



Trustee Candidate Pack 2023

Welcome from Myeloma UK

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Trustee of Myeloma UK.

This is a very exciting time to join our team, as Myeloma UK is at a key point in our charity's history. When Myeloma UK was founded, the life expectancy for a myeloma patient was between 12 and 24 months. Today, the life expectancy has quadrupled to between four and eight years, with three out of ten patients living for ten years or more after their diagnosis – and some for much longer. Having successfully served our community for over 25 years, we are now looking forward to how we can adapt to the changing needs of myeloma patients and their loved ones.

We have come a long way and recognise there is further to go. Our work is always led by the needs of those people living with myeloma. Myeloma is 2-3 times more common in Black people, and research has shown that myeloma has a more significant negative impact on the quality of life for ethnic minority patient groups compared to White patients. We are deeply committed to addressing healthcare inequalities and driving equal access to treatment.

Myeloma is still an incurable blood cancer. Almost a third of myeloma patients are diagnosed through an emergency route and one in ten patients diagnosed this route die within one month of diagnosis. We are committed to enabling earlier diagnosis and we now face new challenges as we work to give our community an empowered present and a hopeful future. With some patients living longer, we must also ensure they live well with myeloma. In 2023, in collaboration with the wider myeloma community, we have been refreshing our organisational strategy to meet the changing needs of patients and their loved ones and our new strategy will be rolling out in the coming months.

By joining the Board, you will support an exceptional team of passionate and dedicated experts, ready to make the next transformative strides forward in our ambition to make myeloma history.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sophie Castell'.

Dr Sophie Castell
CEO, Myeloma UK



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Linnett'.

Simon Linnett
Chair, Myeloma UK

About Myeloma UK

For 26 years, Myeloma UK has been working to make myeloma history.

Myeloma UK is the only organisation in the UK that focuses exclusively on the incurable blood cancer myeloma and its related conditions. With a turnover of £5m per annum and a dedicated staff team of 78, we are committed to improving the lives of patients and their families and delivering patient-centred input into every stage of the myeloma journey.

We are determined that no-one goes through myeloma alone. We are here to provide information and support to anyone affected by myeloma. Patients, families, friends, and carers can all draw on our information hub, support groups, discussion forums and Infoline for support when they need it.

We invest in innovative, life-changing research that helps us understand how myeloma develops and progresses, to help everyone working in myeloma better understand and meet the needs of myeloma patients and help deliver change.

We do this because we want to see a better tomorrow for patients. We represent the voices of people affected by myeloma to the Government, the NHS and the wider healthcare sector to improve access to the latest treatments, remove barriers to prompt diagnoses, and improve the design and delivery of care.

Almost all of our funding comes from public donations, gifts in wills and grants. We don't receive Government or NHS funding.

Click [\[HERE\]](#) to watch a video to learn more about Myeloma UK!



Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

We recognise that Myeloma UK is under-representative of groups that myeloma has a disproportionate impact on. For example, research has shown that myeloma is twice as common in Black people.

It is a core tenet of our mission to set this right through a targeted and energetic programme of action and outreach, including this focused and meaningful recruitment campaign in partnership with Inclusive Boards.

We encourage applications from people from all backgrounds and aim to have a workforce representing the wider society we serve. We pride ourselves on being an employer of choice. We champion diversity, inclusion and wellbeing and aim to create a workplace where everyone feels valued and has a sense of belonging.

We are committed to increasing diversity and inclusion within our governance. This means reflecting critically on issues of diversity and inclusion within all that we do, identifying and taking appropriate actions to reduce inequality and welcoming challenges.

We welcome applications from anyone regardless of disability, ethnicity, heritage, gender, sexuality, socio-economic background or other difference.

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 contact us at myeloma@inclusiveboards.co.uk or 0207 267 8369.

About the Roles

Myeloma UK's trustee board is dedicated to serving the charity by providing strategic direction and ensuring delivery of its strategic objectives.

The Charities Act 1993 defines charity trustees as those responsible under the charity's governing document for controlling the administration and management of the charity. We have crafted our Board to reflect the skills needed to support our work and we are now looking to widen this skills mix to ensure the appropriate level of challenge and advice is provided.

