The UK’s leading charity dedicated to stroke is seeking a Trustee and Chair of its Wales Advisory Committee

Rebuilding lives after stroke
Introduction

The Stroke Association is the second largest stroke support organisation in the world and the UK’s leading charity dedicated to stroke.

We deliver stroke services across the UK, campaign for better stroke care, invest in vital research and fundraise to expand our reach to as many stroke survivors as possible.

Stroke is the fourth single largest cause of death and one of the biggest causes of adult disability in the UK. There are over 1.2 million stroke survivors in the UK, with 100,000 strokes happening each year. That’s one stroke every five minutes. Though more people are surviving stroke than a decade ago, far too many stroke survivors say they feel abandoned when they leave hospital, and left to manage recovery and rehabilitation on their own.

We provide life-changing support to over 50,000 stroke survivors and their families each year. Our work is possible thanks to the dedication of nearly 4,000 committed volunteers and staff. We also enjoy strong relationships with the stroke clinical and research community.

This is an exciting time as we have just launched a new strategic vision.

We are seeking someone to be a Trustee for our Board and the Chair of our Wales Advisory Committee. You will join a strong Board of Trustees and Executive Leadership Team in bringing wise insights and strategic guidance as we enter a new and exciting period of growth.

Roles and Responsibilities
Trustees are expected to perform a number of roles and responsibilities as part of their service to the Stroke Association. The list below sets out the main accountabilities, although it should not be treated as an exhaustive list, as situations may arise in which Trustees are called upon to perform additional tasks.

Trustee Roles
- Advocate for lifelong support for people affected by stroke;
- Be an ambassador and advocate for the Stroke Association and its activities including its life after stroke services and support, research, policy and campaigning, and fundraising;
- Participate in developing, supporting and review our strategy, vision and goals;
- Ensure that the Stroke Association:
Carries out its purposes for public benefit;
Complies with its Articles of Association and the law;
Acts in the best interests of its charitable purposes and its beneficiaries;
Manages its resources responsibly;

- Participate fully in Board meetings, and decision-making processes, supporting the Chair, fellow Board Members and the work of Committees;
- Provide support to the CEO and staff as appropriate;
- Work with other Trustees to ensure that as a Charity we strive to achieve best practice;
- Demonstrate the behaviours set out in - and abide by - the Trustee Code of Conduct at all times.

**Trustee Responsibilities**

- Fulfil the statutory duties of Trustees, ensuring the charity complies with its Articles of Association and all applicable legislation, regulatory guidance and good practice;
- Ensure proper administration of the Charity;
- Take ultimate responsibility for everything the Charity does;
- Act reasonably, prudently and collectively in dealing with the Stroke Association’s affairs and safeguarding its assets and reputation;
- Ensure the Charity pursues its objects as defined in its Articles of Association and applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of those objects;
- Further the Charity’s purposes for public benefit;
- Exercise independent judgement and act solely in the best interest of the Charity;
- Avoid or manage conflicts of interest.

**Chair of Wales Advisory Committee**

- Chair and facilitate Committee meetings, involving:
  - providing all Members with the opportunity to express their views
  - managing meetings so that appropriate standards of behaviour are maintained in accordance with the Code of Conduct
  - maintaining the focus of discussion and questions
  - recording and responding appropriately to conflicts of interest
  - reviewing the draft Minutes to ensure they are an accurate record of the meeting;
- Ensure that new Members receive adequate and timely induction into the remit and activities of the Committee and support in their personal development;
- Report to the Board of Trustees on the business transacted at Committee meetings;
• Represent the Charity at various community events, acting as spokesperson, as appropriate.

**Person specification**
The most effective Boards are ones which benefit from individuals from a diverse range of backgrounds, experiences and skill sets. While we are looking for a Trustee with specific skills we are also looking for people with a broad experience of life.

We are keen to lower the average age and increase the ethnic and socio-economic diversity of the Council and will consider applicants from a wide range of backgrounds and experience.

**All Members of the Stroke Association Board will require:**

• Empathy with and commitment to the Stroke Association’s vision, mission, aims and objectives and to promoting the interests of people affected by stroke;
• A commitment to seeking to work effectively and harmoniously with other Trustees, the Executive Leadership Team and staff and volunteers;
• An ability to work effectively as a member of a team while contributing independent perspective;
• Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, able to both empower and challenge constructively and supportively;
• Strategic vision and good judgement;
• An ability and willingness to represent the Stroke Association in an ambassadorial capacity;
• An understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, liabilities and responsibilities of Trustees;
• A commitment to Nolan’s seven principles of public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.

**In addition, the following characteristics, knowledge and experiences are specific for the role of Chair of the Wales Advisory Committee:**

• Leadership abilities;
• Tact and diplomacy, good communication and interpersonal skills;
• Impartiality, fairness and discretion;
• Knowledge of health, stroke and related issues in Wales;
• An understanding of the voluntary sector in the Welsh context.
Eligibility:
Some people are disqualified by law from acting as a Trustee, including anyone who:
- Has an unspent conviction for an offence involving deception or dishonesty;
- Is an undischarged bankrupt;
- Has been removed from Trusteeship of a charity by the Courts of the Charity Commission for misconduct or mismanagement;
- Has been disqualified from being a company director under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986.

Terms of appointment - remuneration:
The role of Trustee is not accompanied by any financial remuneration; however, we willingly cover Trustee expenses within the Stroke Association’s expenses policy.

Term and time commitment
Trustees are asked to serve a three-year term, and are eligible for re-appointment for a further two additional terms (a maximum of 9 years).

It is expected that the Chair/Trustee role will require a commitment of approximately 20 days over a year.

Relationship to other Committees
Trustees sit on the Board and may be appointed to one or more Committees of the Board.

Term:
- Trustees are appointed for a term of three years;
- A Trustee may serve a maximum of three terms;
- Trustees are appraised during their term and reappointment is not automatic.

Reporting to:
Chair of the Board.

Stroke Association is registered as a charity and as a company limited by guarantee. Every Trustee is also a director of the company and has legal responsibilities and potential liabilities in that capacity.

How to apply
If you wish to discuss your interest in this appointment please contact Barry Macaulay, Wales Interim Director at Barry.Macaulay@stroke.org.uk. The closing
date for applications is **Wednesday 29 July 2020** and should be sent to Maz Hilliar, at our HR team on recruitment@stroke.org.uk

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to interviews in early September. At present, we are expecting those interviews to take place via videoconferencing.

**Your application should comprise:**

- A covering note of no more than two pages outlining your motivation and relevant experience for the role;
- A full CV, including educational and professional qualifications, and a full employment history showing the more significant positions, responsibilities held and relevant achievements;
- Daytime, evening and/or mobile telephone numbers (to be used with discretion);

Thank you for your interest in the work of Stroke Association.
We are the Stroke Association
We believe in life after stroke. That’s why we support stroke survivors to make the best recovery they can. It’s why we campaign for better stroke care. And it’s why we fund research to develop new treatments and ways of preventing stroke.

We’re here for you. Together we can conquer stroke. If you’d like to know more please get in touch.

Stroke Helpline: 0303 3033 100
Website: stroke.org.uk
Email: helpline@stroke.org.uk
From a textphone: 18001 0303 3033 100

We are a charity and we rely on your support to change the lives of people affected by stroke and reduce the number of people who are affected by this devastating condition.
Please help us to make a difference today.

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