

GROUNDWORK LONDON

JOINING THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



BUILDING THE FUTURE

Groundwork London is a registered charity (No. 1121105) and company limited by guarantee (No .04212532).



Welcome to Groundwork London

Thank you very much for your interest in becoming a trustee of Groundwork London.

London's environmental and social challenges, as well as its regeneration opportunities, are on a scale unique in the UK. We are operating in a city under pressure from growth and from continued reductions in public expenditure which have a significant impact on our communities, on local authorities and on our other public and voluntary sector partners.



Our mission is to transform lives and places in London's most disadvantaged communities and to create a future where every neighbourhood is vibrant and green, every community is strong and able to shape its own destiny and where no-one is held back by their background or circumstances. We help people gain confidence and skills, get into training and work, protect and improve greenspaces, lead more active lives and overcome significant challenges such as poverty isolation, low skills and poor health.

We are seeking trustees who will bring new skills, knowledge and experience to help us fulfil our ambitions and achieve maximum impact. We're particularly interested in recruiting trustees to reflect the diverse and multicultural communities of London.

If you would like to use your talents and skills to contribute to building a better future for London and Londoners and be part of an exciting and evolving charity, we'd love to hear from you.

Thank you for your interest in Groundwork London.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan Smith". The script is fluid and cursive.

Alan Smith,

Chair of Trustees

About Groundwork London

Our Mission

Our mission is to transform lives and places in London's most disadvantaged communities.

Our Values

- Equality and diversity - valuing differences and treating everybody with respect
- Innovation and learning - always looking for new and better ways of working
- Subsidiarity - making decisions at a level as close as possible to the communities we serve
integrity and professionalism - maintaining high personal and professional standards
- Partnership - working alongside communities, public bodies, private companies and other voluntary sector organisations
- Sustainability - respecting nature's limits and the needs of future generations

Our Approach

- We work with others - we are working together with individuals, communities, Local Authorities and other public sector organisations, regional bodies and the private sector to deliver positive change in London
- We join things up - we apply our skills and experience and build partnerships that enable us to deliver maximum impact for communities and maximum value for money for those who help us do it
- We support those in most need - we provide targeted support tailored to address the specific needs of vulnerable people and diverse communities, tackling material hardship as well as a poverty of hope and aspiration
- We innovate - we pilot and test new solutions and approaches. We embed successful practice in our future work and share our learning with others
- We get things done – above all else we deliver services that make a difference to the people and the places that we work with

Our Impact

Through our services and activities in the last 5 years we will have enabled more than:



500 open spaces to be improved



2,500 young people to be more motivated to learn and achieve



2,500 people to progress into training or employment



50,000 days of voluntary action in local communities



100,000 people to reduce their energy and water use



1 million Londoners to benefit from our work



A closer look at that we do

During an average year we deliver around 500 projects and programmes throughout London. Here are just a few of them:

- **Peckham Studios** is our state-of-the-art music studio in South East London which helps aspiring young musicians and professionals to develop their talent. This year the young people, supported by our staff, recorded, mixed and produced our first studio album.
- **The Nest Southwark** provides young people and families with the opportunities, experiences, and tools to enable them to develop their physical, emotional and social capabilities. Our non-clinical intervention offers youth work, person-centred counselling, psychological wellbeing practices and traditional talking therapies via 1:1 sessions, group work, online resources and peer mentoring.
- **Green Doctors** visit people's homes to provide free, impartial advice to support vulnerable households to save energy, reduce bills and live in warmer and more comfortable homes.
- **Westminster Wheels** has been providing refurbished bikes and bike repairs to Londoners since 2020. To date, we've saved 23,036 kg of bikes from landfill. Our bike workshop also works to train apprentice mechanics and supports them in finding work in the bicycle industry.
- **TOGETHER** is a collection of projects supporting refugees and non-EU migrants to settle into life in the UK. Our projects offer a stepping stone towards socio-economic integration by facilitating people in finding social support networks, job opportunities and learning language skills.
- **The Mobile Garden** is a community growing space where local residents, schools and communitygroup can come connect with nature in the middle of Hackney.
- **Making Space for Nature**, is a campaign funded by the EU **CLEVER Cities** programme aimed at engaging local people in nature based activities in Thamesmead. Here we motivate people to become more active in volunteering or participating in events and engaged in the co-creation of public spaces, generating community pride and improving health & wellbeing.



