

The Foundry 17 Oval Way London, SE11 5RR

T 0203 752 5644 E info@smk.org.uk www.smk.org.uk

# Role Description for Sheila McKechnie Foundation Trustees

## What We Do

The Sheila McKechnie Foundation (SMK) believes people should be able to shape their world - and we exist to help them do just that. As a registered charity, the Sheila McKechnie Foundation builds the capacity of campaigners, change makers and organisations – from those just starting out to experts in their fields, working both in the UK and abroad.

## Our key aims are to:

- 1. Empower people by providing the knowledge, skills and networks they need to be heard and effect change.
- 2. Ensure that campaigning is seen as a civil right and a public good, and that policy-makers and other decision-makers act to enable and support it.
- 3. Bring campaigners and change-makers together to share ideas and experiences, and to celebrate successes so that they can be more effective at winning change on the issues that matter to them

## Overall role of the Board:

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of the charity, developing the organisations aims, objectives and goals in accordance with the governing document, legal and regulatory guidelines.

## **Key responsibilities of Trustees:**

- 1. Supporting the governance and strategic development of SMK as an organisation
- 2. Providing strategic advice and practical assistance where required to ensure that SMK delivers on its core aims and areas of work:
- Providing effective governance and furthering the organisation in keeping with its charitable objectives
- 4. Maintaining sound financial management and oversight of SMK resources and ensuring the organisation meets its financial obligations when they are due and accounts for all its financial dealings
- 5. Ensuring the organisation meets its obligations as a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee
- 6. Acting in the best interests of SMK at all times

#### Patrons:

Rt Hon Gordon Brown MP Alan Grant Baroness Morgan of Drefelin Jon Snow

#### The Sheila McKechnie Foundation

A company limited by guarantee, Registered in England and Wales No. 5331412 A registered charity No. 1108210 Registered office: 17 Oval Way, London, SE11 5RR



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The Board meets a minimum of four times per year for core business, with one additional half-day Strategic Planning day. Trustees may also be requested to attend other ad hoc meetings and other organisational events. Positions are voluntary but training is available and reasonable expenses can be reimbursed. The time commitment required for core responsibilities is one day per month. Some Trustees also commit more time to work on specific projects with the executive.

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