

Chair of Trustees - OneRichmond

Leading Place-Based Giving in the Borough of Richmond

About OneRichmond

OneRichmond is the charity that drives local giving for the London Borough of Richmond - from Barnes to Hampton, Richmond, Twickenham, Kew and Whitton.

We exist to build a connected and engaged borough where everyone has the opportunity to thrive. While Richmond is often perceived as affluent, significant and growing need exists beneath the surface - particularly in relation to social isolation, housing insecurity, mental health challenges and youth vulnerability. At the same time, very limited external funding flows into the borough. Local funders and charities work tirelessly but cannot meet rising demand alone.

OneRichmond was created to respond to this challenge. We mobilise local generosity, connecting residents, businesses and philanthropists with the grassroots organisations best placed to address hidden and emerging need. Through deep local knowledge, trusted relationships and strategic grant-making, we unlock resources and strengthen the voluntary and community sector.

Our mission is to tackle social isolation and hidden disadvantage by building an engaged community of donors, directing funding where it can have greatest impact, and empowering communities to shape solutions to local challenges.

Role Purpose

The Chair of Trustees will provide dynamic, inclusive and strategic leadership to the Board, ensuring OneRichmond delivers its vision of a borough where people feel valued, supported and connected.

As a champion of place-based giving, the Chair will help position OneRichmond as a trusted civic leader: rooted in local knowledge, responsive to community voice, and ambitious about mobilising new resources for Richmond. As OneRichmond continues to grow, the Chair will provide steady leadership in a developing organisational environment, where agility, pragmatism and a hands on approach are sometimes required.

The Chair works in close partnership with the Director, ensuring strong governance, financial sustainability and a clear strategic focus on impact.

Key Responsibilities

Strategic Leadership

- Lead the Board in setting and reviewing long-term strategy, ensuring alignment with local need and community insight.
- Ensure OneRichmond remains focused on tackling social isolation and hidden disadvantage across the borough.
- Foster innovation and local philanthropy, and set a responsible pace for OneRichmond's growth as a charity.

Governance & Stewardship

- Ensure compliance with charity law, Charity Commission guidance, the governing document and good governance practice.
- Oversee financial sustainability, endowment management and responsible resource allocation.
- Maintain effective risk management, safeguarding and regulatory compliance.
- Promote transparency, accountability and high ethical standards.
- Ensure the Board meets its safeguarding responsibilities and fosters a strong culture of safety

Board Leadership

- Build and sustain a high-performing, inclusive and collaborative Board culture.
- Lead Trustee recruitment, succession planning and ongoing development.
- Chair Board meetings effectively, from setting agendas to enabling robust discussion and collective decision-making.
- Foster productive relationships with and among Board members.
- Manage conflicts of interest and address any conflicts within the Board promptly and constructively

Partnership with the Director

- Develop a strong and constructive relationship with the Director, acting as mentor, critical friend and strategic sounding board. Maintain appropriate boundaries between the Chair and Director roles.
- Lead the Director's annual appraisal and remuneration review.
- Support the development of OneRichmond's governance systems, organisational processes and essential policies appropriate for a growing charity.

Ambassadorial Role

- Act as a visible ambassador and spokesperson for OneRichmond across Barnes, Hampton, Richmond, Twickenham, Kew, Whitton and the wider borough.
- Strengthen relationships with donors, businesses, community leaders, other charities and statutory partners.
- Represent the charity at external functions, meetings and events
- Advocate for place-based giving as a powerful response to help address local hidden needs.
- Support efforts to mobilise new donors and work with partners to increase local impact.
- Champion fundraising efforts by leveraging networks and supporting donor stewardship where appropriate.

Person Specification

Essential Experience & Skills

- Senior leadership experience, ideally within philanthropy, civil society, public service, business or community development.
- Strong understanding of charity governance and Trustee responsibilities.
- Commitment to Place-Based Giving and community-led solutions.
- Experience of partnership-building and influencing across sectors.
- Financial literacy and experience overseeing budgets, assets or endowments.
- Strong communication and facilitation skills, with the ability to galvanise and unite stakeholders.
- Experience supporting and constructively challenging senior executives.
- Experience of chairing Boards and or Committees.

Personal Qualities

- Dynamic, values-driven and collaborative leader.
 - Strong personal integrity and sound judgement.
 - Deep commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion.
 - Politically aware, with sensitivity to local context and stakeholders.
 - Passionate about strengthening communities and addressing hidden need in Richmond.
 - Strong networking capabilities that can be utilised for the benefit of OneRichmond
 - Ability to foster and promote a collaborative team environment
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Time Commitment

As the charity is still in the early stage of development, a more hands-on approach is required. It is approximately 2 days per month, including quarterly Board meetings, preparation time and occasional external engagements. Flexibility to contribute additional time during key strategic or fundraising periods is expected.

The Opportunity

This is a significant civic leadership role at a pivotal time. Richmond has extraordinary generosity and potential to grow local philanthropy and community action – but also tackle real and growing inequality.

The Chair of OneRichmond will help unlock that generosity, strengthen community connections, and ensure that every part of the borough has access to opportunity, support and belonging.

This role is voluntary and unremunerated. Term length is 3 years and can be renewed for 3 terms.

To apply for the role, please send a copy of your CV and statement explaining your suitability for the role to hello@onerichmond.org.uk. If you would like an informal chat about the role, please contact Sue Martineau at sue@onerichmond.org.uk. The deadline for applications is 10th April 2026.