

A smiling man and woman are featured in the foreground. The man, on the left, has dark hair and is wearing a dark jacket with a brown fur collar over a patterned shirt. The woman, on the right, has curly brown hair and is wearing a dark, textured coat. They are both looking towards the camera. The background consists of horizontal wooden planks.

# OVO FOUNDATION

Trustee recruitment

# Introduction to OVO Energy

- OVO Energy was founded in 2009 and redesigned the energy experience to be fair, effortless, green and simple for all customers.
- Today, OVO Energy has over 1 million customers and is now the largest independent energy supplier in the UK with a progressive mission to power human progress with clean and affordable energy for everyone. OVO Foundation plays a crucial role in supporting and pursuing this mission.

## Our Values



We always look for a better way, whether that's by delivering a better service, employing brilliant people or improving our products and processes

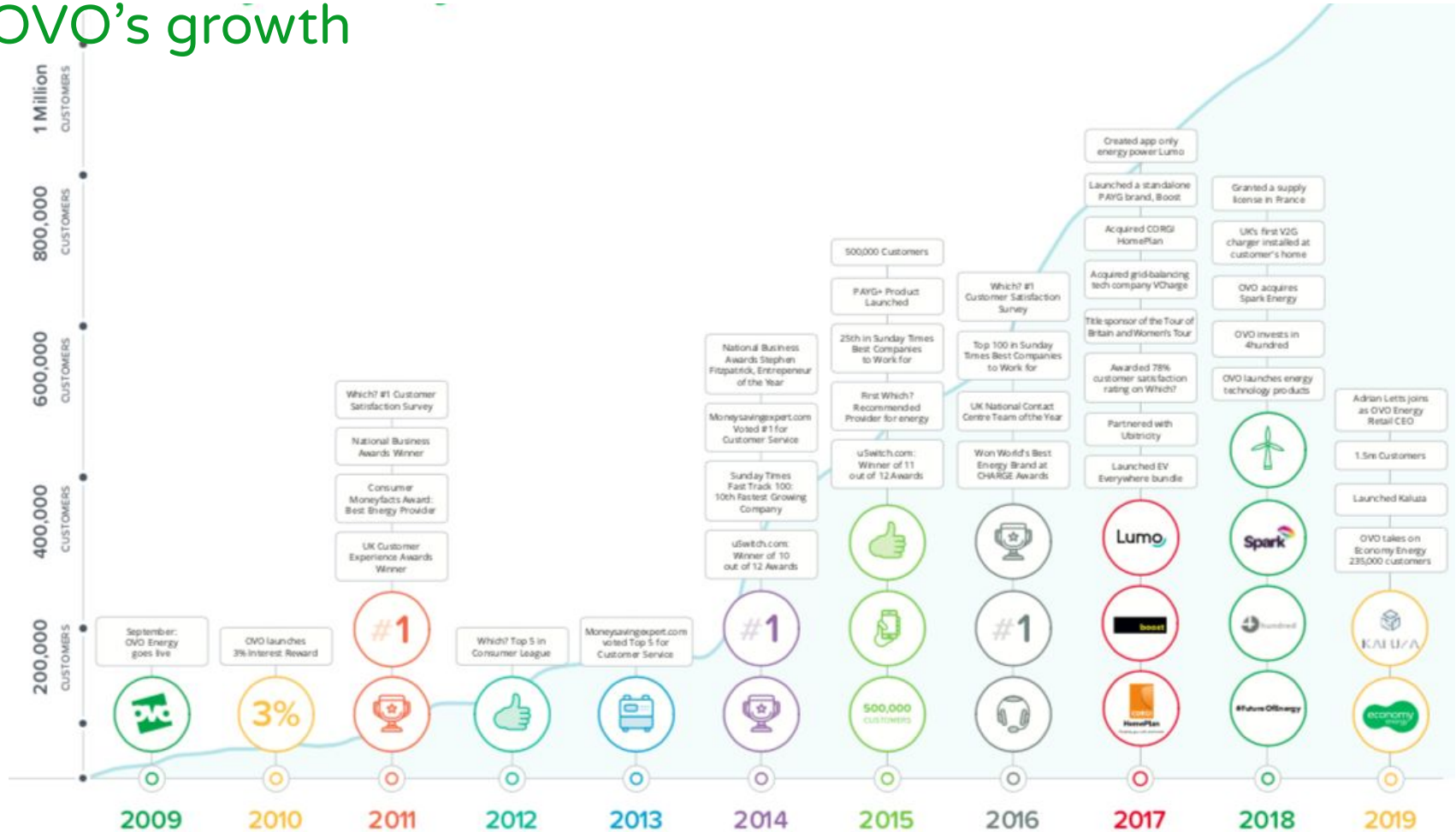


Being open, honest and fair is one of the values which applies to everything we do. We take pride in talking to our customers and delivering exceptional work



Simple solutions aren't quick or easy to find. They take time and tenacity. Our people work to find an answer that helps us 'build something great'

# OVO's growth



A photograph of a classroom where several students are seated at desks, focused on their red tablet devices. In the foreground, a young man in a white shirt is looking down at his tablet. Behind him, another student is also working on a tablet. To the right, a female student wearing a white hijab is looking at her tablet. The background shows other students and the interior of a classroom with wooden beams on the ceiling.

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Introduction to OVO Foundation

# Introduction to OVO Foundation

- OVO Foundation is a corporate foundation.
- It's the charitable arm of OVO Energy and was set up in 2014 with the aim of helping smart charitable organisations tackle three of the most complex social problems of our time: youth homelessness, educational inequality, and access to energy.
- All our projects centre around our mission to give young people a better future.
