



NHP - TRUSTEE APPLICATION PACK

About NHP

The [House Project](#) approach was first established in 2015 and was driven by the views of young people on how they could be supported to leave care well. They didn't want to leave care by themselves, they wanted choice in where they lived and they didn't want support to drop off when they moved. These commitments informed the fidelity of our work and contributed to an approach that is enabling young people to succeed and is changing lives.



NHP works with Local Authorities (LA) to establish Local House Projects (LHP) that work directly with young people via a groupwork approach that is psychologically informed. With a framework approach that recognises the expertise of LA staff and the voice of young people we are now working with 20 LAs and have an ambition to scale to 45 LAs by March 2025.

When the Charity was formally established in 2018, young people remained at the heart of the organisation with two young people from each LHP representing their views to the [Care Leavers National Movement](#) (CLNM). This 'movement' developed an advisory group and represents the 'user voice'

of all young people in the House Project community. Two representatives of this group sit as expert advisers to the Board.

Our work was initially supported by the Department for Education and Innovation Unit and has been positively evaluated by York University ([2017](#) & [2020](#)), a [Peer Evaluation](#) (2021) and [Staf](#) (2022). Cambridge University are evaluating our psychological approach and Warwick Business School are evaluating how our innovation is being scaled at both a practice and policy level.

Our strategic goals for the period 2022–2025 are:

- Scale our work across the UK so that more young people can be supported to leave care well.
- Grow our resources to develop a range of activities and experiences that build confidence, skills and knowledge to succeed in life.
- Enhance partnerships with corporates and business to increase reach, sustainability and pathways in to work.
- Grow NHP to deliver our strategic goals.



More information about our work and the current members of our Board of Trustees can be found on our website: [National House Project](#).

About our Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees supports the Charity to ensure that NHP operates within the law and meet our charitable objectives. They do this by working with NHP staff and expert advisers from CLNM to ensure that we are working to our vision and mission in everything we do.

With other trustees you'll be responsible for the governance of the organisation, its strategic development and ensuring the charity is well run. You'll demonstrate what it takes to deliver effective services and be able to make good decisions. You'll have a deep commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and will value the lived experience and expert status of young people who are beneficiaries of our work.

The Board currently has four members and we are keen to recruit a minimum of two Trustees to build a more diverse team of people that reflects the needs of those we support. We actively encourage approaches from people of different ages, physical ability, sexual orientation, race and religious belief and those with care experience. Whilst prior experience of being a Trustee is not essential you will bring knowledge, skills and experience in one of the following areas; philanthropy and fundraising, business development organisational change, Law, HR and PR & Communications.

Our Charity is registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales and we are currently completing registration forms for the Commission in Scotland. Our office is in Crewe.

Trustees are appointed initially for three years. Thereafter they may be reappointed for two further terms of three years each after which trustees must step down. The position is unpaid, though reasonable expenses (such as travel to meetings) are reimbursed. A full induction is offered to new Trustees.



Mark
Leith

Trustee - Chair



Jessica
Holland

Trustee



Mike
Hodgetts

Trustee



Rachel
Dickinson

Trustee

TRUSTEE ROLE DESCRIPTION

Remuneration: The role of trustee is unpaid but reasonable travel expenses may be claimed

Location: NHP Head office is in Crewe, Cheshire

Reporting to: Chair of Trustees

Time commitment: Four Board meetings annually which take place at the head office in Crewe. These are in-person meetings that take place on Wednesdays between the hours of 11am-3pm with staff and young people joining you over lunch.

We deliver an Annual NHP Conference and an Annual CLNM Young Person's event which trustees are expected to attend.

Working groups and sub-committees are organised as required and trustees are asked to attend according to their particular areas of expertise. These meetings may be virtual.

- The trustee with a lead for safeguarding meets with the CEO/Director on a monthly basis
- All trustees are invited to attend marketing, communication strategy meetings
- NHP staff may contact individual trustees between meetings on matters relating to their particular areas of expertise

New trustees will be expected to be make themselves available for induction training which will involve background reading and meetings (in person and online with staff).

Trustees who agree to mentor new trustees will make themselves available to their mentees both before and after Board meetings.

Term of Office: Trustees serve a 3-year term and can serve for a maximum of 3 terms.

Key responsibilities of all charity trustees:

- To commit to the vision and ethos of the NHP
- To value the voice of young people and ensure it informs decision making
- To ensure the charity complies with its governing documents, charity and company law and other legislation and regulations
- To contribute actively to giving clear strategic direction, setting overall policy, defining goals, and setting targets, and evaluating performance
- To safeguard the good name and reputation of the NHP and be an effective ambassador
- To ensure the charity's effective and efficient administration
- To ensure the charity's financial stability
- To support and constructively challenge the senior management as a "critical friend"

Trustee - Person specification:

The ideal trustee will have:

- Commitment to our aims and a willingness to devote the necessary time and effort
- A keen interest in promoting outcomes for children and young people and an understanding of the issues facing young people leaving care
- Sound judgement and effective decision making ensuring that the charity always acts in the best interests of the beneficiaries
- The ability to work effectively as a member of a team
- A willingness to share insights, learning and practices from other sectors and organisations and to share contacts and opportunities

Additional Note:

Section 72(1) of the Charities Act 1993 disqualifies anyone who:

- has been convicted of an offence involving deception or dishonesty, unless the conviction is spent
- is an undischarged bankrupt
- has previously been removed from trusteeship of a charity by the court or the Charity Commissioners
- is under a disqualification order under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986

It is an offence to act as a charity trustee while disqualified unless the Charity Commission has given a waiver under section 72(4) of the Charities Act 1993.

THE NATIONAL HOUSE PROJECT IS COMMITTED
TO SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND VULNERABLE ADULTS
All successful candidates will be subject to a DBS Check along with other relevant checks

