OMF International UK Recruitment Pack

Trustee

OMF International (UK) Trustee

Are you a strategic thinker, with experience of working interculturally and a passion for sharing Jesus Christ across cultures? Do you possess a high level of personal integrity and desire to see lives and communities transformed by the good news of Jesus Christ?

In a fast-changing church and mission landscape, OMF International (UK) aims to become a centre for sharing the good news of Jesus with East Asia's peoples in, to and from the UK. The UK is not just a place where missionaries are sent from, it is also a context into which missionaries are being received and where intercultural ministry is being carried out.

We are seeking dedicated individuals to join our vibrant Board of Trustees who are passionate about our mission and keen to apply their own unique set of skills and experience to support the strategic effectiveness and governance of our charity.

There is an Occupational Requirement for the role holder to be a practising Christian, an active member of a local church, able to clearly demonstrate a personal commitment to the mission, principles, values and practices contained in our Ethos Statement.

We share the good news of Jesus Christ in all its fullness with East Asia's peoples to the glory of God.



Who are OMF?

We are a forward-thinking, gospel-focused charity that pursues every avenue to share Jesus with East Asia's people. Globally OMF partners with over 2,000 workers from over 40 nations to serve more than 100 East Asian people groups. We support the growth of the East Asian church, serve its communities and take the good news of Jesus to people that have not heard it.

The organisation was founded by James Hudson Taylor as the China Inland Mission in 1865. Following the withdrawal of our workers from China in 1951, the China Inland Mission started working in the surrounding countries of East Asia. In 1964 the CIM became the Overseas Missionary Fellowship, reflecting our new work of serving Chinese people overseas. Our ministries quickly expanded to other East Asian people groups and increasingly serve East Asians around the world. In 1993 we became OMF International.

We exist to bring hope to East Asia's billions through sharing the good news of Jesus Christ in all its fullness for the advancement of his Church. We've been on the same mission for over 160 years. But like the rest of the world, East Asia is changing fast. So we're always looking for new ways to be more effective and adapt our methods for maximum impact. Our passion is to see local communities of believers worshipping God in their heart language and bringing glory to him by following Jesus wholeheartedly and reaching out in mission to their own people and beyond in the power of the Holy Spirit.

You can read more about our journey at: ***omf.org/uk/about-us/our-story***

Role Description

Role title: OMF International (UK) Trustee
Accountable to: Chair of Trustees
Key relationships: UK Board of Trustees, National Director
Terms: 3-year term, renewable for maximum of 3 consecutive terms
Hours of work: Approximately 8-10 hours per month, including quarterly Board meetings

Purpose of the role:
To support OMF's mission and vision on the Board of Trustees, by collectively taking responsibility for the governance and strategic direction of the charity, in line with OMF values. A key responsibility of the role is to ensure the charity is solvent, well-run and delivering its charitable outcomes for the benefit of the public. The trustee is required to regularly review board papers and other relevant documents and to attend and proactively contribute to quarterly board meetings and occasional sub-committee meetings, offering strategic insights and specialist advice as needed.

Responsibilities

Trustees have six collective main areas of responsibility, as outlined below:

- **Ensure clarity of purpose and direction:** uphold the vision, mission and values of OMF International (UK).
- **Strategic Leadership:** Determine the overall strategy and direction of OMF International (UK) and set key policies.
- **Spiritual Stewardship:** In fellowship with other Board members, take prayerful responsibility for the guardianship of OMF International (UK)'s mission, vision and values.
- **Governance and Compliance:** Ensure OMF International (UK) complies with its governing document, charity law, and other relevant legislation and regulations.
- **Financial Oversight:** Ensure the effective and responsible administration of the OMF International (UK)'s financial affairs and resources.
- **Performance and Accountability:** Hold the UK National Director accountable for achieving strategic objectives and delivering services.
- **Safeguarding and Risk Management:** Ensure sound risk management processes and safeguarding policies are in place and adhered to.