- OVO Foundation is funded by 80,000+ OVO Energy customers (who donate at least 25p each month) as well as OVO Energy.
- OVO Energy matches all customer donations but also provides 'top-up' donations to ensure an annual income of £1m.
- OVO Foundation has two FTE and three trustees (two independent trustees – Matthew Owen and Samuel Kasumu, and one OVO trustee – Stephen Fitzpatrick who is the Founder and CEO of OVO).
- To support with increased levels of grant making in new areas, **we are strengthening our board and are looking for one new independent trustee with competencies in the relevant areas.** Stephen will be stepping away from the board this year, and so we are also looking for a representative from OVO Energy.
- For more information on our projects, please visit: [www.ovofoundation.org.uk](http://www.ovofoundation.org.uk)

# What we do in a nutshell



## Future Builders

We give young homeless people the chance to renovate derelict homes they'll actually live in, as well as training and skills to live and work independently

### Key achievements:

4 UK cities | 76 young people supported since 2016 | 7 properties renovated so far

### 2019 aim:

Review effectiveness of programme and broaden scope of work



## Project Jua

'Jua' means 'sunshine' in Swahili. The perfect name for a project that installs solar panels on schools and health clinics in rural Kenya

### Key achievements:

20 systems installed in 2018 | 17,000+ students benefited | 300 more sites by 2019

### 2019 aim:

Electrify 300 schools and health clinics to benefit 100,000s of children and people in a cost-effective way



## Early Years

Our projects help disadvantaged preschool children – improving their chances of fulfilling their potential in school, and in later life too

### Key achievements:

150+ children helped since 2018 | 8 primary schools | 16 early years staff supported by 2020

### 2019 aim:

Develop a new portfolio of projects that focus on early years literacy and parental engagement



## OVO Gives Back

Each year, OVO employees chooses local charities to support through 1000s of volunteering hours and £100,000 in grants

### Key achievements:

£250K+ invested in local charities since 2016 | 12 charities supported across 2 cities | 2,000+ hours of local volunteering

