



CROHN'S & COLITIS UK

TRUSTEE CANDIDATE INFORMATION PACK 2023

WELCOME FROM OUR CHAIR

Thank you so much for your interest in joining our charity Crohn's & Colitis UK as a Trustee.

We're the UK's leading charity for Crohn's and Colitis. Right now, over 500,000 people in the UK are living with a lifelong condition that can profoundly affect their quality of life. And because of the stigma surrounding their conditions, thousands are suffering in silence. But we are here to support and champion a better future. Our vision is for improved lives for people with Crohn's and Colitis today, and in the long term, a world free from Crohn's and Colitis altogether.

Our community look to the charity to help them navigate their way through complex health issues and support their needs wherever they live, whatever their background and whoever they are. This is our job - whether it's lobbying for health leaders, providing vital information, or reducing the stigma around the conditions, we're here for them.

As we look forward, the charity is in great shape to do even more for our community. We delivered our best-ever income result in 2022 creating the financial headroom to invest in our new ambitious strategy. We are growing our amazing team to deliver our exciting agenda. But there is still much to shape and develop. We need new skills and new ways of thinking if we are to grow our impact. We are just at the beginning of change in some areas – we have a great social media following but we want to maximise our digital platforms with a new website recently launched. We want to be the centre of expertise on the lived experience of Crohn's and Colitis and will need to build an evidence base that meets that ambition and turbo charges our aspiration to grow public awareness and deliver system change.

You couldn't be joining us at a more exciting time, a time when you will be able to make a real difference.

Jackie Craissati

DR JACKIE CRAISSATI MBE
CHAIR OF THE BOARD



ABOUT US

Right now, over 500,000 people in the UK are living with a lifelong disease that many people have never heard of. Because of the stigma and misunderstanding surrounding these diseases, thousands of people are suffering in silence. But they're not alone. We're here for them. We're working to give people the hope and confidence to live their lives as they would wish to. We want:

- Everyone to understand Crohn's and Colitis
- To support and empower everyone to manage their conditions
- To drive high-quality and sustainable clinical care
- Early and accurate diagnosis for all
- To drive world-class research that improves lives today and brings us closer to a world free from Crohn's and Colitis tomorrow

Like many charities the pandemic profoundly affected the way we worked. But it has also provided the opportunity to think again about how we work and where we can achieve the greatest impact. We've innovated and restructured. We are in great shape for the future. In 2022 we generated the biggest income in the charity's history, and it has provided the financial headroom to expand our work going forward. In 2021 we also agreed a new three-year strategy which put understanding the lived experience of people with Crohn's and Colitis at the heart of what we do. We want to reach out to everyone with the conditions – whatever their age, wherever they live in the UK, rich or poor, of any faith or none, of any ethnicity, gender or sexuality. [You can find our 2021 strategy here.](#)

We are really ambitious for change and what we are going to do to bring it about. A great strength of the charity is our amazing supporter base who are powerful advocates for change. They get involved through our membership (50,000 plus members), fundraising, campaigning or following our social media channels. Building the evidence base to advocate and influence change will require new skills and added capacity in the charity. We have made a start but there is much more to do and the opportunity to shape our delivery plan.



What are Crohn's and Colitis?

Crohn's disease and Ulcerative Colitis – the two main forms of Inflammatory Bowel Disease – are lifelong diseases of the gut. They are painful, debilitating and widely misunderstood. And there is no known cure. When you have Crohn's or Colitis, your immune system doesn't work properly. Your body starts attacking itself, causing ulcers and inflammation in the gut. Imagine having a wound that never heals – only it's on the inside. Crohn's and Colitis don't just affect your gut. They can affect almost every part of your body and every aspect of your life: from your hormones and digestion to your energy levels and mental health. People living with the conditions may face a lifetime of medication and, in too many cases, major surgery. If left untreated, they can be fatal.



OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

Our Vision

We want to see improved lives today, and a world free from Crohn's and Colitis tomorrow.

Our Mission

We break
taboos.

We drive
pioneering
research.

We bring
people
together.

We campaign
to improve
lives.

We are
leading the
fight against
Crohn's and
Colitis.

