

TRUSTEE

DESCRIPTION OF THE ROLE AND PERSON SPECIFICATION



Fight Bladder Cancer was registered as an unincorporated charity in England and Wales on 8 July 2014 (1157763).

Fight Bladder Cancer was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 28 April 2022 (1198773) and recognised as a cross-border charity in Scotland on 27 July 2022 (SC051881).

The Charity Commission of England and Wales approved merging the unincorporated charity with the Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 19 April 2023.



TRUSTEE:

Salary: Unpaid. Reasonable expenses reimbursed for travelling to meetings

Hours: Four meetings a year online. Additionally, trustees may be invited to attend other events to support the charity.

Charity Location: The Village Centre, High Street, Chinnor, Oxon, OX39 4DH

About Fight Bladder Cancer

Fight Bladder Cancer is a UK-based bladder cancer charity founded and mainly run by bladder cancer patients and their families/carers.

We provide personal support anyone affected by bladder cancer in the UK. We also help raise public awareness, support medical research, and campaign to influence policy at the highest levels to bring about improvements in bladder cancer treatments.

Despite a 16% decline in new bladder cancer cases over the past decade, the challenge remains substantial. Annually, more than 21,181 individuals are diagnosed with bladder cancer in the UK, and over 100,000 are living with this condition. These figures underscore the immense responsibility faced by Fight Bladder Cancer in addressing this significant health concern.

Fight Bladder Cancer was founded in 2010 by Andrew Winterbottom and his wife, Tracy Staskevich, following Andrew's Stage 4 bladder cancer diagnosis. Faced with a lack of support for bladder cancer patients and their families in the UK, they created an online support forum and website to fill this gap.

The charity officially registered in 2014 and has since focused on raising awareness of bladder cancer and supporting those affected by the disease

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What we do and our strategic goals

Our work falls under four key pillars:



Awareness – raising awareness of this neglected cancer through national and local campaigns to increase early diagnosis.

Strategic goal – to increase awareness of bladder cancer and its symptoms to boost public understanding, empower people, and attract media attention.



Support – giving information, guidance and advice to patients and their families and improving signposting to Fight Bladder Cancer to enhance the quality of life.

Strategic goal – to continually improve our support for patients and families and in the future, we aim to grow our clinical and community support team, and with the NHS, work to increase the number of dedicated bladder cancer clinical nurse specialists.



Policy change – using patient experiences to bring about change, improve services and eliminate inequalities in patient care.

Strategic goal – as diagnosis and treatment methodologies evolve, the UK guidelines need to keep pace through national audits and enhancing quality standards to achieve fair access and that referrals meet the Faster Diagnosis Standard.



Research – working with patients to influence research investment and priorities.

Strategic goal – to make a significant contribution to the volume of research studies and clinical trials undertaken that have a direct impact on the pattern of provision and funding for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of bladder cancer.

Who are the Charity's trustees?

The Charities Act 1993 defines Charity trustees as those responsible under the Charity's governing document for controlling the administration and management of the Charity. This is the case regardless of the terminology used to describe the role.

Currently the Trustee Board consists of seven members with differing talents and backgrounds, some with a lived experience of bladder cancer. The Trustee Board is chaired by Dr Andrew Dearden, a former GP with experience at director level at the British Medical Association and board positions at several medical professional bodies in the UK and globally.

The role of the Board of Trustees

At its simplest, the role of the trustee board is to receive assets from donors, safeguard them and apply them to the charitable purposes of Fight Bladder Cancer. The trustee board must always act in the best interests of Fight Bladder Cancer, exercising the same standard of duty of care that a prudent person would apply if looking after the affairs of someone for whom they have responsibility. The trustee board must act as a group and not as individuals.

Duties of Trustee Board Member

The duties of a trustee board member are:

- To ensure that Fight Bladder Cancer complies with its governing document (its Constitution), Charity law, company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations
- To ensure that Fight Bladder Cancer pursues its objects as defined in its governing document
- To ensure Fight Bladder Cancer applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its objects. For example, it must not spend money on activities which are not included in the objects, however worthwhile they may be
- To contribute actively to the board of trustees by giving firm strategic direction to Fight Bladder Cancer, setting overall policy, defining goals, setting targets, and evaluating performance against agreed targets
- To safeguard the good name and values of Fight Bladder Cancer
- To ensure the financial stability of Fight Bladder Cancer

In addition to the above statutory duties, each trustee should use any specific skills, knowledge or experience they have to help the Board of Trustees reach sound decisions. This may involve leading discussions, identifying key issues, providing advice and guidance on new initiatives, and evaluating or offering advice on other areas in which the trustee has particular expertise.

Minimum time commitment

- New Trustees are expected to attend an induction session at Fight Bladder Cancer prior to their first board meeting.
- Trustees are expected to attend at least 80% of all board meetings. Board

meetings are held four times a year early evening and usually online.

- Dates of Board meetings are agreed upon well in advance
- Papers are distributed one week in advance of meetings.
- Trustees may be asked to join a board sub-committee
- Trustees can claim out of pocket expenses incurred in travelling to meetings and events etc

Person specification

Each trustee must have:

- a commitment to the mission of Fight Bladder Cancer
- a willingness to meet the minimum time requirement
- integrity
- strategic vision
- good, independent judgement
- an ability to think creatively
- a willingness to speak their mind
- an understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship
- an ability to work effectively as a member of a team and to take decisions for the good of Fight Bladder Cancer.

To Apply:

Please send your C.V. along with a covering letter detailing why you would like to become a Trustee of Fight Bladder Cancer to:

Ali Stunt, CEO alisonstunt@fightbladdercancer.co.uk