



Information for new or prospective trustees

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Trustee with Emmaus SLC. We are delighted that you are interested in joining our Board of Trustees. We have put together some resources which you may find useful in deciding about applying to join us.

About Emmaus South Lambeth Community (Emmaus SLC)

Emmaus SLC is a homelessness charity and social enterprise, offering formerly homeless people support to get back on their feet. Our residents, who are known as 'companions', receive not just a bed, but full-time work within the community. Companions can stay for as long as they need, and when they are ready to move on, they will receive assistance and guidance to help find accommodation and work. At Emmaus SLC we provide the tools to allow those in need to regain control of their lives.

The money generated from our shops all goes into the upkeep of our community, the support of our companions and the running of the charity. Each Emmaus Community aims to be self-sufficient and does not rely on state funding other than Housing Benefit. Our shops provide our companions with work, to help gain vital experience to get back on their feet.

Read more about Emmaus SLC on our website <https://emmaus.org.uk/slc/about-us/>

Emmaus movement and federations

Whilst Emmaus SLC operates as its own charity, there are many Emmaus Communities and groups across the UK and the world. Emmaus SLC is part of the Emmaus worldwide movement and a member of the Emmaus Federation in the UK, Emmaus Europe and Emmaus International. Read more about these below:

<https://emmaus.org.uk/about-us/emmaus-international/>

<https://emmaus.org.uk/about-us/history/emmaus-uk-history/>

Please watch these short YouTube clips to understand more about our movement:

[Our struggles - Social and environmental justice - YouTube](#)

[Our struggles - Peace, free movement and settlement and universal citizenship - YouTube](#)

Emmaus SLC board of trustees

Our board of trustees has up to 12 members, made up of people with a diverse range of professional and personal backgrounds, experiences and skills, all contributing towards our governance. You can find out more about our current trustees here <https://emmaus.org.uk/slc/our-trustees/>

As well as attending board meetings every 2 months, all trustees are also required to be part of a sub-committee which meet in between main board meetings. Currently we have three sub-committees – HR and Companion Welfare; Business Development and Communications; and Finance and Audit.

There is also an opportunity to join our Solidarity Committee, with meetings held on the last Thursday of every month. The Committee comprises of Companions, staff and volunteers from Emmaus SLC.

Please read our **trustee role description** for more details about role of a Trustee, including expectations, duties and skills and experience required.

Trustee recruitment process

If you are interested in applying to be a Trustee for Emmaus SLC, here are the steps:

- Get in touch with us for an informal conversation. This can include a conversation with our CEO and should include a visit to our Community to meet Companions and staff, and see what we do – Contact us on 0300 123 2001 or contact@emmausslc.co.uk.
- Complete our Trustee application form.
- Initial interview with members of our Trustee recruitment panel
- If the interview panel feel that you have the skills and experiences required for the Board at the time, you will be invited to attend our Board meetings as a Guest – this allows you to see how Board meetings work and meet other Trustees and to see if it is right for you.
- If you decide that you would like to be appointed the Board will vote on your appointment
- You will also be required to go through checks such as DBS checks, and agree to our ethos, values, and relevant organisational policies.

Resources about being a Charity Trustee

Below are some resources about the responsibilities of being a Trustee which you may find useful:

Charity Commission guidance – “The essential trustee: what you need to know, what you need to do” <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3>

Charity Commission blog – “What is a trustee and how to become one”

<https://charitycommission.blog.gov.uk/2023/04/26/what-is-a-trustee-and-how-to-become-one/>

Charity Commission 5-minute guides – Being a charity trustee

<https://beingacharitytrustee.campaign.gov.uk/>

NCVO - Legal duties of trustees

<https://www.ncvo.org.uk/help-and-guidance/governance/responsibilities-for-boards/the-legal-duties-of-trustees/#/>

Videos:

[The Essential Trustee: Key points - YouTube](#)

[Webinar recording: Being a Charity Trustee in the current climate - YouTube](#)