



Glasgow-based mental health charity Common Wheel is looking for two people to join its Board of Trustees

Role: Volunteer Member of the Board of Trustees

Website: www.commonwheel.org.uk

Location: Common Wheel's administrative base is at Campbell House, Gartnavel Royal Hospital, Glasgow. Trustee meetings are normally held at Campbell House, but may be conducted or joined remotely.

Organisation profile

Our **vision** is that people with mental illness in Glasgow are able to live a meaningful and satisfying life and contribute to society.

Our **mission** is to improve mental wellbeing, increase skills and reduce isolation through the provision of supported, meaningful activities for people with mental illness and dementia.

Our **values** are Care, Equality, Positivity and Partnership

We currently provide four principal activities:

- Bicycle building, maintenance and repair at workshops in Maryhill and Bridgeton, and occasionally at other venues
- Participatory music, in a variety of settings
- Carnival art – creating 3D artworks for display and procession
- An indoor climbing group

In the last two years, we have extended our work to include a creative writing project with the Gartnavel Hospital community.

During the Covid pandemic, we have adjusted our work to include online work and support for people to work on creative projects remotely.

We support people living in the local community, on hospital wards and in care homes. Before the pandemic, over 500 people a year benefited from the work we do.

We have an annual turnover of just over £200K and a workforce of six staff (two of whom are part-time), supported by twelve volunteers and a number of freelancers who help deliver our programmes.

In 2016 Common Wheel won BBC Radio Four's 'All in the Mind' Award for Best Project. And in 2019, we were the winners of the Carer(s) of the Year Award in the Glasgow Inspiring City Awards.

Our board is currently focused on an interim plan as we continue to build forward from the impact of the pandemic. This sets out the following vision for Common Wheel:

By the end of 2022, Common Wheel aims to be:

- A more innovative, creative and inclusive mental health organisation
- A more visible, connected and agile organisation

And we will have developed

- Improved client/stakeholder pathways into, through, and beyond the project.
- A stronger and more resilient core infrastructure
- A plan for developing our premises and where we work from

Who are we looking for?

Common Wheel is seeking to expand the current board of seven trustees.

We are particularly keen to recruit someone with **legal** knowledge and experience, ideally a practising lawyer; and also someone with **communications**, media or PR experience.

Other useful areas of skill or expertise that would add to the strengths of the existing board would be digital, fundraising – especially community fundraising, or social work.

Expressions of interest are welcome from people of all backgrounds, but particularly younger candidates, women, people from ethnic minority

communities, and disabled people, as we recognise our board would benefit from a greater diversity of backgrounds and perspectives.

Knowledge or experience of the charity or community sector is desirable but not essential. Direct experience of the issues our charity seeks to address is also welcome but not essential.

Role profile

The Board of Trustees is responsible for:

- ensuring that the organisation pursues its objectives as defined in its governing document, charity law and other relevant legislation
- strategic decision-making
- working in partnership with the Project Manager, helping them achieve the aims of the organisation

The responsibilities of charity trustees in Scotland are set out in detail at <https://www.oscr.org.uk/guidance-and-forms/guidance-and-good-practice-for-charity-trustees>

Time commitment

Board meetings typically take place on a week day at 6pm every six to eight weeks and last for approximately 2 hours. In addition, Trustees take part in an annual development meeting, usually on a Saturday. Finally Trustees are invited to join one of the sub-committees (currently focused on our bike and music projects respectively) or occasional working groups. These groups meet as and when necessary, at times to suit the members.

Depending on their skills and interests, Trustees may also support the Project Manager or staff team from time-to-time on specific tasks or issues.

Expenses

This is an unpaid voluntary role, but all reasonable out-of-pocket expenses will be reimbursed.

For more information or an informal chat, please contact

Nick Addington (Chair): nick@commonwheel.org.uk