Recruiting three new Trustees

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Groundwork London is very fortunate in that we have a strong and engaged Board.

The Board follows a regular process of renewal: maintaining input from those longer serving members who bring corporate history and understanding along with new Trustees bringing fresh approaches and new insights. The Board is made up of up to 15 Trustees. We are looking to recruit three by the end of 2023.

As a member of the Board you will primarily be concerned with policy, strategy and governance.

The day-to-day management of the organisation is delegated to the paid professional staff, who report progress back to the Board.

The Board is legally responsible for the activities of the organisation. The generic role of the Board is to:

- Lead the organisation and ensure it has a clear purpose and strategy to achieve the organisation's aims
- Monitor the progress of the organisation and ensure the effective, efficient and economic use of the organisation's resources and assets
- Ensure compliance with the law and accountability to the organisations stakeholders
- Ensure that the Board itself performs effectively, contains people with the skills and experience it needs
- Promote and act in the best interests of Groundwork at all times

The Finance and Audit committee supports the Board by reviewing and scrutinising Groundwork's financial performance and risk management, and makes appropriate recommendations to Board where action is needed.



Who we are looking for

Groundwork London is looking for three new Trustees to join our Board.

We would really like to hear from you if you are someone who:

- Finds our aims, activities and focus on delivery inspiring
- Has an honest, friendly and challenging approach, and one that fits with our values and principles
- Has the confidence to offer guidance or challenge and speak up in meetings
- Have financial/analytical skills or experience and would find our complex financial operation motivating; or
- Are analytical and questioning with an eye for detail; or
- Have sector experience or interest related to our work, such as Housing regeneration; community development, health & social care, sport & leisure, young people, the environment and green economy
- Or experience and skills that support business management such as ICT, H&S, Legal, compliance or finance

We are committed to equality and diversity within our organisation and in the delivery of our projects and programmes and so we are specifically seeking new members from all socioeconomic backgrounds, genders, races, ethnicities, sexualities, disabilities and faiths to reflect the diverse and multicultural communities we serve.



Key details

- Remuneration: The role of Trustee is unremunerated, although reasonable out of pocket expenses will be reimbursed.
- Time commitment: There are 4 quarterly Board meetings per year usually in March, June, September and December, in London (5.30 – 7.30pm), one of which is usually a whole day event.
- Some meetings may be conducted online.
- Terms: Trustees serve an initial 1 year term and are eligible for re-appointment for an additional consecutive terms of three years, limited to 9.

Hear from our board



Sofie Taysom | Trustee

“I joined Groundwork London’s Board as a Trustee in 2020. I wanted to use my knowledge and expertise to add value and to give back to London, a city I’ve called home for the last 20 years. It’s been a fantastic experience. And I’ve been so impressed by the Groundwork London projects I’ve seen and all the staff I’ve met. Their commitment to supporting London communities, our spaces, and our environment, is truly outstanding. I feel so fortunate to play a part in supporting the work they do.”

