

www.centre70.org.uk

Centre 70 Chair Recruitment pack

Are you enthusiastic,
committed and looking for
a new challenge?



Can you provide strategic leadership and create a collaborative culture as Chair of an advice and wellbeing charity based in Lambeth?

Join us as we approach our 55th year and ensure a sustainable future at a time when demand for our services is higher than ever.

About us

Centre 70 was founded in 1970. We work to create communities where everyone has access to the support they need to overcome adversity in their lives so they can thrive.

To achieve this we support and work alongside those who are facing social, mental, financial or other personal difficulties at our centre and out in their communities. We do this through a holistic programme of free and affordable services including:

- Advice
- Counselling & Wellbeing
- Training
- Advocacy

We are: **Passionate, Inclusive, Responsive & Community focused** and these values define how we deliver our three key outcomes of:

- Increased access to rights and entitlements
- Improved mental health and wellbeing
- Improved access to life opportunities

We have a dedicated 21 strong staff team, along with 31 volunteers, delivering a range of co-designed services, supported by 7 trustees. In 2022 - 2023 we supported just under 5,000 individuals, with an income of £633,013 from a range of grants and contracts including legal aid income.

[Find out more about the impact of our work in our Annual Review 2022 - 2023](#)

Role description

As Chair, you will provide leadership and strategic direction. You will help us ensure good governance as we deliver on our vision and charitable objectives, harnessing the skills and experience of our committed Board of Trustees (BoT), staff and volunteer team.

Main duties

In addition to the general responsibilities of a trustee, duties of the Chair include:

- Providing leadership to the BoT ensuring it fulfils its responsibilities and sets strategic direction
- Ensuring high standards of governance and risk management
- Chairing and facilitating BoT meetings, ensuring decisions are made, recorded and implemented effectively
- Supporting the Director in their role to deliver on the organisation's vision, mission and strategic objectives, ensuring frameworks in place to monitor and review delivery
- Leading and developing the BoT including induction, training and succession planning
- Working closely with the Director and BoT to ensure legal compliance, liaising with relevant external bodies as appropriate
- Ensuring, with the BoT, sound financial oversight including review and approval of the annual budget
- Ensuring there is an effective relationship between the BoT and Centre 70 staff and volunteers, members and other stakeholders
- Representing and advocating for the organisation externally as required

Key knowledge, experience & skills

We are looking for a Chair with previous experience of being a trustee and a good general background in strategy, governance, finance, HR and fundraising. We are looking for someone with the following specific skills:

Essential

- Strong leadership skills
- Chairing and facilitation skills
- Good understanding of the role of a Chair and charity trustees in the UK
- An understanding of good governance and how to provide the right balance of support and challenge
- An understanding of the challenges of running a small charity, particularly in the current climate
- Sound understanding of charity finances

Desirable

- Previous experience as a Chair
- Experience of the advice or counselling / wellbeing sector

Key qualities

We are looking for a Chair who shares our commitment to social justice and improving community mental health and wellbeing. In particular someone who is:

- A strong team player with the ability to motivate and lead
- Committed to a collaborative approach, maximising BoT and Senior Management Team contributions
- Committed to leading a community-centred organisation

Time required

We envisage approximately two days a month are required for this role.

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

Centre 70's Board of Trustees are committed to further embedding Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) throughout our work. We are continually learning and challenging ourselves to increase inclusivity across every area of our work in the community and within our internal systems.

We welcome and encourage applications from people from all walks of life, and from those with the potential to make a great Chair. To ensure Centre 70 better represents the community it serves, a diverse board is essential. We particularly welcome applications from people who have lived experience of multiple disadvantage, those who have used advice and counselling services, and people from Black, Asian, and minoritised ethnic communities.

We also particularly welcome applicants based in or around the West Norwood area, who are able to help build connections within the local community and attend occasional in person events.

To apply

In the first instance, please complete **this Expression of Interest Form**, outlining your skills & experience and why you are interested in the role.