Our Values

- **Ambitious** - We are relentless in striving for improvement. Every day, we aim to make the greatest impact possible on the lives of people with Crohn's and Colitis. We're experts in our field and work hard to make a difference.
 - **Compassionate** - We are rooted in empathy and kindness. We're there for everyone living with Crohn's or Colitis and when people turn to us for information and support, we listen.
 - **Stronger Together** - We are always looking for new ways to collaborate and develop together. We're a community, we work together to help people support themselves, and we learn from everyone we work with.
-

THE TRUSTEE ROLES

Crohn's & Colitis UK is constituted as a charitable company limited by guarantee, so the Trustees have the same responsibilities and liabilities as a Board of Directors of any Limited Company. This year we are looking for three Trustees to join our board, and have identified the following three skills areas of interest to us at this time:

1. NHS experience

Interested applicants should have recent or on-going NHS experience at Executive or Chief Executive level, with a background in operational delivery, or with a nursing or allied health profession background. However, we are interested in diversity of experience, and welcome those who have moved into commissioning and policy work at Executive level.

2. Financial and accounting experience

Interested applicants should be a qualified finance professional, with substantial senior level experience/skills in the areas of accounting, budgeting and planning, investment management, reserves and cash flow management and/or management of financial risks. Experience of the charity sector is not an essential prerequisite. The individual will join the Finance & Audit Committee with the option to step into the committee chair role after a year.

3. Fundraising strategy and implementation experience

Interested applicants should have worked at least at Fundraising Director level or have undertaken this role prior to moving to a broader role. We are particularly interested in applicants who have an understanding of a broad range of income generation, in a medium sized charity with multi million pound budgets.

We are also looking to improve the diversity on our Board, including ethnicity, socio-economic, and life in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Most Trustees on our Board already have first hand lived experience of Crohn's and Colitis so new applicants for the role will not need this experience.

Trustees are responsible for:

- Ensuring that the charity complies with its constitution, charity law and any other relevant legislation or regulations, works to fulfill its charitable objects and applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its objects.
- Contributing actively to the Board of Trustees' role in giving firm strategic direction to the organisation, setting overall policy, defining goals and evaluating performance.
- Safeguarding the good name and values of the charity.
- Ensuring the effective and efficient management and administration of the charity.
- Ensuring the financial stability of the charity.
- Ensuring the proper investment of the charity's funds.
- Employing and being responsible for the organisation's staff.
- Using any specific knowledge or experience they have to help the Board of Trustees reach sound decisions.
- Promoting the charity among their own contacts.



PERSON SPECIFICATION

Personal Qualities

- An empathetic interest in the work of the charity, its strategic objectives and the cause.
- Strong networking capabilities that can be utilised for the benefit of the charity, and the ability to attend relevant events when helpful or necessary.
- Good inter-personal and relationship building abilities, working collaboratively both internally with colleagues and ensuring contribution from colleagues into discussions, and externally with a range of stakeholders.
- Diplomatic, with the ability to negotiate, influence and convince through personal credibility.
- Values diversity and difference and operates with integrity and openness.

Experience

- Experience of operating at a senior strategic leadership level.
- Experience of external representation, building new connections and managing a range of senior stakeholders across different sectors, including service users.
- Successful track record of leading the formulation and delivery of an organisational strategy.

Knowledge & Skills

- The ability to provide leadership to and motivate staff and volunteers, bringing people together.
 - Good understanding of governance issues.
-

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Term of Office

Three years. Renewable twice, for up to a maximum of nine years, subject to the Chair's recommendation.

Time Commitment

We estimate that the time commitment for this role will be approximately 1 day per month, although some flexibility is required.

Conflict of Interest

All candidates will be asked to disclose any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest, and these will be discussed with the candidate to establish whether and what action is needed to avoid a conflict or the perception of a conflict.

Terms of Appointment

An offer of appointment will be made once all candidates have been interviewed, and will be subject to satisfactory completion of eligibility checks, including reference checks. If you are offered an appointment you will receive a detailed summary of your main terms and conditions.

Location

Meetings will generally be held virtually with face to face meetings around twice a year.

Remuneration

This is an unremunerated Trustee role.

Membership

We ask all of our Trustees to be members of the Charity, if they are not so already.

HOW TO APPLY

The recruitment process is being undertaken by Trustees Unlimited on behalf of Crohn's & Colitis UK.

Please include the following with your application:

- A detailed CV setting out your career history, with responsibilities and achievements.
- A supporting statement (maximum two sides) highlighting your suitability for the role and how you meet the person specification.
Please note that the supporting statement is an important part of your application and will be assessed as part of your full application.

All applications should be sent to applications@trustees-unlimited.co.uk with your full name and 'Crohn's & Colitis' in the subject line.

Contact Details

Melissa Baxter, Director - Executive Search, Trustees Unlimited

Phone: 07789 985229 Email: melissa.baxter@russam.co.uk

Closing date for applications: Tuesday 9th May 2023

