

<b>Proposed Publication date</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
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### **How to becomes a Trustee.**

As highlighted in previous articles, November 4-8<sup>th</sup> is Trustees' Week. The week is an annual event to showcase the great work that trustees do and highlight opportunities for people from all walks of life to get involved and make a difference.

Most adults can become trustees. You don't need management experience, just the ability to work well alongside other board members, and a commitment to making good decisions on the charity's behalf.

Trustees decide how charities spend their money, ensure legal compliance, and support staff. The commitment usually involves attendance at monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly board meetings and sometimes may include additional commitments such as providing support during fundraising events or delegated responsibilities such as producing accounts or line managing staff members.

How do you become a trustee? One way to find vacancies is through Oxonvolunteers.org, the countywide volunteering website. Here charities advertise for volunteers including Trustees. Once you put your name forward, the charity will usually contact you and invite you to a meeting, so you can see if you'd like to proceed.

In addition, OCVA is holding an **Open Afternoon** on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> of November from 1.00 pm – 3.00 pm. If you are interested in becoming a Trustee or are a charity that is looking for Trustees why not come to our Open Afternoon where you can talk with OCVA staff about your needs.

Some of the great organisations in Oxfordshire looking for trustees are as follows:

**Fusion Arts** is a catalyst for creativity and is an East Oxford based charity. Since 1977 they have connected artists with communities, and inspired hundreds of bespoke creative projects. They are looking for a Trustee who will "bring existing professional skills and knowledge as wells as develop new skills." The Trustees meet four times a year on a Tuesday between 5pm and 7pm in East Oxford Community Centre.

**Citizens Advice** (formerly known as Citizen Advice Bureau) is a network of independent charities that offers confidential advice online, over the phone, and in person, for free. They state, "Our Board is very experienced and plays a fundamental part in shaping our governance and strategy. Prior Trustee Board experience is not essential, but we are keen to recruit potential trustees with a finance background."

**People & Planet** (P&P) is a student-led campaigns organisation, the P&P Board of Trustees is largely made up of elected student Trustees, and the Board is Chaired by a student Trustee. The Board is currently looking for 3 more non-student trustees to join the Board, for a minimum of two-years. They are seeking an experienced board member with a strategic grasp of Third Sector issues, who is willing and able to support young people in achieving the aims of People & Planet. Board meetings are held four times a year in Oxford.

**Oxfordshire Scouts** are made up of 95 separate scouting groups and they “aim to give children the skills they need for adulthood”. Each group has its own trustees (in Scouting they’re called Executive Committees) who operate alongside the scout leaders to support the running of the Scout Group. Some are registered charities others are too small to register but they all fall under the federated charity umbrella of the Scout Association. They have a number of Trustee opportunities throughout Oxfordshire and are particularly interested in recruiting from ethnic and underrepresented groups.

To find out about these Trustee opportunities and many others please visit [oxonvolunteers.org](http://oxonvolunteers.org) or come a long to OCVA’s open day. To book an appointment for the open day or find out more email [vol@ocva.org.uk](mailto:vol@ocva.org.uk) or 01865 251946.