

London's Air Ambulance Charity Chair Candidate Pack 2021



London's
Air Ambulance
Charity



INCLUSIVE
BOARDS

INTRODUCTION FROM OUR CHAIR

Thank you for your interest in becoming Chair at London's Air Ambulance Charity. I hope you enjoy learning a little bit more about us from this pack and by browsing our website and of course I would be delighted if this leads you to make an application.

London's Air Ambulance Charity delivers rapid response cutting-edge medical care to critically injured patients within the boundary of the M25. Since we were founded in 1989, we have treated over 43,000 patients and attended all of the major incidents in London including 7/7, the Grenfell tower fire and the London Bridge terror incident.

Working in partnership with Barts Health NHS Trust and the London Ambulance Service, London's Air Ambulance has pioneered a number of world firsts in pre-hospital care, as we constantly strive not only to save more lives of the people we serve, but also to share within the trauma community, the learnings so painfully garnered on scene.

The Charity has clear and ambitious strategic goals through to 2025 and beyond. Our vision is unwavering: to end preventable deaths in London from serious injury. We are well advanced in planning to replace our helicopter fleet in 2024 as well as replacing our rapid response cars every three years, so that we continue to provide London with a world class 24/7 service.

We are making significant investments in our service, including funding for research and the expansion of our frontline medical teams. To fund these developments, we need to significantly increase our income, to connect more closely with the people of London and to continue investing in our people.

As is explained in more detail in this pack, we are looking to recruit a new Chair following the retirement by rotation of myself as Chair. Mindful of the diversity in the city we serve, we are keen to diversify our leadership and welcome applications from all.

You will be joining a dynamic, energised and free thinking Board. We are passionate about our need to be the best we can be as a Board to serve the outstanding frontline crews – the doctors, paramedics, pilots and firecrews – as well as our unbelievably committed and professional executive team, charity staff and army of volunteers.

It is a stimulating, challenging and rewarding environment for dedicated trustees. It would be great if you were to become part of it.



Mark Vickers

Chair, London's Air Ambulance Charity.



ABOUT LONDON'S AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY

Saving Time. Saving Lives.

London's Air Ambulance Charity delivers an advanced trauma team to London's most seriously injured patients, in partnership with Barts Health NHS Trust and the London Ambulance Service.

Using a helicopter from 08:00 to sunset, and rapid response cars at night or in adverse weather situations, London's Air Ambulance Charity brings the hospital to the patient when time is critical. We perform innovative and potentially life-saving procedures usually found in the emergency department on-scene. The team, consisting of an advanced trauma doctor, paramedic and consultant on most missions, can perform treatments such as open heart surgery, blood transfusions and general anaesthetic by the roadside.

By providing intervention as quickly as possible after injury, we aim to give patients the best chance of survival, and the best quality of life, after trauma.

We serve the 10 million people that live, work and travel within the M25, treating an average of five patients every day. The most common incidents we attend include road traffic collisions, stabbings and shootings, falls from height and incidents on the rail network.

Who We Are

Our Vision

To end preventable deaths in London from life-threatening injury

Our Mission

To save more lives in London through rapid response and cutting-edge care

Our Values

Compassionate

We care about people and put them at the heart of everything we do. We are kind, respectful and always keen to listen to feedback.

Courageous

We are prepared to achieve our mission in demanding environments. We are authentic, honest and not afraid to challenge and take calculated risks.

Pioneering

We embrace and lead change through our innovation and creativity. We are constantly learning, both from our successes and from our failures, to make sure we are always striving to improve.



Patient Story: Arjunan Rajasingam

On an otherwise normal work day in April 2017, lab technician Arjunan, known as Arj was suffering from a headache so decided to leave work early. Despite his headache, and thinking no more of it, Arj did what he would usually do, and got on his motorbike to return home to his family.



On this journey, as he was going along the A40 in West London, he lost control of his motorbike, came off the road and landed in a nearby ditch. Thankfully a passer-by witnessed what had happened and called 999. Realising the severity of the incident, London's Air Ambulance were dispatched to the scene by helicopter. Within minutes, London's Air Ambulance were at Arj's side.

Arj suffered a frontal lobe haemorrhage in his brain and the LAA team gave him an emergency anaesthetic by the side of the road to protect his injured brain. With time of the essence, Arj was flown to the trauma centre at The Royal London Hospital to be handed over to the care of the trauma team. For 2 years, Arj underwent intensive therapy to relearn how to walk, talk, run, swallow and carry out simple everyday tasks. His recovery was slow because his brain injury caused him to have cognitive fatigue.

