



INSPIRE
An **OnSide** Youth Zone

CHAIR CANDIDATE PACK

welcome



A note from our President and Founding Chair ...

When I first heard about Inspire and the OnSide Network around nine years ago, I had absolutely no knowledge or understanding of Youth Work and just what an impact it can have on the lives of Young People. As a local businessman and founder/Chair of Chorley Group, I have always tried to do my bit locally, but stepping in to Chair of a brand new charity was something I had never considered.

Has its been hard work ? Honestly, sometimes, yes! It is a very different prospect leading an organisation that has no means of generating its own income in a traditional 'sales' sense, no exchange of product or service for money and, on the face of it, very different from my own, very sales driven background. It does take some adjustment - but whilst you're adjusting, you get to know the people who are dedicating their lives and careers for the betterment of others, and you get to speak to individuals, businesses and organisations who choose to support charities like Inspire, and most of all, you get to see with your own eyes, the incredible, long term impact that this charity is having, every single day, on the children and young people of our town, and all of a sudden, it makes sense.

So, hard work? - Yes!
Rewarding? - Definitely!
Inspiring ? - Absolutely!

Being a Trustee of Inspire, in whatever capacity, will absolutely open your eyes and and your heart, whether you want that or not !

As a Trustee, you will bring your own skills and abilities, your own valuable experience and values and have the opportunity to work with an incredible team who just want the absolute best for young people. As I reflect on my time with Inspire so far, I hope I have made a difference. I hope that I have brought what I've learned over the last 60+ years of being on this planet, and my time spent, being a Dad and Grandad as well as leading a diverse team in good times and bad. I hope I have engendered a sense of doing what is right, investing in people, demonstrating a good work ethic, being genuine and kind, and a sense of fun and enjoyment as well as a laser-sharp focus on what is important. I feel that, by being a trustee of Inspire, and dedicating time and energy into making the charity the success it is today, I have been able to make a difference, leave a bit of a legacy, and I am incredibly proud of that!

If you are interested in becoming a Trustee and Director of this incredible charity, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Janine and the team, and/ or me directly. We need a diverse range of skills and abilities to help us to continue to grow and develop, but most of all, we need passion, commitment and a sense of purpose. If you have that, and you are ready to channel that energy into making a real difference in your community, then Inspire might be the right place for you!

Andrew Turner M.B.E

President and Founding Chair
Inspire Youth Zone

About us

Inspire Youth Zone is a registered charity (1167309), and company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales under company number 09972518.

Our charity is based in Chorley Town Centre. Additional information can be found at www.inspireyouthzone.org



Inspire Youth Zone opened in 2018, and is part of the rapidly growing OnSide Network. OnSide's mission is to empower young people to lead positive, fulfilling lives by providing access to incredible spaces and exceptional youth work, delivered by outstanding people, and Inspire does just that!

Since opening, Inspire has supported over 10,000 local young people, in its Youth Zone in the centre of town, through its detached youth work, delivered in the community and through the various projects and support delivered in local schools.

While Inspire is here to provide an inspiring and engaging array of activities for children aged 8 -19 years old (up to 25 years for those with additional needs), we are especially here to provide health and support to those who need it the most, making Inspire a vital service for young people sometimes in the most desperate need.

How do we help our young people and in turn their families?

Open 7 days a week when schools are shut, at their most basic, Youth Zones provide somewhere to go, something to do, and someone to talk to. Their 'see it to believe it' facilities give young people access to a range of activities, open doors to a world of opportunities, and provide the perfect space to develop new relationships with both peers and positive role models.

Through the doors you'll find; a 3G pitch, gym, sports hall, climbing wall, dance studio, music room and much more.

Youth Zones aren't just a place to go, they're a place to grow.

Chair of Trustees

Inspire is seeking to recruit a new volunteer Chair who will lead the Board of Trustees in providing excellent governance to a thriving local charity. This is a key role for a passionate and committed individual wanting to support the local community, and ensuring the charity has the capacity and capability to grow and develop further, ensuring it meets the needs of the local community.

What will you be doing

Our Board of Trustees play an important role in ensuring that an appropriate level of governance, oversight and controls are in place for the whole organisation. As a Trustee, you will work alongside other senior volunteers to ensure that the charity is focused on its organisational purpose, acts with integrity and is effective and accountable to its stakeholders and beneficiaries.