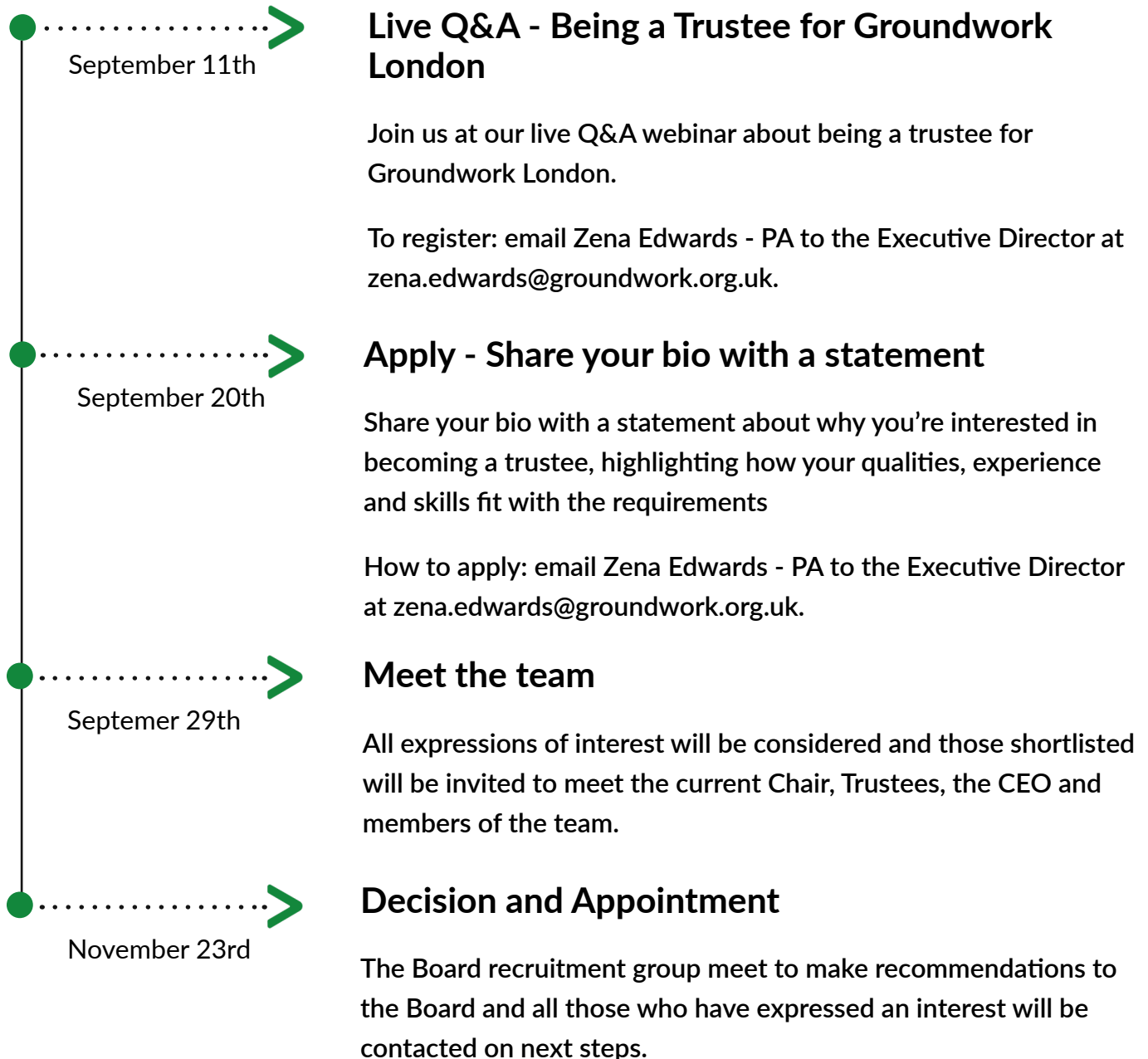


Bradley Pritchard | Trustee

“I joined the board of trustees because it is an organisation that really resonated with me; their principles, the values, their mission to tackle social inequality. It all felt like an organisation that I wanted to be a part of and help in any way I could. I didn’t have any experience as a board member prior to joining the Groundwork London so I was nervous and felt as if I would not be able to contribute much. But from the very start, I was so well supported by my fellow trustees and members of the executive.”

Expression of interest

If you are interested in joining the Groundwork London Board, please follow the steps below:



As part of any recruitment process, Groundwork London collects and processes personal data relating to job and volunteer applicants. We are committed to being transparent about how it collects and uses that data and to meeting its data protection obligations.

For further information on Groundwork London, please see our website at www.groundwork.org.uk/london