Today, Arj is virtually recovered and back at work although he still suffers some after effects from his traumatic brain injury. In 2019, Arj and his partner Kelly got married, they had been engaged just before the accident. Arj says: "I am Hindu and Kelly is Christian so we had two fantastic weddings; one in top hats and tails and one in saris! We never thought we would reach that day, when it was a struggle to even walk to the front door." In the last year Arj and Kelly have also had two beautiful, 1 year old twin boys, Ethan and Leon who have brought so much joy into their lives.

Speaking of London's Air Ambulance Arj says: "The staff were inspirational and the dedication from them not just to save my life but to help with my recovery, has been incredible. 5 years on from my accident and the staff are still in touch with me. I just wouldn't be here without London's Air Ambulance Charity. Before my accident, I thought they were funded solely by the NHS, they're in fact a charity and I would urge people to remember this."

COMMITMENT TO EQUALITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

London's Air Ambulance Charity is an equal opportunities employer, committed to equal opportunities policies. We welcome applications from all backgrounds so that our board mirrors the community we serve. We welcome applications from anyone regardless of ethnicity, heritage, disability, gender, sexuality, religion, socio-economic background or other differences.

London's Air Ambulance Charity is deeply committed to inclusive working practices, so during the application process we commit to:

- Paying for childcare and care costs whilst you are at interviews.
- Paying for your travel costs to the office and back for interviews.
- Making any reasonable adjustments – for example ensuring we have a sign language interpreter organised in advance if you'd like them.
- Providing this document in a Word document format readily available to download.
- Offering a guaranteed first stage interview with Inclusive Boards for disabled candidates who meet the minimum requirements for the role.

If there is anything else you are concerned about or think we could provide, please let us know.



OUR STRATEGY

Every second of every day, London's Air Ambulance is here to respond to the needs of London's most critically injured patients

Our strategy document *Saving More Lives* details how we will achieve this over the next five years through the following five strategic goals.

1. Save time – treating everyone who needs us, when and where they need us.
2. Outstanding care – to improve patient care and to end preventable deaths.
3. Connecting with the people of London – to increase the number of charity givers in London who support our service.
4. Double income – to ensure our financial security and sustainability over the next 5 years to fund our organisational objectives.
5. Our culture – continue to develop a supportive and enabling environment that gets the best of our people

The Role & Responsibilities

The Chair will hold the Board and Executive Team to account for the Charity's mission and strategy, providing inclusive leadership to the Board of Trustees and ensuring that each Trustee fulfils their duties and responsibilities for the effective governance of the Charity. The Chair will also support the Chief Executive and ensure that the Board functions as a unit and works closely with the Executive team of the Charity to achieve its agreed objectives. The Chair will be a torch bearer for the values of the Charity and act as an ambassador and the public face of the Charity in partnership with the Chief Executive.

Core responsibilities include:

- Strategic Leadership: Provide leadership to the Charity and its Board, ensuring that the Charity has maximum impact for its beneficiaries.
- Governance: Ensure that the Charity operates in accordance with Charity Commission guidelines and that our governance arrangements are working to best effect for the Charity.
- Board Leadership: Chair meetings of the Board of Trustees effectively and efficiently, bringing impartiality and objectivity to the decision making process.
- Relationship with the Chief Executive and Management Team: Build and maintain a strong, effective and constructive working relationship with the Chief Executive, and ensure they are supported to deliver the Charity's agreed strategic objectives.
- Relationship with External Stakeholders: Serve as an ambassador for the Charity and ensure engagement with our partners - Barts Health NHS Trust and the London Ambulance Service.



Person Specification

The Chair should ideally meet the following requirements:

Personal Qualities:

