

Recruitment of Trustees

Information Pack

A Letter from our Chair

Thank you for your interest in being a Trustee of Operation Noah. There is information here to tell you about us and to help you complete your application.

Operation Noah is an ecumenical Christian charity providing leadership, focus and inspiration in response to the growing threat of catastrophic climate change.

We are currently looking for Board members who can demonstrate one or more of the following:

- Human Resources
- Fundraising

Our Board of Trustees meets approximately 8 times per year, with meetings lasting two hours and held almost entirely on Zoom. There are also opportunities for board members to join a subcommittee, to speak at churches/ conferences/ events on behalf of Operation Noah, and to use their professional skills and expertise by making strategic decisions that will help strengthen and grow the charity.

Being a member of the Operation Noah Board is a rewarding experience. The Board is strong and we have clear plans for the future. We have a dynamic Bright Now campaign team and support for finance, for administration and for communications. Board members manage our campaigns and contribute to the formation of our campaigning plans and to the preparation of resources to be made available to the public. As a member of our Board you will have an opportunity to extend your own strategic and leadership skills, and governance experience. Being on the Board team is stimulating and fun.

We would like to work towards a Board that reflects as closely as possible the population as a whole in terms of gender, ethnicity and Christian denomination. To this end, we particularly welcome applications from people from ethnic minority backgrounds, younger people and evangelical Christians, although we will be happy to consider other applicants. Previous Trustee experience with an environmental or Christian charity would also be an advantage.



Darrell Hannah
Chair

The organisation

Who we are

Operation Noah was set up to provide a Christian response to the climate crisis. We work with all Christian denominations and support interfaith work on climate change. Our work is informed by the latest science on climate change, its causes, impacts and solutions. The sense of urgency we feel because of the science is balanced by our faith in God and our hope in his future for our world. We are faith-motivated, science-informed and hope-inspired.

We are an inclusive group of committed Christians from across the UK. Our Trustees, staff and supporters are cross-denominational and include members of the Roman Catholic, Anglican and free churches. We work closely with like-minded individuals and organisations that share our vision and are part of The Climate Coalition (www.theclimatecoalition.org).

Launched in 2004, Operation Noah was the first Christian campaign to focus exclusively on the urgent need to address the global climate crisis. The theological basis for our work was set out in 'Climate Change and the Purposes of God' (2012, <https://operationnoah.org/what-we-do/climate-change-and-the-purposes-of-god/>), which challenges the Church to realise that care for God's creation – and concern about climate change – is foundational to the Christian gospel and central to the Church's mission. Our campaigning work is the practical outworking of our commitment to 'Climate Change and the Purposes of God'.

Please find out more about us [here](#).

Organisational structure

To find out more about our board, and current board members please have a look at our website: www.operationnoah.org/who-we-are/people/.

The Operation Noah Board of Trustees currently comprises a Chair, a Vice-Chair, Treasurer and other Trustees. The post holders are elected by Board members from among their number. As the Board may have up to 15 trustees, there is also sometimes scope to appoint additional members at the next suitable Board meeting.

Our finances

All of our unrestricted income comes from individual supporters and from church groups. In addition to these sums, we have received grant funding for our Bright Now campaign. This funding enables us to employ our Bright Now Campaigners.

What attributes are we seeking?

As indicated in the Chair’s letter, we are seeking candidates who can demonstrate experience in Human Resources and Fundraising. Over and above these forms of experience, all applicants should have a good understanding of the work of Operation Noah, a passion for caring for creation, and a commitment to the Christian faith. Below we set out more fully the attributes we are looking for in short-listing and interviewing candidates.

PERSON SPECIFICATION (essential shortlisting criteria)
<p>Essential</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A good understanding of the governance role Experience of setting organisational strategy Knowledge of and concern for environmental issues, especially climate change The ability and capacity to learn what is needed to be a trustee with responsibility for HR or fundraising <p>Desirable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expertise in finance and business planning, monitoring and evaluation Expertise in Human Resources Expertise in communications, media and giving presentations Expertise in strategic campaigning, fundraising and alliance-building Experience within charity or not-for-profit environments Experience within government and/or commercial environments Wide network of contacts (which can be utilised for Operation Noah) Knowledge of the organisation’s history and ways of working Experience of local campaigning in other organisations Knowledge of Land Use issues <p>The position is voluntary and does not carry any remuneration, but reasonable expenses will be paid.</p>
PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES (assessed at the interview)
<p>Trustees should demonstrate the judgement and discrimination necessary to critique and appraise Operation Noah’s strategies and policies, while respecting the boundaries between governance and executive decision-making processes.</p> <p>They should be able to work collaboratively and supportively with the Chair and fellow Trustees, while exercising a proper objectivity in respect of the organisation’s strategies and plans.</p> <p>Trustees should also be able to demonstrate an awareness of the need to safeguard the integrity and public image of Operation Noah, and an ability to act as ambassadors for the organisation.</p>

What is the role of a trustee and what are the responsibilities?

(See also

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/842041/CC3_may18.pdf)

Trustees play a vitally important and challenging governance role in: determining strategy, monitoring progress and performance; ensuring the provision of sufficient resources; and evaluating risks and opportunities. Below we set out the key purpose of the role and the responsibilities and tasks associated with it.

CORE PURPOSE OF THE ROLE
The core purpose of the role is to participate in the governance of Operation Noah, and, together with fellow Trustees, to oversee the work of Campaigners and any other staff of the organisation.
KEY RESPONSIBILITIES & TASKS
<p>As a member of the Board, you will be expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● engage critically but constructively in the Board’s discussions and decision-making; ● bring to bear your skills and experience across a range of the Board’s business; ● serve, if required, on task groups; ● lead discussions in board meetings, from time to time, on particular issues; and ● become involved in specific projects to which your skills and experience are especially relevant.

What is the time commitment and what are the duties required of a trustee?

As a Trustee we need you to:

- attend all Board meetings if at all possible (these take place mostly by video link);
- play a full part in the work of any task groups; and
- work on specific issues or projects from time to time as agreed.

Board meetings take place approximately every two months. Meetings take place in London once a year (with Zoom option) and by Zoom the rest of the year and are held on weekdays at a time and date identified as being most convenient for the majority of Board members. One meeting is a Supporters’ Event, usually held in June, and this may take place either in London or elsewhere (in past years it has been held in Oxford and in Birmingham) or online. In addition, there may be a whole-day Strategy Review Day in the course of the year. Induction will be provided following appointment.

In addition to attending meetings you will need to make time to:

- read and adhere to [our policies](#), in particular our safeguarding and privacy policies
- read papers prior to each Board meeting and prepare to comment at the meeting;
- read and respond to emails from the Chair, other Board members and staff between meetings;
- lead discussions on particular issues from time to time, including liaising with staff and other Board members, depending on your specialist skills;
- attend occasional activists' gatherings and other events; and
- undertake specific projects or responsibilities as agreed by the Board.

How to apply

- Provide a personal statement of up to 500 words, explaining how your background and experience can meet our requirements
- Provide a copy of your most recent CV

Please ensure that you submit your application via email to admin@operationnoah.org.

If you have any questions, please call us on +44 7970907784 or email admin@operationnoah.org.