

GLASGOW NIGHT SHELTER FOR DESTITUTE ASYLUM SEEKERS

<https://glasgownightshelter.org>

Glasgow Night Shelter for Destitute Asylum Seekers exists to protect people who are not only street homeless but who have no support network in the form of friends or relatives and are without recourse to public funds. Since 2011, the charity (SC047169) has provided somewhere safe and warm for destitute asylum seekers to stay overnight, 365 nights a year.

Call for Trustees

Summary

Glasgow Night Shelter for Destitute Asylum Seekers is looking for new Trustees to help make a positive difference to the lives of some of the most vulnerable people in our society.

Applications from people with expertise in HR, fundraising, operational management, and/or health & safety are particularly welcome, as are applications from people with lived experience (or informed knowledge) of refugee and asylum issues.

Purpose

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of Glasgow Night Shelter, developing the charity's aims, objectives and goals in accordance with the governing constitution, legal and regulatory guidelines.

Trustees of Glasgow Night Shelter (GNS):

- work together to provide leadership and strategic direction to the organisation;
- ensure that GNS meets its charitable objectives as laid out in the constitution;
- ensure that GNS is effectively run and meets its legal and regulatory requirements;
- ensure that assets are safeguarded and used efficiently for those for whom the Night Shelter exists;
- ensure that the organisation is accountable financially and in other ways; and
- take on specific roles as required for the smooth operation of the Board and the organisation.

Commitment

Trustees of GNS are expected to contribute around ten hours per month to the organisation, and to attend nine board meetings per year, including the AGM. A minimum commitment of two years is requested.

Refugee / asylum seeker involvement

GNS is very keen to involve refugees and asylum seekers in the running of the organisation. Applications from refugees, asylum seekers and people with experience of homelessness – who meet the essential criteria set out below – are encouraged.

Remuneration

The position of Trustee is voluntary. However, reasonable travelling expenses to/from Board meetings can be claimed.

Person Specification – Essential

- Knowledge and experience of voluntary sector issues
- Empathy with refugee, asylum and homelessness issues
- Willing and able to promote the success of Glasgow Night Shelter
- Good communication skills and the ability to work as part of the Board
- Competent computer user / ability to communicate regularly by email
- Ability to exercise independent judgment and to take reasonable care, skill and diligence
- Ability to fulfil the legal duties of a Charity Trustee

Person Specification – Desirable

*GNS depends on Trustees having a wide range of skills. Each Board member should have strengths in at least **one** of the following areas (Trustees are not expected to be skilled in all of these areas):*

- Lived experience / in depth knowledge of refugee / asylum / homelessness issues
- Organisational development / strategy
- HR expertise
- Health and safety expertise
- Financial management
- Knowledge of legal compliance responsibilities of Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations (SCIO)
- Management and development of paid staff / volunteers
- Successful fundraising, lobbying, campaigning or advocacy skills
- Ability and time to represent GNS in meetings with stakeholders
- Knowledge of equalities and human rights issues and best practice in employment
- PR, media, communication or events skills
- Research and analysis
- Project development / management experience
- Experience of running housing projects / knowledge of housing policy / law

How to apply

At this stage, we just need a paragraph explaining why you would like to become a Trustee of Glasgow Night Shelter. **Please also indicate the areas (listed above) in which you have particular strengths that you could contribute as a Trustee.**

To apply, please email Annika Joy (Chair of the Trustees) – annika.joy@gmail.com – no later than **7th January 2019.**