

BOARD MEMBERS

JOB DESCRIPTION



JRHT Board Member role

There will be four JRHT Board meetings a year, two of which are combined with a Board strategy day. Board Members will also be expected to be a member of at least one of the Board's sub-committees or in one of the joint JRF and JRHT committees. Board Members may also be asked to participate in events which promote JRHT's work. Overall, the minimum time commitment is two to three days a quarter, which our current Board Members find demanding but manageable.

Role Purpose

Our Board Members are the stewards of Joseph Rowntree's vision, legacy, values and principles, and shape how these are put into action today. Board Members will contribute to the effective governance and strategic leadership of JRHT by bringing senior-level experience, professional expertise, or diverse perspectives from a range of sectors and backgrounds. We welcome applications from individuals with transferable skills and experience that can support the organisation's purpose and long-term success.

Roles and responsibilities of Board Members include determining strategies, advising on new initiatives to deliver the strategic plan, forming policies, managing risk, and challenging and supporting the Executive.

The majority of our housing and care homes and neighbourhoods are in the York area and we are looking to strengthen knowledge of the local area and market on the Board.

Job Description

As a Board Member:

- Provide leadership of JRHT within a framework of prudent and effective controls which enable risk to be assessed and managed.
- Set JRHT's delegated direction and strategy, ensuring that the necessary financial and human resources are in place for it to meet its objectives.
- Ensure that JRHT's legal and regulatory obligations are understood and met.
- Ensure Board Members work together and with the Chair to provide guidance, support and challenge to the executive team.
- Provide professional expertise that lends commerciality and rigour to strategic debate.
- Carry out statutory duties to include approving the JRHT's annual report and accounts, and an appropriate statement for inclusion in the annual report on the effectiveness of the organisation's systems for risk management and internal control.
- Ensure that effective systems are in place for the management and control of the JRHT's performance.

Person specification

- a) Be committed to the mission and strategic objectives of JRF and JRHT.
- b) Have demonstrable experience and strategic understanding of the housing sector, particularly in relation to development and asset management, audit and risk, and a sound understanding of compliance requirements and internal control frameworks.
- c) Have the ability to contribute effectively to the Board's scrutiny of financial performance, long-term financial planning, while bringing insight into the governance of housing assets.
- d) Sound understanding of key legal concepts and ability to interpret legal and regulatory considerations at a strategic level.
- e) demonstrate an interest in – and the ability to engage with policy and practice, particularly around housing and care;
- f) challenge and be open to challenge in a way that requires the ability to be constructive, collaborative and resilient;
- g) build and sustain good working relationships with fellow Board Members and senior staff;
- h) have the enthusiasm, ability and time to review and comment on papers and reports;
- i) be able to think strategically and creatively, to consider and apply different approaches to challenges the organisation may face.
- j) understand and accept the legal duties and responsibilities of Board Members in a highly regulated environment;
- k) be of good character and integrity;
- l) serve effectively as a member of our Board and sub-committees;
- m) communicate effectively, with good listening and speaking skills;
- n) use information technology confidently and effectively including during Board meetings and be willing to communicate and share information electronically

Disqualifications

We are politically independent and we need to be able to demonstrate political impartiality in all we do. Applicants who are either serving or former politicians or who have a connection to a political party (e.g. through standing for election or working as an adviser) will be asked to demonstrate how they will uphold JRHT's impartiality if appointed.

Applications will not be considered from people who:

- Are disqualified under the Charities Act 2011 from acting as a charity trustee or are prohibited by law from being a director of a company
- Have been convicted of an indictable offence which is not, or cannot be, spent
- Are disqualified from acting as an officer of a registered housing provider under the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008

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