### 2019 aim:

Broaden scope of scheme to ensure more alignment with OVO's strategic priorities

# Our funding principles

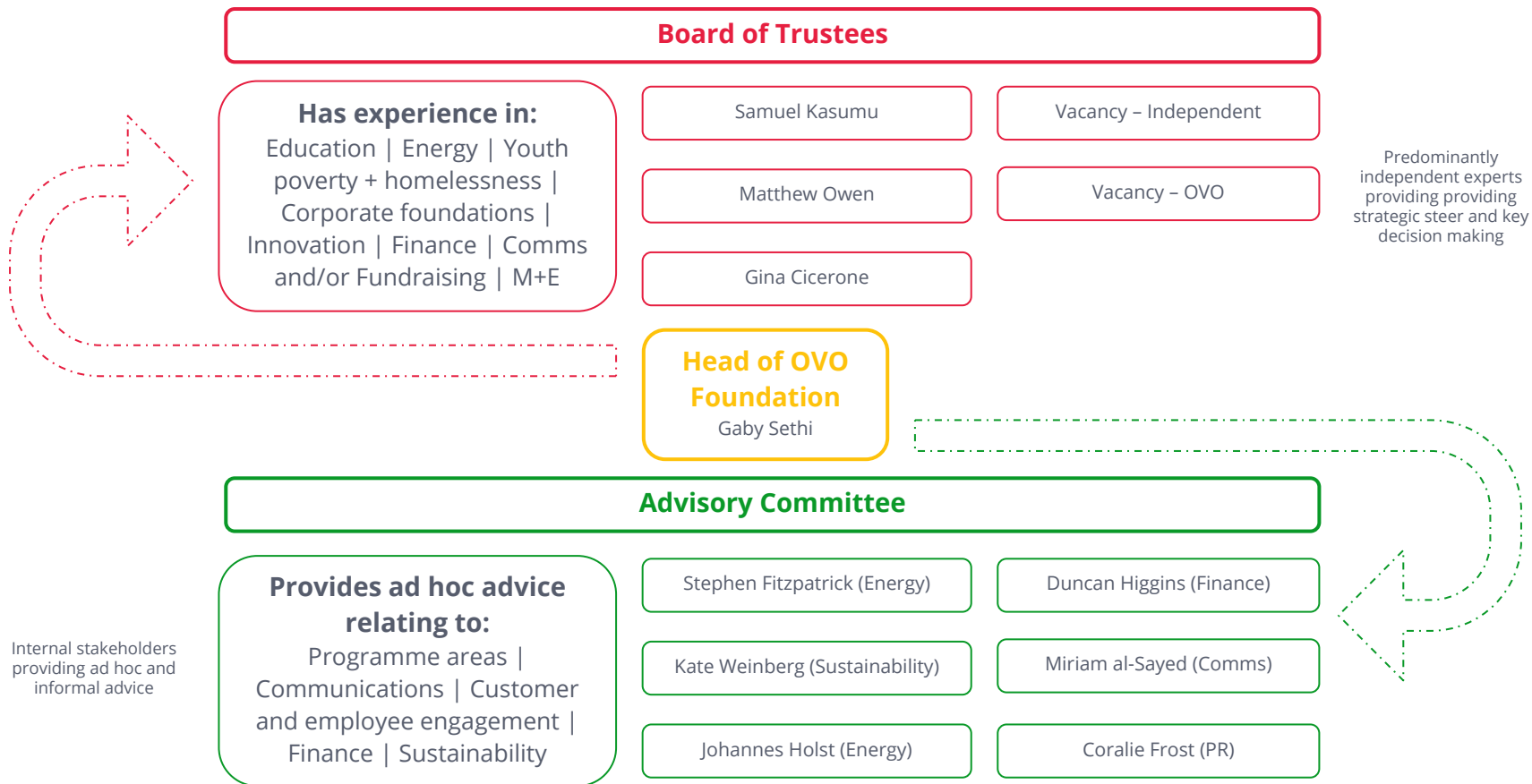
- **Measurable**  
It sounds so obvious, but we have to be able to measure our impact. That's why we spend so much time evaluating our pilots and consulting with experts.
- **Scaleable**  
We'll only get behind a project if it has the potential to be scaled effectively.
- **Minimal viable product**  
We always pilot before making further investment. Our projects or delivery model can be easily iterated over time to maximise impact and efficiency. We also make a conscious effort to share any learnings within the relevant sector.
- **Relevant**  
We only consider projects that fall within our key areas and help us achieve our overall vision of giving young people a better future.
- **Attributable**  
We fund projects that add real value, which we can assess by asking ourselves 'would this project exist or be scaled if it wasn't for our investment?'
- **Radical**  
This means we do fewer things, better – and if it wasn't for our intervention, it could have taken years for the same result to be achieved.
- **Simple**  
This one's easy – simple ideas always win.

