

CHAIR CANDIDATE INFORMATION PACK



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ABOUT US

Seafarers Hospital Society is one of the oldest maritime charities and is best known for Dreadnought, a hospital ship set up in 1821 to provide medical services for seafarers. In 1870 it 'came ashore' and operated from the former Greenwich Hospital Infirmary where it gained a world-wide reputation for the trailblazing contribution to understanding diseases such as cholera, typhoid and scurvy. This led to the founding of the Hospital for Tropical Diseases.

Throughout the past 200 years the Society's basic purpose has remained unchanged, however the provision of support has changed significantly and never more so than in 2020. The Society responded quickly to the Covid-19 pandemic, drawing down funds from its investment portfolio and increasing the number and level of grants to support seafarers and their dependants during this unprecedented time, but always maintaining the provision of mental health and wellbeing support for seafarers and their families which remains a priority.

More on the history of the Seafarers Hospital Society can be found [here](#).



ROLE DESCRIPTION

Chair

The Seafarers Hospital Society has been looking after the health and welfare of seafarers and their families since 1821. The Chair of Trustees plays a crucial role at the centre of the charity's work, promoting its continued development and success.

Principal Responsibilities

Leadership

- Working with the trustees to guide the Society in its overall vision and strategy, while preserving its identity and maintaining its core values;
- Supporting the CEO in her or his leadership of the organisation and pursuit of its aims and objectives;
- Ensuring the Society has an effective longer-term strategy, relevant policies and up-to-date business and staffing plans, commensurate with its ambitions and resources.

Governance

- Providing oversight of the good governance of the Society, including compliance with all relevant laws and regulations as a charity;
- Setting, with the CEO, the agenda for trustees' meetings, reviewing a schedule for the year, including the presentation of the completed annual report and accounts and an annual meeting of the Society;
- Having oversight of the Society's finances, and supporting the Treasurer and the CEO in ensuring that donations, grants, earned income and expenditures are systematically accounted for, audited and publicly reported, and that monies are invested to the greatest benefit of the Society;
- Overseeing the best use of consultants and advisors – including auditors, investment managers, and surveyors – as required for good governance and accountability;
- Ensuring that trustees contribute effectively to the good governance of the Society and reviewing their performance;
- Making recommendations in consultation with the CEO on the composition of the trustee body (with a view to succession);
- Helping recruit trustees with specific and relevant expertise;
- Ensuring that all trustees receive appropriate advice, training and information relating to their role;
- Leading a periodic review of governance: the structure, role and relationship of trustees to staff, consultants and partner organisations, and implementing changes as necessary.

Advocacy

- Offering guidance on the external relations of the Society, including work with partner organisations such as the Seafarers' Advice and Information Line;
- Contributing, in close coordination with the CEO, to the external communications of the Society;

- Promoting good relations with other marine charities and third sector bodies linked to the work of the Society;
- Helping ensure appropriate links with government departments and public sector agencies relevant to the Society's work.

Staffing and Communication

- Guiding, supporting and reviewing the work of the CEO;
- Receiving regular progress reports of the Society's work through the CEO, and communicating key elements of these to trustees as appropriate;
- Advising, interviewing and helping to select staff and consultants when required;
- Offering independent oversight of any external or internal matters of concern or complaint;
- Ensuring overall compliance with current employment and equal opportunities legislation and good practice;
- Promoting equality of opportunity and the health and welfare of staff.

The position is unremunerated although the Society will cover appropriate travel and other expenses directly related to the role.



SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION

For an informal and confidential discussion regarding this role, please contact our retained advisers at TPP.

TPP Recruitment is a specialist, highly respected and well-established UK-wide consultancy. Our areas of expertise enable us to provide dedicated support to organisations across non-profit and public-sector organisations.

Lead Consultant: Matt Adams 020 7198 6040
Supporting Consultant: Brigitte Stundner 020 7198 6060

To apply, please send your CV and supporting statement outlining how you meet the criteria for the role in Word format to: apply@tpp.co.uk quoting "Seafarers" in the subject line.

RECRUITMENT TIMETABLE

Closing date for applications	Friday 5th November 2021
TPP Interviews	w/c 8th November 2021
Shortlist	w/c 15th November 2021
SHS Interviews with Nominations Committee & CEO	w/c 22nd November 2021
SHS Interview with Trustees & Appointment	w/c 22nd November 2021
New Chair starts	Spring 2022