We are determined to ensure that patient voice and pioneering clinical practice are at the heart of everything that Myeloma UK does. This year we established a Patient Services Committee to strengthen our governance and support the Board in their responsibilities to ensure Myeloma UK's strategies, activities and programmes for Patient Services address identified and unmet patient needs and provide quality support and information.

We are seeking 2 new Trustees with skills in ONE of the following areas:

- Patient Services (this role will chair the Patient Services Committee)
- Health Policy and Access to Medicine

To learn more about being a Trustee at Myeloma UK, click [\[HERE\]](#) to watch one of our Trustees, Dr Karthik Ramasamy, discuss his time on the board.

Skills and Knowledge we need for both roles

- Demonstrably committed to the principles of Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (ED&I)
- Highly developed strategic thinking with the ability to use logical and creative thinking to solve problems and make decisions
- Collaborative approach to leadership and teamwork, with strong, interpersonal and relationship-building skills
- Intrinsically curious and probing while maintaining a balance of high challenge and high support to enable innovative and deliverable outcomes
- Shows an understanding of when and when not to take appropriate risks in decision-making
- Highly self-aware and understands personal impact; role models the right behaviours
- Ability to empathise with and understand the needs and preferences of people living with cancer, and their families

What we need for the Patient Services Role

Skills and Knowledge

- Working knowledge of knowledge translation; turning evidence (what we know) into practice (what we do)
- Working knowledge of Safeguarding legal frameworks, principles and practice

Further Experience

- Management of services that require safeguarding oversight
- Demonstrable experience of service design, delivery and evaluation
- Experience of working with quality improvement and assurance systems (regulated or non-regulated)
- Experience of being a Safeguarding Lead for an organisation
- Experience chairing meetings

What we need for the Health Policy and Access to Medicine Role

Skills and Knowledge

- Understanding of health and social care systems and legislation across the UK
- Understanding of drug market access environment (MHRA, NICE) and its interaction with life sciences sector, NHS and Government

Further Experience

- Experience of advocating and influencing at senior level to deliver change in policy and/or clinical practice
- Demonstrable experience of policy development and implementation working either within or with Government at senior level, including understanding of how to work with elected members
- Experience of patient voice engagement in health policy or service development

Myeloma UK are committed to supporting a first time trustee, and are able to provide support through an induction, training and a mentor if needed.

Additional Information

The Commitment

The Board meets at least four times per year. Alongside other ad-hoc responsibilities, we anticipate the time commitment to be at least one day a month.

Conflicts of Interest

All candidates will be asked to declare any conflicts of interest. This will be examined to see if an actual conflict exists.

Terms of Appointment

This post is for an initial term of up to three years, which may be extended for one further term of three years.

Location

Of the four Board meetings per year, two are held virtually, and two held in person. For the two in person Board meetings, one is held in London and the other in Edinburgh.

Remuneration

The position is unpaid, although we reimburse travel costs and other direct expenses incurred.

**Change
Lives
Today**



How to Apply

The recruitment process is being undertaken by Inclusive Boards on behalf of Myeloma UK. If you wish to apply for this position, please supply the following by **23:30 on 05/11/2023**.

- A detailed CV, setting out your career history, with responsibilities and achievements
- A cover letter (maximum two sides of A4) highlighting your suitability for the role and how you meet the person specification. Please note that the cover letter is an important part of your application and will be assessed as part of your full application
- 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

If you have further questions after reading this pack, please email **myeloma@inclusiveboards.co.uk** or call **0207 267 8369**.

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



INCLUSIVE BOARDS

About Us

Inclusive Boards is the UK's leading board diversity practice. We have worked alongside over 300 organisations to provide support with Board recruitment, development and governance reviews. We strive to be at the forefront of equity and diversity, and believe that everyone should be represented at Board level. Additionally, we also provide bespoke training sessions on a variety of subjects including personal branding, inclusive recruitment practices and board structures and governance as well as delivering leadership development programmes for underrepresented leaders across a range of sectors.

Contact us today

Improve diversity on your Board, please don't hesitate to contact us via hello@inclusiveboards.co.uk.

To join a Board, sign up to become a candidate via our website and be notified of the latest opportunities as and when they become available.



www.inclusiveboards.co.uk



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