A photograph of three young adults standing in front of a wall. The wall is composed of a brick section on the left and a grey perforated metal section on the right. The three individuals, two men and one woman, are all wearing white t-shirts and are smiling. The woman is in the center, with her arms crossed. The man on the left is looking towards the woman, and the man on the right is looking towards the camera.

# OVO FOUNDATION

Our people and governance structure

# Our governance structure



# Biographies

## **Gaby Sethi**

### Head of OVO Foundation

Gaby is Head of OVO Foundation. She first joined OVO back in 2010 when the company was based in a barn in the Cotswolds. She left after two years to complete a Masters but (re)joined OVO in 2015 to set-up OVO Foundation. Gaby's role as Head of OVO Foundation involves directing, developing and implementing the Foundation's strategic aims and harnessing OVO's collective entrepreneurial expertise to make a positive and meaningful impact on society. At OVO Foundation, Gaby has been responsible for launching a project that gives young homeless people across the UK the chance to refurbish houses they go on to live in, creating OVO's community giving scheme which donates £100,000+ to local causes annually, and developing an energy access project in Kenya which will bring power to hundreds of thousands of people.

Prior to OVO, Gaby spent two years advising FTSE100 companies across all sectors on human rights due diligence, specialising in women's rights and human trafficking. She has an LLM in International Law and Human Rights.

## **Hannah Howard**

### Programme Innovation Manager

Hannah's passion for working with children and young people began when she worked with an education charity in Argentina. Since then she's managed youth-led projects in Bangladesh and Nicaragua, and travelled to Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East while working for Save the Children. Fortunately, Hannah's Masters in Education, Gender and International Development at UCL's Institute of Education pinned her to London for some time. In the UK, she's developed projects to improve leadership and literacy in schools, and promoted reading for enjoyment in libraries, prisons and young offender institutions. Hannah joined OVO Foundation in January 2019 and brings a focus on programme quality, innovation, and impact.

# Biographies

## **Matthew Owen**

Trustee (appointed 2014)

Matthew Owen has been on the board of OVO Foundation since 2014. He's also the Director of Cool Earth, a non-profit organisation that works alongside rainforest communities to halt deforestation and climate change. From 2010-2015, OVO Energy and Cool Earth worked closely together on a partnership in Peru with the Asháninka tribe, protecting 100,000 acres of at-risk rainforest.

## **Samuel Kasumu**

Trustee (appointed 2017)

Samuel has been a trustee at OVO Foundation since 2017. Outside of the Foundation, Samuel is the Managing Director of Inclusive Boards, which supports organisations in their efforts to develop more diversity at board level and stronger governance structures. Samuel also founded Elevation Networks, an award-winning charity that focuses on tackling gender and race inequality within the workplace.

## **Gina Cicerone**

Trustee (will be appointed in September 2019)

Gina is Executive Director at the Fair Education Alliance and will be joining OVO Foundation in September 2019. Prior to the FEA, Gina led the Teach First Innovation Unit to nurture social entrepreneurs to tackle educational inequality through training, funding and mentoring. This enabled a portfolio of 20 start-ups to scale from reaching 30,000 pupils to over 500,000 in 5 years.

In 2008, Gina founded Fundacion VASE, an NGO in Ecuador dedicated to volunteer exchanges and youth leadership development. After five years as CEO, she handed over leadership to pursue her Masters in Development Management at the London School of Economics. Prior to joining Teach First, Gina supported individuals to start and scale their social ventures at UnLtd. Gina is a governor of Clapham Manor Primary School and on the Ashoka Venture Board.

