



Parent College Trustee Role description and person specification

ROLE CONTEXT

Charity trustees are the people who serve on the governing body of a charity. Trustees have and must accept ultimate responsibility for directing the affairs of a charity and ensuring that it is solvent, well-run, and delivering the charitable outcomes for the benefit of the public for which it has been set up. Trustees are also Directors of FPM under the Companies Act. The Faculty has three parent colleges (Royal College of Physicians of London, Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow) and each college nominates an individual to serve as a trustee and Company Director of the Faculty.

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES AS A TRUSTEE

- To undertake the legal duties and obligations of a trustee of Faculty of Pharmaceutical Medicine
- To contribute to setting the strategy for FPM
- To attend meetings and to contribute to the work of FPM Board
- To attend and to contribute to the work of other FPM committees and working groups as agreed
- To represent FPM at external meetings and events as agreed
- To participate in communications by email / telephone in between meetings as required
- To act in compliance with FPM's Governing Documents and Regulations including its Trustee Code of Conduct
- To act in compliance with FPM's Policies including its Equal Opportunities Policy
- To act in compliance with FPM's values (Professional, Innovative, Caring, Collaborative, Credible and Learned)

All Trustees must:

- Ensure that the charity complies with charity law, and with the requirements of the Charity Commission as regulator; in particular ensure that the charity prepares reports on what it has achieved and Annual Returns and accounts as required by law
- Ensure that the charity does not breach any of the requirements or rules set out in its governing document and that it remains true to the charitable purpose and objects set out there
- Comply with the requirements of other legislation and other regulators (if any) which govern the activities of the charity
- Act with integrity and avoid any personal conflicts of interest or misuse of charity funds or assets
- Ensure that the charity is and will remain solvent
- Use charitable funds and assets reasonably, and only in furtherance of the charity's objects
- Avoid undertaking activities that might place the charity's endowment, funds, assets or reputation at undue risk
- Take special care when investing the funds of the charity, or borrowing funds for the charity to use

- Use reasonable care and skill in their work as trustees, using their personal skills and experience as needed to ensure that the charity is well-run and efficient
- Consider obtaining external professional advice on all matters where there may be material risk to the charity, or where the trustees may be in breach of their duties.

APPOINTMENT

With reference to the person specification provided by FPM, parent college trustees are nominated by the parent college. Unless any barriers to the appointment are identified the appointment is confirmed by the Faculty Board.

TENURE

Parent college trustees will normally serve for a period of 3 years. This can be extended to a maximum of 6 years if re-appointed. Exact terms of office are often influenced by the rules of the parent college itself.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Information relating to FPM business must be kept confidential unless otherwise agreed by FPM. An oath will be sworn at the first Board Meeting.

EXPENSES

FPM will reimburse reasonable travel and subsistence costs arising from attendance at FPM events under the terms of FPM's Expense Claim Policy.

TIME COMMITMENT

It is anticipated that there will be at least four half-day meetings of the Board each year with at least 50% via videoconferencing. There will be additional time commitments involved in supporting the work of the Board, other Governance committees and FPM generally in between committee meetings but it is difficult to be prescriptive about the extent of this. Examples of this are attendance at strategic planning activities and training sessions. Parent college trustees also participate in the annual evaluation of applications for Ordinary Fellowship, Honorary Fellowship, Honorary Membership and the President's Medal. This involves undertaking a paper-based / IT-based evaluation in April/May each year and attendance at the half-day Fellowship Committee in May. The Fellowship Committee and May Board Meetings usually take place on the same day in person. Trustees are expected to attend the Annual General Meeting in the Autumn of each year if possible and to support other FPM events when they are able.

ELIGIBILITY TO BE A TRUSTEE OF A CHARITY IN ENGLAND & WALES

You must be at least 16 years old to be a trustee of a charitable company or a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO), unless the charity's governing document says you must be older. You must be at least 18 to be a trustee of any other type of charity. Subject to waiver provisions, this includes anyone who:

- has an unspent conviction for an offence involving dishonesty or deception
- is currently declared bankrupt (or is subject to bankruptcy restrictions or an interim order) or has an individual voluntary agreement (IVA) with creditors
- is [disqualified from being a company director](#)
- has previously been removed as a trustee by either the commission or the High Court due to misconduct or mismanagement

For full details please see [Charity Commission Website](#).

Person specification (please see below)

PERSON SPECIFICATION:

As part of your application, please provide details and examples of how you meet these criteria

	Essential	Desirable
Professional	<p>Holds a Medical Qualification recognised by the GMC.</p> <p>In good standing with the relevant medical registration body (e.g. GMC)</p> <p>Fellow of the parent college in good standing</p>	<p>Evidence of continuing professional development.</p> <p>Evidence of professional achievement in medicine</p> <p>Has some experience, direct or indirect, of medical/scientific research, the development and /or regulation of medicines and the specialty of pharmaceutical medicine</p>
Attitudes	<p>Ability to work effectively within a team</p> <p>Evidence of commitment to the specialty of pharmaceutical medicine</p> <p>Evidence of the use of initiative</p> <p>Willingness to devote the necessary time and effort to fulfil the requirements of the role</p>	<p>Successful membership of committees demonstrating positive contribution</p>
Specific Expertise	<p>Understanding and acceptance of the legal duties and responsibilities of trusteeship</p> <p>An interest and ability to undertake the role.</p>	<p>Previous experience as a charity trustee is desirable but not essential</p>

September 2024