Person Specification

	Essential	Desirable
Experience/ Knowledge	A general understanding of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of a Trustee, as cited on ***gov.uk*** Knowledge of intercultural mission or intercultural engagement	Experience in a Christian, mission-based or charity context We particularly welcome applicants with professional experience in one or more of these areas: • Financial Management/ Accountancy • Legal/Governance • Digital/Technology/Data/AI • Service Delivery/Sector Expertise Direct current or past experience working with East Asian communities Experience of intercultural mission or intercultural engagement Experience of living cross culturally
Abilities	Excellent oral and written communication skills, able to communicate effectively with a diverse range of people Excellent interpersonal skills, able to communicate with tact, grace and discretion and maintain neutrality Ability to think strategically, analyse complex information, and contribute to sound decision-making Strong research skills, able to identify opportunities for growth and propose change Able to handle sensitive information appropriately, using discretion and maintaining confidentiality Competent user of Microsoft Office, databases, and digital communication tools including Microsoft Teams Interactive presentation skills and public speaking, confident user of Microsoft PowerPoint via Teams	Good understanding of safeguarding, especially in relation to charitable activities
Motivation	Full sympathy with the aims and objectives of OMF International as an evangelical mission serving East Asia's peoples Willingness to work collaboratively with other Trustees and the Senior Leadership Team as needed Passionate about spiritual stewardship and prayer - ready to step out in faith and lead prayers and devotions in meetings as needed Enjoy working to high standards and finding appropriate solutions to difficult problems Committed to personal and professional development, using initiative to source own training and resources	

Personality	Possesses a high level of personal integrity and commitment to acting in the best interests of OMF International (UK) Friendly and courteous towards colleagues Adopts a can-do attitude and flexible approach Willing to take on board constructive criticism and to consider feedback Emotionally intelligent, a good listener and pastoral nature	
Circumstances	Meet our Occupational Requirement to be a practising Christian as an active member of a local church and be able to clearly demonstrate a personal commitment to the mission, principles, values and practices contained in our Ethos Statement Able to commute to Manchester for quarterly Board meetings Able to travel occasionally within the UK for meetings and events, including overnight and at weekends, such as the OMF UK National Conference, usually a long weekend event held triennially	

Terms of Appointment

- **Expenses:** The role of a Trustee is unremunerated, but reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred while carrying out Trustee duties (e.g., travel costs) will be reimbursed in line with the charity's expense policy.
- **Term of Office:** Trustees are appointed for a term of three years, renewable for a maximum of three consecutive terms.
- **Time commitment:** Approx 8-10 hours per month, comprising of attendance at quarterly trustee meetings, usually in person in Manchester and attendance at sub-committee meetings (if applicable), usually online. Also includes preparation time and occasional attendance at events or specific project work.
- **Occupational requirement**: There is an occupational requirement for this role to be filled by a Christian, see person specification and OMF International (UK) Ethos Statement.
- **Induction and support:** New trustees receive a comprehensive induction package including: a meeting with the Chair and the National Director, relevant governance documents, policies, and financial reports, a mentor (where available) from the existing Board and access to appropriate training and professional development opportunities.

Your application

To apply for this role, please submit a CV and covering letter to the current OMF International (UK) Chair of Trustees Kevin Ashman at: ***UK.TrusteeChair@omfmail.com***

Application guidance

Your CV should detail your professional experience, qualifications and any relevant non-executive/trustee experience. Your covering letter (a maximum of two pages), should explain your interest in becoming a Trustee, how your skills and experience align with the Person Specification, and what contribution you believe you can make to OMF International (UK).

Selection process

1. **Shortlisting:** Applications will be reviewed against the Trustee Specification by a panel of current trustees.
2. **Interviews:** Shortlisted candidates will be invited to an interview with the Chair and a senior Trustee.
3. **Due Diligence**: The successful candidate will be subject to standard due diligence checks, including Charity Commission eligibility check, and an enhanced DBS check.