A photograph of four children in a window frame. The children are smiling and waving their hands. They are wearing pink shirts. The window frame is made of wood and is set into a wall with peeling plaster. The background outside the window shows green foliage.

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2019 trustee search

# Trustee recruitment

## Commitment from trustees:

- The Board of Trustees will meet each quarter (during normal office hours in London) and be responsible for providing strategic steer and key decision making and acting as a critical friend to the Foundation to ensure it is able to carry out its purpose and deliver against its aims and objectives
- Outside of board meetings, staff may consult with trustees on particular subjects relating to their area of interest or competency
- Trustees are appointed for a three-year term and can serve a maximum of two terms
- The role is unpaid but reasonable expenses will be reimbursed e.g. travel to Board meetings, if necessary.

## Key requirements:

- 5+ years of relevant experience
- Experience in smaller charities and/or foundations, especially those borne out of a start-up mentality, and a willingness to support ongoing professionalisation
- Sound, independent judgement and the willingness to challenge constructively
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to be diplomatic and contribute to the effective maintenance of key stakeholder relationships
- Ability to think creatively and to meet challenges with innovative approaches
- Ability to work effectively as part of a team and willingness to take collective responsibility
- Experience of strategic decision-making and governance, including defining goals, setting targets and evaluating performance
- Knowledge and experience of effective governance practices and an understanding and acceptance of the legal and fiduciary duties and responsibilities of trustees
- Support other trustees to fulfil their responsibilities for the overall governance and strategic direction of the organisation
- Ensure that the organisation pursues its objects as defined in its governing document, charity law, company law and other relevant legislation/regulations

# Candidate profile

**Knowledge of, or experience in: (1) issues affecting vulnerable young people (aged 16-25), including those in poverty or at risk of homelessness; (2) practical solutions to the issue, especially relating to housing**

- In-depth knowledge and/or experience in working with young people in the UK (especially those who may have experienced or are at risk of homelessness)
- Expertise in issues affecting young people, as well as in-depth knowledge of current and emerging trends in the housing, homelessness and employment sectors
- Track record of successfully implementing or advising on projects that provide young people not in work, education or training (NEET) with long-term opportunities, especially relating to innovative and affordable housing solutions
- Ability to bring thematic expertise to the Board in a practical and pragmatic manner
- Support evaluation of current and potential partners, enhance and/or scale current projects, and identify areas for future work

Desired:

- Experience in setting up, managing, or being on the board of a small/medium charity and/or corporate foundation
- An understanding of issues surrounding social impact and the role of the private sector
- Expertise in implementing approaches to monitoring, evaluation and learning which respond to the opportunities created by innovative partnerships between business and the charity sector, putting in place best practice systems for turning evidence and learning into action
- Support with overall programme analysis and evaluation, as well as programme design as they relate to outcomes measurement and impact evaluation. Experience of collaborating with other organisations to design and deliver M&E frameworks would be ideal
- Ability to be a visionary and provide steer in identifying opportunities that have the potential to maximise the OVO Foundation's impact in the UK and abroad
- Ability to formulate strategic plans to help shape the Foundation's work and provide regular review of the long-term strategic aims

# How to apply



To apply for this role please submit:

- A detailed CV setting out your career history, with responsibilities and achievements;
- A covering letter highlighting your suitability and how you meet the skills and experience for the role as well as the person specification;
- Details of two professional referees together with a brief statement of the capacity and over what period of time they have known you.

**The closing date for applications is Friday 6th September 2019.**

To apply for this opportunity please send your CV and cover letter to Andrei Racasan at [andrei.r@inclusiveboards.co.uk](mailto:andrei.r@inclusiveboards.co.uk). If you would like to discuss this opportunity further or have any questions about the role please contact Andrei Racasan on 07702 814 609 or 0115 934 8437.

*Selection will be on the basis of a full application and with an interview thereafter.*

*Please note that you require an enhanced DBS for this post*