

SCA Trustee Recruitment Pack Autumn 2020

Contents

Overview	page 1
Trustee role description	page 2
Black Lives Matter: SCA Response	page 3
SCA aims & objectives	page 4
Charitable Objects	page 6

Leading Sheffield climate campaign charity seeks Trustees

Sheffield Climate Alliance (SCA) is a well-established coalition of individuals and groups pressing for fair and effective action to tackle the climate crisis, in Sheffield and across the globe. This includes campaigns around stopping fossil fuel extraction, encouraging pension authorities to end carbon-based investments, seeking radical changes to our food systems, and promoting the importance of clean air in our city. We also work in partnership with dozens of different community organisations on grassroots actions to lower the carbon emissions in our city and the surrounding region.

We are at a unique moment in history, when we have the choice how to invest in the recovery from Covid-19. SCA is campaigning for and working towards a fairer, greener, sustainable future.

SCA is looking for committed and passionate volunteers to join our committee as Trustees, to help manage its ongoing commitments and expand its horizons with new points of view and new skill sets. You don't need any direct knowledge of the climate crisis, just a readiness to learn and a commitment to the cause. The smallest of tasks can contribute to a much larger whole – which can, eventually, lead to real change.

SCA is going through a period of considerable change: reviewing our main focus and role in the movement, reconnecting with our founding purpose as a force for uniting allies in the fight for climate justice, and celebrating confirmation of significant new funding. It is a phenomenally exciting time to get involved.

Potential trustees are asked to submit a CV, and a short letter of interest. This should set out their suitability for the role based on the Role Description, as well as their interest in the charity and its work. Please email your CV and letter to info@sheffieldclimatealliance.net

As part of our response to Black Lives Matter, we are particularly interested to hear from potential Trustees from Black and other minority ethnic backgrounds.

Sheffield Climate Alliance

Trustee Role and Job Description

The Sheffield Climate Alliance Trustees are responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of the charity, developing the organisation's aims, objectives and goals in accordance with the governing document, legal and regulatory guidelines. and trust in the charity.

Trustee Committee meetings are held approximately 9 times per year, one meeting of which will be designated the AGM of the charity. Each meeting is scheduled to accommodate the maximum number of members.

There are opportunities for individual trustees to become involved in specific working groups or time limited pieces of work, according to skills and availability.

New trustees are appointed by a vote of trustees. There will usually be a recruitment process each year to coincide with the trustee meeting designated as the AGM. Trustees will be able to co-opt additional trustees at other meetings.

Potential trustees are asked to submit a CV, and a short letter of interest. This should set out their suitability for the role based on the Role Description, as well as their interest in the charity and its work.

Trustee Role Description

The duties of a trustee are as follows.

- Ensuring that the organisation pursues its stated objects (purposes), as defined in its constitution by developing and agreeing a long-term strategy, defining its goals and evaluating performance against agreed targets
- Ensuring that the organisation complies with its governing document (ie its trust deed, constitution or memorandum and articles of association), charity law, company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations
- Ensuring that the organisation applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its charitable objects (ie the charity must not spend money on activities that are not included in its own objects, however worthwhile or charitable those activities are) for the benefit of the public
- Safeguarding the good name and values of the organisation
- Ensuring the effective and efficient administration of the organisation, including having appropriate policies and procedures in place
- Ensuring the financial stability of the organisation
- Following proper and formal arrangements for the appointment, supervision, support,

appraisal and remuneration of employees

In addition to the above statutory duties, each trustee should use any specific skills, knowledge or experience they have to help the board of trustees reach sound decisions. This may involve scrutinising board papers, leading discussions, focusing on key issues, providing advice and guidance on new initiatives, or other issues in which the trustee has special expertise.

Person specification

- A commitment to the organisation
- A willingness to devote the necessary time and effort
- An ability to think strategically
- Good, independent judgement
- An ability to think creatively
- A willingness to speak their mind
- An understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship
- An ability to work effectively as a member of a team
- A commitment to Nolan's seven principles of public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.

Black Lives Matter: SCA response

The climate crisis is one of the most urgent and crucial issues in the UK public agenda. In any crisis it is the poorest and most vulnerable that suffer the greatest impacts.

As summed up by Patrisse Cullors and Nyeusi Nguvu, members of the Black Lives Matter movement, "Racism is endemic to global inequality. This means that those most affected – and killed – by climate change are Black and poor people"

However the representation of BAME communities in the climate movement is desperately lacking.

We believe that the environmental movement needs to reflect the political and social realities facing BAME communities.

As part of our response to Black Lives Matter, we are therefore particularly interested to hear from potential Trustees from Black and other minority ethnic backgrounds.

Sheffield Climate Alliance

Vision, Mission, Aims & Objectives.

Vision

We want to see a thriving, successful climate movement in the city region, shaping a region where companies, public bodies and individuals urgently make the changes to:

- Create a thriving region and a thriving planet
- Meet the needs of all people in our region within the means of the living planet
- Reduce climate change and its impact on South Yorkshire
- Seek solutions to climate change which are just, and reduce inequality.

Mission

Sheffield Climate Alliance facilitates growth in the climate change movement, and provides a platform for organisations in South Yorkshire to collaborate on campaigns which:

- Increase understanding of the causes and effects of climate change and the just solutions to it.
- Take action to mitigate, adapt and build resilience to climate change on both an individual and system scale.

Aims/ Objectives

In order to achieve our mission we will Engage, Collaborate and Influence:

Engage

To increase involvement, and support those involved, in climate campaigning and action in South Yorkshire

Collaborate

To act as a 'hub' for climate action, supporting citizens, community and campaign groups to achieve high impact, effective action, including by running campaigns and activities, connecting groups, co-creating events, facilitating networking, signposting and sharing knowledge.

Influence

To raise awareness and influence individuals, policy and decision-makers, companies, and public bodies, to take action on climate change.

Who is part of it?

We want to involve and include all, and believe the best way to achieve this is if we all work together as allies. Any individual or organisation in South Yorkshire and its surroundings who shares our vision, and wants to play a part in carrying out our mission- you're an ally! And if you're an ally, we consider you part of our Alliance.

Individual groups, campaigns, etc, who work with the Alliance all have their own autonomy to make decisions, set goals and priorities.

As an Alliance, we will strive to support climate action, and find areas of synergy where we can achieve more collectively. We will work to bring people across the region together and develop a common purpose.

How we can support our allies

Providing 'infrastructure' to support activities

For example: training, staff time, website, newsletter, bank account, and policies such as whistleblower, equal opportunities and safeguarding.

We can 'host' new groups starting up with SCA infrastructure and then moving on to use their own structures. A previous example of this is Sheffield Against Fracking.

Coordination and Facilitation

Promoting citizen coordination to effect change.

Promoting grassroots solutions finding in partnership.

Promoting solutions to politicians, bodies of power, stakeholders- coordinating lobbying of different groups working together.

Sheffield Climate Alliance

Charitable Objects

Conservation/ Education

1. To promote, for the benefit of the public, the conservation protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment;
2. To advance the education of the public in the protection, enhancement and rehabilitation of the environment

Sustainability

3. To promote, for the benefit of the public, sustainable development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs by:
 - a) the preservation, conservation and the protection of the environment and the prudent use of resources;
 - b) *the prevention or relief of poverty through undertaking, supporting or promoting activity which raises awareness of ways climate change and environmental damage contribute to poverty, and affect the conditions of life in socially and economically disadvantaged communities, and the most appropriate and just ways to mitigate this.*