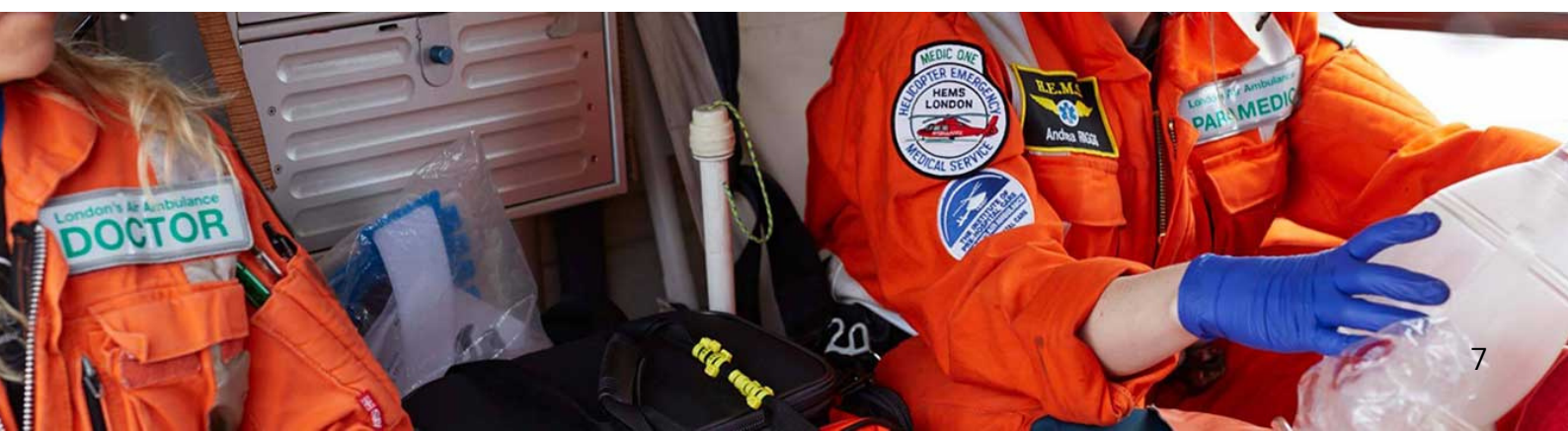
- Demonstrate a strong and visible passion and commitment to the Charity, its values, its strategic objectives and its vision and mission.
- Exhibit strong inter-personal and relationship-building abilities and be comfortable in an ambassadorial role.
- Demonstrate tact and diplomacy, with the ability to listen and engage effectively.
- Strong networking capabilities that can be utilised for the benefit of the Charity.
- Have the ability to foster and promote a collaborative team environment.
- Be able to commit time to carry out the role well, including being able to respond to issues at relatively short notice as needs must.

Experience:

- Experience of operating at a senior strategic leadership level within an organisation.
- Successful track record of achievement through their career.
- Experience of charity governance as part of a Board of Trustees.
- Experience of external representation, delivering presentations and managing stakeholders.
- Relevant experience of chairing meetings and events.

Knowledge and Skills:

- Broad knowledge and understanding of the charity sector and current issues affecting it (being aided in this by other members of the Board).
- Strong leadership skills, ability to motivate fellow trustees, staff and volunteers and bring people together.
- Some understanding of financial management and a broad understanding of charity finance issues.
- Good understanding of charity governance issues.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Time Commitment

The Board meets 6 times a year, plus an annual strategy away day. We also usually hold 2-3 ad-hoc intra-Board sessions focussing on key strategic topics (e.g regulatory risk) or a strategy review/refresh. There are a number of further structured and ad-hoc requirements. We anticipate a commitment of typically 4 days per month.

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. The Chair serves a 4 year term and may be eligible for reappointment for one additional term of up to 4 years.

Location

Central London.

Remuneration

The role of Chair is highly valued by the Charity but does not carry any financial remuneration. Travel expenses as well as other out of pocket expenses directly incurred as part of official Trustee business will be reimbursed.

Role as an Ambassador

Serve as an ambassador for the Charity and London's Air Ambulance Service, acting as a spokesperson for the Charity when appropriate including having contingency plans for dealing with major incidents and representing the Charity at external functions, meetings and events.



HOW TO APPLY

The recruitment process is being undertaken by Inclusive Boards with assistance from London's Air Ambulance Charity. If you wish to apply for this position, please supply the following by 23.59 03/03/2022.

- A detailed CV setting out your career history, with responsibilities and achievements.
- A covering letter (maximum 2 sides) highlighting your suitability for the role and how you meet the person specification. Please note that the covering letter is an important part of your application and will be assessed as part of your full application.
- Please provide details of two professional referees together with a brief statement of their relationship to you and over what period of time they have known you.
- Referees will not be contacted without your prior consent.
- Diversity monitoring form - your data will be stored separately from your application and will at no time be connected to you or your application.

If you have any questions or would like to arrange a call to discuss the role please email LAA@inclusiveboards.co.uk or call 0207 267 8369.

Please send your CV and cover letter to LAA@inclusiveboards.co.uk or visit www.inclusiveboards.co.uk/opportunities to apply online.