

Board Trustee

Vision

People living in West Lothian are supported to live their lives the way they choose.

Our Mission

We aim to provide support, information and representation for carers and disabled adults, working with partners to ensure a better quality of life for our beneficiaries.

About us

COWL is contracted by West Lothian Health and Social Care Partnership to provide support and information to unpaid carers and disabled people in West Lothian. We are a well established voluntary organisation offering a range of services that have been specifically developed with and for our beneficiaries and their extended families.

We are looking for the right individuals to join our Board of Trustees.

Our volunteer Trustees play an integral role in helping shape and deliver activities at Carers of West Lothian (COWL). You do not need to have a background in volunteering, health or social care to help us. The most important things we look for are a genuine interest and experience of unpaid caring or a disability - it is always good to be able to walk in another person's shoes and see life from their perspective when agreeing what is best for the organisation and the people we are supporting.

We want to ensure our Board truly represents the people we support as well as the necessary skills to be an effective and well governed Board.

About you

You will have experience as a carer or an adult with a disability, common sense, willingness to give your time and ideas, along with a commitment to work as part of a team are most important. Other may also have business skills or experiences in business management, HR, legal services, Finance, fundraising, governance or marketing and communications.

Outline of key responsibilities:

As a Trustee of a Charity, you are required, along with your fellow Trustees to:

- Act in the interest of the charity: trustees should put the interests of their charity before their own interests or those of any other person or organisation.
- Actively contribute to setting policy and strategic direction, defining goals, setting targets

and evaluating performance.

- Actively seek to further the strategic objectives of COWL, acting in the best interests of the organisation at all times.
- Operate in a manner consistent with the charity's purposes: trustees should carry out their duties in accordance with their governing document.
- Act with due care and diligence: trustees should take such care of their charity's affairs as is reasonable to expect of someone who is managing the affairs of another person.
- Ensure that the Charity complies with legislation that impacts on Charities.
- Support the development of the organisation through participation in agreed work including our sub-committees.

What we are looking for

- Commitment to the aims, principles and policies of COWL.
- Willingness and ability to understand and accept your responsibilities and liabilities as a Trustee and to act in the best interests of the organisation.
- Ability to think creatively, strategically, exercise good independent judgement and work effectively, both individually and with other board members.
- Effective communication skills and willingness to participate actively in discussions.

Time commitment

Around 3 to 4 hours per month, although this may vary attending one Board meeting per month. In return for your time, energies, skills and enthusiasm we will offer you training where needed, an opportunity to work alongside other likeminded individuals, meet out of pocket expenses – and a challenge!

Want to find out more?

To find out more or arrange a meeting (virtually at present):



01506 448002 and ask to speak with Alison Wright, our CEO;



alison@carers-westlothian.com