



# Information about becoming a Director of FCCT

## What is FCCT?

Fountainbridge Canalside Community Trust is a registered charity and registered company that aims to make our local area a better place to live, work, do business and visit.

We support and strengthen activities that benefit the community, and promote social inclusion, sustainability and well-being. Our current main projects include: social enterprise canal boat hires; volunteer programme; weekly health walks; greenspace group; community events.

## What is the responsibility of a Board Member/Director?

Board Members are an essential part of any charity. Their main purpose is directing the charity's overall mission, strategy and direction. They also play a role in making sure the work of the charity is effective, responsible and legal. All day-to-day operations at FCCT are delegated to the organisation's staff, who are supported by a large and active volunteer base. You can find out more here: <https://www.oscr.org.uk/managing-a-charity/trustee-duties/>

## Do I get paid and am I financially liable?

At FCCT, all our Directors give their time voluntarily. Should you need to be reimbursed for expenses required for you to carry out your role as a Director of FCCT, these can be agreed in advance.

Directors of organisations like ours are not liable financially, *as long as they ensure the charity is operating legally, managing its' resources responsibly, carrying out its' purpose for public benefit and they themselves have not acted dishonestly or unreasonably.*

## Do I have to have special skills or experience?

The main qualifications are to be interested in your local area and have enthusiasm!

Some of our Board Members have particular skills in, for example, finance, marketing or social enterprise, and we would welcome any skills you possess and would like to use to help our organisation. A really diverse range of experiences and interests makes a good Board.

## What is the time commitment?

The Board meets approx. every 2 months, and we try to keep meetings to 1.5 hours in length. There is usually the option to join online, although we feel generally meetings are more successful and people better able to contribute if they attend in person. Documents relating to the meeting are published online prior to the event, and it may be beneficial to spend 30 mins or so reading these. As all our Board Members are busy people, we understand that there will be times where you can't make meetings and it is ok to put in apologies for meetings you are not able to make.

Occasionally there are issues that need attention between Board meetings and so we might have a quick (half hour) online Board Meeting or you may be asked to read some information in an email and respond with either agreement, disagreement or questions. Events that we would hope Board Members would attend are the AGM (once a year) and a Board Strategy Day (once a year). You can also volunteer as much or as little as you'd like with our other projects on boats, on the canalside or at events like the Canal Festival.

Overall time commitment for Board duties is around 2 hours a month.

## Are there any other expectations?

There are no formal expectations, but we hope by being part of our organisation, you would help spread the word in your sphere of influence, whether that be among friends and neighbours, online or at your work.

If you are interested, [please fill in this short form](https://forms.office.com/e/PPP6SGbRjw) - <https://forms.office.com/e/PPP6SGbRjw>