Safeguarding Statement

OMF UK is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults. All roles may be subject to safer recruitment checks including references and a DBS check where appropriate. For our full Safeguarding Policy visit: ***omf.org/uk/safeguarding***

Equality Statement

OMF UK is committed to being an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all suitably qualified candidates. We particularly encourage applications from underrepresented groups within mission and ministry.

Data Protection

All personal data provided to OMF UK as part of the recruitment process will be treated confidentially and in accordance with our Data Protection Policy, which can be read in full here: ***omf.org/uk/privacy-policy***

Accessibility

If you require any reasonable adjustments during the recruitment process, please let us know.

Ethos Statement

OMF is an international, cross-cultural, Christian mission committed to the evangelisation of East Asia. As part of the universal Christian Church, OMF is an agency that works in partnership with local churches in many countries and especially those in East Asia. We endeavour to be a worshipping, praying and caring fellowship of Christians who are committed to sharing the good news of Jesus Christ in word, deed and character.

The motivation for our mission is the glory of God. We long that the one true living God should be known and glorified throughout his creation. We seek to cultivate this motivation so that it sustains all those who serve in the organisation no matter what their area of responsibility. Every task is significant and has value because it is done for the glory of God.

We affirm the following values in the context of our submission to the Lordship of Christ, the authority of Scripture, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

We TRUST in God

- Praying as an expression of faith is an integral part of our life and service
- Depending on God for holy living, fruit in our work and for all our needs
- Inviting others to join us in a life of faith and prayer

We are a FELLOWSHIP

- Pursuing our vision and mission together
- Caring for and supporting each other and sharing resources
- Encouraging and enhancing each other's effectiveness

We are Passionate to Reach the UNREACHED

- Keeping a sharp focus on the neglected frontiers
- Constantly evaluating and innovating in line with our vision
- Taking prayerful risks and persevering with the task God has given us

We Practice INCARNATIONAL Ministry

- Identifying with the people and living an appropriate lifestyle
- Learning culture, language and worldview
- Working in ways that encourage indigenous movements

We PARTNER in Ministry

- with sending churches globally
- with local churches in the ministry context
- with likeminded Christians and mission agencies

We LEAD from the MINISTRY Context

- Strategy is developed by those engaged in the ministry
- Structures, administration and policies are designed to serve the ministry
- Home and field work together to accomplish the ministry objectives

We Celebrate DIVERSITY IN UNITY

- Valuing the diversity that God has given us in OMF – such as ethnic, denominational, generational, personality, gifts, gender
- Respecting one another and maintaining our unity in Christ
- Fostering unity and cooperation among Christians

OMF (UK) seeks to be a community marked by love: love for God and love for neighbour (Matthew 22:36-39). This is what shapes us as a community and governs the way in which we relate to one another as individuals as well as how we seek to relate organisationally to other groups and churches with whom we partner. Therefore, the attitude and motivation of our staff and the way our mission is achieved are as important as the mission itself (John 13:34; Matthew 22:36; 1 Corinthians 13:1-2).

As this attitude, motivation and mission come only from a relationship with Christ, it becomes an occupational requirement that many of our staff are Christians who accept our beliefs as stated in the OMF Handbook. Roles that have significant leadership, or that are central to fulfilling our aims and purposes or developing and maintaining our Christian ethos, will always be held by such a Christian. There are other roles that have key spiritual elements to them, that can only be carried out by a Christian. It is also essential that these attitudes and behaviours continue, and so we expect our staff to act in good faith, with loyalty to that relational ethos, to the organisation's values, and to Christian standards of behaviour. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.

Notwithstanding this, the organisation is committed to diversity amongst its staff and will not unlawfully discriminate on any grounds. We believe that defining our occupational requirements so they are consistent with and permit discrimination in accordance with the law and our ethos, does not restrict, but actually enhances our commitment to diversity.