



Make Space for Girls

ROLE: CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Make Space for Girls is a charity which campaigns for better parks and public spaces for teenage girls and young women.

We have a very simple vision: a world where all parks and public spaces are designed to make teenage girls feel valued and included and where everyone feels welcome.

Teenage girls are often excluded from the design of these spaces, leaving them without places where they feel welcome. To ensure that they have access to spaces that meet their needs and are inclusive, we work directly with young women, campaigning and advocating for them to be involved in the process of designing places they will use and enjoy. We work with local communities, design professionals and policy makers to raise awareness and drive change. Although we are a UK-based charity, we have made connections across the world.

We have recently launched our new three year strategy, identifying what we want to achieve and how we are going to do it.

Our priorities for the next three years are to:

- Engage with, and empower, teenage girls to shape parks and public spaces;
- Enable and collaborate with local communities to drive change;
- Raise awareness and build networks;
- Promote change in policy and practice; and
- Deliver our charitable objectives.

How we work is very important to our trustees. We are committed to ensuring that our work is inclusive; recognises disadvantage and intersectionality; is evidence-based; is impactful; and serves communities and the public good. We are committed to ensure that as a charity we are well-governed, accountable to our supporters and communities, open and transparent in our processes and that resources are acquired and used ethically, efficiently and effectively.

We are a small but ambitious, volunteer-led charity funded mostly by grants and donations. In the five years since the charity started, we have had a significant impact on how people think about the purpose and use of parks and public spaces and what can be done to make them more welcoming to teenage girls. We are beginning to see new spaces that have been



designed with the input of teenagers and young women. But there is more to do.

Over the last 18 months we have recruited a number of additional highly dedicated and experienced trustees who now form the Board. The charity's founders have both stepped back from the Board, with one remaining as an associate, helping us to deliver some of our day-to-day activities.

Following this period of change, we are now looking for a dynamic individual/s to chair our Board of Trustees and lead the organisation into the next phase of its work. We are open to the potential for two individuals to share the role of chair, or to appoint both a chair and vice chair.

"It has been a real privilege to be the Acting Chair of Make Space for Girls for the past two years and to work with our fantastic team of trustees and associates. The charity is now almost five years old and in that time we have learnt so much from teenage girls and young women about how they experience parks and public spaces and what needs to change to make them feel like they belong there. Our work has changed the way councils, architects, landscape designers, developers and the general public think about these spaces and what needs to change to make them more welcoming and inclusive. We have exciting and ambitious plans for the next five years and we are looking for someone with a strong commitment to helping us make our vision a reality and the experience and skills to lead our team."

Caroline Millar, Acting Chair of Trustees

We need someone who will:

- Lead the charity and the Board and oversee, shape and support the delivery of our new Strategic Plan;
- Ensure that the charity is well-governed and responsibly managed and has the resources required to deliver its work;
- Develop and maintain strong relationships with partner organisations and stakeholders;
- Oversee and support the work of trustees, volunteers, staff and consultants; and
- Be the public face of the charity and champion our work.

What we are looking for:

- A strong commitment to the purpose of the charity and its Strategic Objectives. Enthusiasm for the charity's vision and mission and a commitment to its values.



- Experience of being a trustee of a charity or similar organisation (essential) and, ideally, some experience in the role of Board Chair.
- An understanding of the importance of governance in the charity sector and the skills and ability to ensure that the charity's good reputation is maintained at all times.
- The ability to responsibly oversee the resources of the charity (in terms of both people and money) and to manage risk.
- An inclusive leadership style with the ability to listen, inspire and support colleagues and to provide challenge when needed.
- A strong commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion.
- An interest in and a commitment to the best interests of young people.
- A commitment to Nolan's seven principles of public life:
 - Selflessness;
 - Integrity;
 - Objectivity;
 - Accountability;
 - Openness;
 - Honesty; and
 - Leadership.

Support

Make Space for Girls is committed to developing and supporting our Trustees, throughout their time on the Board, from initial induction to training and mentoring during their time on the Board.

Conflicts of interest

As Chair, you would be a Trustee of Make Space for Girls. Trustees should avoid putting themselves in a position where their duty to the charity conflicts with their own interests or loyalty to another person or body. They should receive no benefits from the charity unless it is properly authorised and is clearly in the charity's interests. This applies to anyone who is financially connected to the trustee such as a partner, child or business partner. Trustees should



declare any actual or perceived conflicts of interest on appointment and advise promptly of any new conflicts.

Time Commitment

This is an unpaid role (expenses paid). You should be able to commit at least two to three days a month (16 to 24 hours) to the work of the charity and be available to colleagues as appropriate. There are currently six trustee Board meetings each year (two hours long, online), an annual Board Development Day (in person), and periodic working group and committee meetings.

Term of office

All Trustees are appointed for a three year term of office, with possible extensions to terms if necessary.

How to Apply

Please submit a two page maximum CV and a two page maximum supporting cover letter (or short video if preferred) by the 6th February, explaining why you feel you would be suitable for the role and why it is of interest to you, to: makespaceforgirls@gmail.com.

Please note interviews will be held online in mid February.

Make Space for Girls is committed to recruiting Trustees who represent the communities we serve. We welcome applications from candidates from a broad range of backgrounds, professional experiences, ethnicity and sexuality/gender identity.

Find out more

You can find out more about our work by visiting our website www.makespaceforgirls.co.uk.