider candidates without pre-existing Board experience.

## About the Trust

As one of the leading independent health-policy charitable trusts in the UK, the Nuffield Trust is an authoritative and independent source of evidence-based research and policy analysis for improving health care. In everything we do we strive to be independent, rigorous, relevant, open-minded and to make a difference.

Our vision is to help provide the objective research and analysis that boosts the quality of health policy and practice, and ultimately improves the health and health care of people in the UK.

The Trust provides influential research and policy insights, and rigorous evaluations of key policy and health care developments. Chief Executive Nigel Edwards has a well established reputation as a significant thought leader on health and social care policy, with unparalleled connections to NHS chief executives, clinical leaders and policy makers. He leads an experienced senior management team, each member a leading figure in his or her own field. The Trust has an endowment of some £100 million, an annual income of about £4.5 million mostly drawn from the endowment, and approximately 50 highly professional, well-qualified and committed staff.

The Trust currently makes a distinctive contribution through its quantitative and qualitative analysis and its commentary on service developments, funding and performance. We are a respected forum for high-level debate and thinking on health care reform. Our role as a trusted convenor enables us to bring together a wide group of influential people in the UK and abroad to inform and influence emerging health policy. Our respected and widely attended seminars and conferences, including our flagship Annual Health Policy Summit, provide a platform for policy-makers, health

care chief executives, clinicians, managers, academics and the media to engage in critical debate.

The Nuffield Trust is funded primarily from income generated from the Nuffield Trust's own endowment – this helps to secure the independence of its research and wider activities. The endowment, which is currently valued at c£100 million, was given to the Nuffield Trust in 1940 by Viscount Nuffield. The investment income is used to fund in-house research and support its dissemination. In addition we seek grant funding and commissions from external partners for research projects that support our corporate priorities. Income generated from the endowment remains the most important source of income for the Trust, and ensures that it is not dependent on any other source of income to carry out its charitable purpose.

To find out more about the Trust's work, our Annual Reports and financial statements, please visit the website <http://www.nuffieldtrust.org.uk/>

Our Board of Trustees make a highly valued contribution to our work through the insight and experience they bring. In addition to the formal Board and committee meetings, Trustees are invited to attend our annual Policy Summit, and to other events which may be held throughout the year.

## **Role description**

The charity's trustees meet as a Board four times a year to set the strategic direction for the Nuffield Trust's work, ensure that the organisation's endowment is invested and managed effectively, monitor the impact of the Trust's activity and ensure that its reputation for rigour and independence is maintained.

Trustees are appointed for an initial three-year term, which may lead to re-appointment for a further two terms, and are required to attend quarterly Board and Committee meetings.

Further information on the general responsibilities of Trustees may be found in the Charity Code of Governance published by ACEVO:

<https://www.charitygovernancecode.org/en/front-page> and on the Charity Commission website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-what-you-need-to-do>

Potential Trustees must ensure that they have considered whether there are any existing conflicts that would compromise their ability to carry out trustee responsibilities.

Trustees are not paid but we do meet reasonable expenses.

## **Person specification**

Candidates for these posts should have established a strong track record of achievement in their field and understand the principles of governance.

All trustees must be willing to understand and accept the statutory requirements that govern charities and must also be willing to devote the necessary time to the role. Trustees should have a keen interest in, and ability to connect strongly with, the Nuffield Trust's vision and values.

### **Essential qualities and experience sought in all candidates**

1. A demonstrable interest in the provision of health and care and the contemporary health and care policy environment;
2. Ability to apply their knowledge of health and care services and the policies determining them to the work of the Trust
3. Innovative thinking coupled with excellent communication skills to debate, challenge and influence the work of the Trust;
4. Evidence of significant achievement in the candidate's sector.
5. Understanding of the principles of governance