

About Julian House

Julian House is a c. £7m charity, based in Bath, operating across the South West. Our vision is of a just society where socially excluded people are supported and empowered to build sustainable, independent lives. We transform the daily lives and futures of in excess of 1,500 homeless and socially excluded people each year, through the provision of high-quality housing and support services. In everything we do, we value the individual, we are creative, and we are collaborative.

Board Member with professional background in supported housing and homelessness sector

Due to forthcoming retirement, we are recruiting for board members who can provide the right balance of support and constructive challenge as we make tough decisions that will help us continue to thrive in an ever-changing environment.

We are seeking an excellent, well-rounded board member with management experience, strategic leadership and vision, as well as a passion for social justice.

We are particularly interested in hearing from candidates with expertise in Criminal Justice.

Board Member Role Summary

The role of board members is to:

- Help to set, shape and deliver key objectives from the organisation's strategic plans, alongside other Board members and the senior management team.
- Uphold the values and objectives of the organisation, as well as Julian House's Code of governance and Code of Conduct.
- Uphold the organisation's core policies, including those for safeguarding and equality and diversity.
- Contribute to and share responsibility for the board's decisions.
- Prepare for and attend meetings, training sessions and other events.
- Attend and participate in reviews linked to individual performance or that of the whole board.
- Represent the organisation as appropriate.
- Respect confidentiality of information.

We're keen to ensure our board is diverse in every way and we're committed to ensuring our Trustees reflect our society, our charity and the people we support. We welcome applications from people with lived experience. To achieve greater diversity, we are actively encouraging applications from people of all backgrounds and all walks of life.

Person specification

- Purposeful and driven with evidence of great business acumen.
- Keen interest in social justice and the causes Julian House supports.

- Willingness to promote openness and accountability, always holding the organisation's best interest at heart.
- Keen interest in client involvement and co-production of the services that Julian House operates.
- Willing to always hold the organisation's best interests to heart.
- Ability to see the bigger picture and to commit time consistently.
- Experience in steering organisations through a process of change and improvement.

Commitment

The initial term is three years (and may be extended to a maximum of nine years). There are currently four Board meetings a year which start at 5.30pm and typically last for 2.5 hours. Board Members are also expected to serve on one or more committees or the subsidiary Board. The committees are Audit, Risk and Finance (four meetings per year) and Client Services (four meetings per year). The trading subsidiary Board meets four times per year. There is also one full strategy day each year for the full Board and we provide in-house training or strategy sessions before most of the Board meetings. Board meetings are held in central Bath. Committee meetings are held virtually using Microsoft Teams.

As well as Board and sub-committee work, board members also take part in a number of other activities such as visits to projects, organisational meetings and other informal activities, in order to meet staff, volunteers and clients and talk to them about their experience. That way, Board members get to know and understand Julian House's work, challenges and successes first-hand – something that is essential for them to help support the important work that we do.

The average time commitment involved for meetings, training, events and preparation is estimated to be c.6 hours per month.

The work that board members do is unpaid, and they do not benefit financially in any way from the work that Julian House does.