

THE HOSPITAL OF ST CROSS & ALMSHOUSE OF NOBLE POVERTY

The Hospital of St Cross and Almshouse of Noble Poverty (St Cross) has as its core purpose the appointing of, and providing a residence for up to 25 elderly men (the Brothers) and their consorts in residence, as well as managing the landscape, historic buildings and chapel in its ownership.

Trustees – summary role description

Trustees oversee the overall governance, management and administration of the charity. This includes operational policies, safeguarding, risk management and finances, including reviewing and approving its financial statements. They ensure that St Cross follows a clear strategy and plan which are in line with the core purpose.

Just as importantly, they support and challenge the executive team to enable St Cross to continue to achieve its core purpose. They also monitor the recruitment and wellbeing of Brothers and Staff.

Trustees attend Board and Committee meetings suitably prepared to contribute. They should expect to use their personal skills, experience and contacts to further the interests of St Cross while respecting the ancient traditions of this 900 year old Almshouse.

St Cross requires its Trustees be members of the Church of England.

Board members have a collective responsibility. This means that trustees always act as a group and not as individuals.

What we are looking for

We are looking for people willing to bring energy, enthusiasm and commitment to the role, and who will broaden the diversity of thinking on our board.

Welfare Committee (Chair-in-waiting) – An experienced Primary Health Care or Social Care professional (essential). Likely to be retired and may be a qualified medical practitioner. Experience of mental health, safeguarding and health and safety would each be helpful.

Terms of appointment

Terms of office

Trustees are appointed for a 5 year term of office, with renewal at the discretion of St Cross. This is a voluntary position, but reasonable expenses are reimbursed.

Time commitment

Attending 4 Trustees' meetings annually normally held at St Cross; Attending Committee meetings – generally nominated 2 Committees, each meeting 4 times a year; Attending occasional away day meetings; As Visiting Trustee – you will usually be nominated 2 Brothers each year – minimum of two visits a year. Such other meetings and visits as shall be agreed.

Optional Gaudy lunches – 3 times a year – are fun and a good opportunity to spend time with the Brothers. There are also other activities – musical and cultural – in the grounds and chapel.