



INSPIRE
An **OnSide** Youth Zone

TRUSTEE 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 help 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.

Trustee Roles

Inspire is currently recruiting to a range of Trustee roles as it prepares to move into its next strategy period from April 2024. Full induction and training will be given alongside ongoing support from the Chair and Chief Executive.

What you will 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, is effective and accountable to its stakeholders and beneficiaries.

Role summary

There are a range of Trustee roles required to support the charity, all of which are important in ensuring the charity is governed properly and is able to meet its strategic priorities. The board will decide how many Trustees are required in any given period, but the number will not typically exceed twelve.

Inspire has two main types of Trustees, General Trustees and Portfolio Holders. Each have equal standing and are Trustees, Directors and Board Members of the charity.

Who are we looking for

The Inspire Board have identified a number of roles required for the coming strategy period. An ideal candidate will first of all, be passionate and committed to using the skills, abilities, experience and expertise they have developed, to help and support the charity to continue to develop and grow in line with its strategic objectives. Some roles do require industry-specific or professional experience or qualifications.

Available Roles 2025 - 2028

- Chair of the Board (please see separate pack and information).
- General Trustees.
- Risk and Asset Management.
- Strategic Marketing and Communications.

Key Responsibilities

All Trustees must

- Always act in the best interests of Inspire Youth Zone, exercising the same duty of care that a prudent person of business would in looking after the affairs of someone for whom they have responsibility.
- Act as a group and not as an individual.

Statutory Duties

- Ensure that Inspire Youth Zone complies with Charity Law, company law, and any other legislation or regulations.
- Ensure that Inspire pursues its purpose as set out in its memorandum and articles of association, its objectives as defined in the OnSide DNA and Network Agreement and Inspire's strategic and business plans.
- Ensure that Inspire applies its resources wisely and applies 'best value' principles.
- Actively contribute to the Board of Trustees' role in providing firm directions to the CEO, in setting overall policy, defining goals, setting targets and monitoring performance.
- Contribute actively to Board meetings, fundraising, partnership and other appropriate events and activities.
- Safeguard the reputation and values of Inspire, leading by example.
- Ensure the financial stability of Inspire.
- Ensure there is a suitable framework of internal controls and risk management in place that are regularly reviewed and updated.

In addition to the above, each Trustee should use any specific skills, knowledge and experience they have to help the board to make sound decisions. This may involve leading discussions, focusing on key issues, scrutinising board papers, providing advice and guidance on new initiatives, evaluation or other issues in which the Trustee has special expertise.

Person Specification

- Demonstrate commitment to the mission, vision and values of Inspire Youth Zone and to supporting young people.
- Show willingness to devote the necessary time and effort required as a Trustee on the Board.
- Have an ability to work collaboratively with others and make good decisions in the best interests of Inspire.
- Integrity, with a commitment to ethical governance and transparency.
- Decisive, with the ability to make sound judgments and take responsibility for outcomes.
- Have an understanding and acceptance of legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of being a Trustee.
- Be sufficiently experienced in the area of specialism for which the Trustee is to take responsibility.

Desirable Skills and Experience

Inspire would particularly welcome applications from individuals with skills and experience in one or more of the following areas:-

- Strategy, planning and implementation.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Stakeholder management and working with a diverse range of partner organisations
- External communications, marketing and advocacy.
- Financial management and budgeting.
- Ensuring financial stability and sustainability of an organisation.
- Working for/with charitable organisations.
- Experience of fundraising and resource development.
- Familiarity with the local and national landscape of child services and welfare.
- Working with or supporting Young People and/or vulnerable/marginalised groups.
- Passionate about improving the lives of children and committed to the charity's mission.
- An understanding of governance and regulatory requirements for charities.

Time Commitment

Trustees are expected to commit to approximately 4-6 hours per month, including Board and committee meetings, planning, preparation and reading time, supporting the senior team and representing the charity at events

Term

Trustees will typically commit to 1 year introductory period before committing to a 3 year term of office. This may be extended for a further 3 years depending in on the needs of the charity and the wishes and availability of the Trustee. This 6/7 year term would not typically be renewed or extended further , 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 a Trustee, 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