Role summary

The Chair of the Board provides leadership to the board of Trustees, working alongside colleagues to unlock their potential, ensure their skills and abilities are used to best effect for the charity, and ensuring key strategic priorities are met. The Chair ensures continued focus on the strategic aims of the organisation and ensures each Trustee collectively and individually undertakes their responsibilities diligently and effectively, acting as figurehead for the charity in the community and with key strategic partners.

The Chair also provides line management and support to the Chief Executive Officer, offering support and constructive challenge where appropriate, working alongside the strategic leadership team to ensure the charity meets its organisational priorities.

Who are we looking for

The ideal candidate will have experience of working with a charity or charity board, ideally as a Trustee. They should have significant senior/strategic management experience with a track record of leading organisations or significant projects. Any prospective candidate should share Inspire's enthusiastic ambition to ensure the charity is financially sustainable, is ambitious and focused on providing excellent services and support to young people and keen to establish itself as a key local partner and highly valued charity in the local community.

Key Responsibilities

Leadership and Governance

- Lead the Board in setting the strategic direction and goals of the charity.
- Ensure the Board operates within its charitable objectives and complies with the relevant legislation and regulations, with support from the relevant (Governance) Trustee
- Facilitate Board meetings, encouraging participation and fostering an inclusive environment.

Strategy and Performance

- Oversee the development and implementation of the charity's strategic plan.
- Monitor the performance of the charity in achieving its objectives, ensuring the organisation is financially stable and sustainable.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the Board, ensuring it has the necessary skills and experience.

Stakeholder Engagement

- Act as an ambassador for the charity, representing it at events and in the media.
- Build and maintain relationships with key stakeholders, including donors, OnSide, partners, and regulatory bodies.
- Ensure effective communication between the Board, staff, volunteers, and beneficiaries.

Supporting the CEO and Management Team

- Provide support and guidance to the CEO, involvement in performance reviews and setting objectives.
- Ensure the charity has an effective and capable management team.
- Promote a culture of accountability, transparency, and collaboration within the organisation.

Risk Management and Compliance

- Ensure the charity has effective risk management policies and procedures in place.
- Monitor compliance with legal and regulatory requirements.
- Address any conflicts of interest within the Board.

Essential Skills and Experience

Leadership and Governance

- Proven experience in a senior leadership role, preferably within the charitable or non-profit sector.
- Experience in chairing meetings and facilitating discussions.

Strategic Vision

- Ability to think strategically and translate vision into actionable plans.
- Track record of successful strategic planning and implementation.

Communication and Advocacy

- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to represent the charity and advocate for its mission and values.

Financial Acumen

- Understanding of financial management and budgeting.
- Experience in ensuring financial stability and sustainability of an organisation.

Desirable Skills and Experience

- Previous experience in a charity or organisation focused on Young People's welfare.
- Experience in fundraising and resource development.
- Familiarity with the local and national landscape of child services and welfare.
- Passionate about improving the lives of children and committed to the charity's mission.
- Integrity, with a commitment to ethical governance and transparency.
- Collaborative, with the ability to work effectively with diverse groups of people.
- Decisive, with the ability to make sound judgments and take responsibility for outcomes.
- Strong understanding of governance and regulatory requirements for charities.

Time Commitment

The Chair is expected to commit to approximately 6-8 hours per month, including Board meetings, planning and preparation time, supporting the executive and representing the charity at events.

Term

The term of office for the Chair is 2 x 3 year terms, to support the long term stability of the organisation, this can be with or without a 1 year introductory term, to allow time and space to get to know the charity. The 6/7 year term would not typically be renewed or extended, except in exceptional circumstances.

Remuneration

This is a voluntary position; however, reasonable expenses incurred in the role will be reimbursed.

2023 IMPACT REVIEW

2,656
JUNIOR MEMBERS



6,824
SENIOR MEMBERS



DELIVERED
2,271
SESSIONS



PROVIDED
8,205
FREE MEALS



OVER 40,000
VISITS FROM
YOUNG PEOPLE

How To Apply

If you are interesting in applying, please submit your CV, LinkedIn profile or similar along with a covering letter stating why you would like to apply to become the Chair of Inspire Youth Zone and how your skills, abilities and experience would add value to the Board. Alternatively, if you would prefer, we can capture your application verbally, during an informal discussion with the Chief Executive and/or interim Chair.

To arrange an informal chat, to submit your application or for any queries, please contact our Chief Executive, Janine Blythe at: janine.blythe@inspireyouthzone.org.uk

