JOIN US AS A TRUSTEE AT LEWISHAM LOCAL!



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR, ROY WITTER



Dear Future Trustee,

Thank you for your interest in joining Lewisham Local's Board of Trustees. As Chair, I have the privilege of leading a charity that doesn't just serve our community—it is our community.

For over two decades, we've been weaving the fabric of connection across Lewisham. What started as a simple time bank has evolved into something extraordinary: a dynamic catalyst that transforms how neighbours support neighbours. During the pandemic, when isolation threatened to fracture our community, we stepped up with the Lewisham Covid Response Hub—demonstrating that our giving-and-sharing ethos isn't just idealism, it's practical resilience.

We're not your typical charity. We're innovators who see assets where others see problems, opportunities where others see challenges. Our diverse, talented team works alongside a committed Board that refuses to accept "that's how it's always been done."

We're seeking Trustees who bring more than just skills (though we need those too). We want strategic thinkers who share our belief that everyone has something valuable to contribute. Whether you're a finance professional, a young leader, someone who's benefited from our services, or a community connector—your unique perspective will strengthen our collective impact.

Our Trustees are responsible for the strategic vision and direction of Lewisham Local and dedicated to ensuring we respond to o Lewisham's evolving needs. From our Local Giving Programme to our infrastructure support work, you'll help guide decisions that directly improve thousands of lives across our borough.

If you're ready to be part of something transformative—where your governance expertise meets genuine community impact, we would like to hear from you.

Together, we're not just building happier, healthier lives. We're proving community-led change that builds resilient communities.

Warm regards,

Roy Witter
Chair of Trustees, Lewisham Local

ABOUT LEWISHAM LOCAL

Lewisham Local is a bold, community-powered charity transforming lives through giving, sharing, and collaboration. From our roots over 20 years ago as a Time Bank to leading borough-wide initiatives in food justice, volunteering, and infrastructure support, we're proving that community-led change works.

We do this by encouraging giving and sharing of time, skills, expertise, resources, and money. Through events, projects, and communications, we address community needs and promote Lewisham's voluntary and community assets, making the most of what we already have in the community.

Our core goals are to promote volunteering, philanthropy, and partnerships within the voluntary, charitable, statutory, and private sectors, using asset-based community development to enhance civic life.

We're looking for Trustees who bring fresh perspectives, strategic thinking, and a passion for equity. Whether you're a finance professional, a community connector, or someone with lived experience of local challenges - your voice matters and we'd encourage you to apply!



WHY JOIN US?

- Be part of a dynamic, inclusive board driving real impact for our local community
- Help shape the future of Lewisham Local and support thousands of people across Lewisham.
- Collaborate with a diverse, skilled team committed to innovation and equity.
- Gain experience in governance, leadership, and community development.

WHO WE'RE LOOKING FOR

We welcome applications from all backgrounds. It is particularly important to us that trustees on our Board have lived experience of:

- Social isolation, poverty, or marginalisation
- Community organising or volunteering
- Finance, fundraising, or CRM (Salesforce)

No prior trustee experience needed - we're committed to supporting you to grow into the role.

WHAT OUR CURRENT TRUSTEES SAY OF THEIR EXPERIENCE

"I joined Lewisham Local as a trustee for a year as it was delivering some great projects to help the residents of Lewisham — and I'm still here as we continue to deliver such good stuff!"

- Jonathan Prince, Vice Chair & Chair of the Finance Committee





TRUSTEE COMMITMENTS

- Attend quarterly board meetings (2 hours, evenings)
- Join sub-committees or task groups as needed
- Act as an ambassador for Lewisham Local
- Help shape our strategy and support our CEO and staff

HOW TO APPLY

Send your CV and a short statement explaining:

1. Why you want to be a trustee
2. What skills and experience you bring
3. What you hope to gain from the role

Email: alexandra@lewishamlocal.com
Optional: Arrange an informal chat with our Chair before applying.

''I became a trustee as I was starting to think about retiring from work- or at least stepping down. I wanted to continue contributing and using my public health and facilitation skills and the Rushey Green Time Bank role came up. It interested me because it started from the NHS with a GP wanting to offer patients volunteering roles. I was able to do this as the organisation I was working in offered 5 half days a year volunteering day so I could take up the role and have occasional time during working hours out of office although most of time has been out of usual working hours.

I have very much liked learning more about all the work ongoing in Lewisham, have been involved especially during COVID with the start of the work on distributing food and have enjoyed working to support Lewisham Giving scheme as well as exciting developments with working with Peabody given their long history of philanthropy. I have enjoyed seeing staff develop and initiatives come to life. I have found the board a very supportive, diverse and skilled group of people who are all wishing to support the organisation move forward and develop and have learnt things from all of them. I think LL is lucky to have such a good group of trustees and would encourage especially those who would like to develop their skills to consider applying as it's a very welcoming environment in which to develop.''

- Allison Streetly, Chair of the Lewisham Giving Committee

OUR VISION

A connected Lewisham community that gives, shares and works together to build happier, healthier and more resilient communities.

OUR MISSION

To serve the local community as Lewisham's leading infrastructure and capacity building organisation, whilst also delivering a suite of trusted direct services where our expertise matches a community need and a gap in provision.

OUR VALUES

- Everyone in the community is an asset and able to contribute, give and share
- We are inclusive, welcoming and open to all, working in an equal and equitable way
- We are collaborative and committed to working together initiating neighbourhood level resident forums for community engagement and codesigning services
- We are dynamic and responsive to Lewisham's communities' needs and willing to innovate
- We value the diversity of Lewisham's communities and are committed to proactively representing Lewisham's diversity in our Staff, Trustees and projects

IMPACT STORIES
LEWISHAM LOCAL 2024-25

FOODCYCLE LEWISHAM: MORE THAN A MEAL

5,799 Three-Course Vegetarian Meals made from Surplus Food served at Lewisham Irish Community Centre

3,652 Volunteer Hours Mobilised

9,888 kg of food rescued

Guests reported feeling less lonely, more connected, and happier after attending



BANK OF THINGS: DIGNITY THROUGH ESSENTIALS



365 people aged 11-25 accessed free toiletries, school supplies, and more

303 Christmas Gift Bags worth £50 each

£2,300 raised through a community bike ride

BLACK INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT PROJECT (BISP): POWERING EQUITY

35 Black-led community organisations mentored

80 Individuals trained

75% Secure more funding than ever before

The Black VCS Expo '23 brought together 100+ leaders, and our 24/7 WhatsApp support reached over 200 people.



OUR COLLECTIVE IMPACT IN 2024/25

£232,471
Distributed in Grants to 118 Projects

5,799
Meals Served to Those in Need

385
Young People Supported Through Bank of Things

31,000
Time Bank Visits Enabled

10,000+
Hours Contributed by 100 volunteers

600+
Local Businesses Engaged

2,000
Residents Supported with Digital Access

SUSTAINABLE FOOD places
SILVER

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

The charity currently has 7 Trustees on the Board, and the CEO is the Company Secretary. The Board currently has one finance Sub-Committee and when the need arises a temporary task and finish group to work on new opportunities or strategic changes. These posts are elected by the Trustees of the Board and re-appointments are on rotation every year at the AGM.

Trustee meetings are held 4 times a year, usually meeting face to face for 2 hours on an evening. There is an annual AGM that usually takes place towards the end of November between 6pm and 8pm.

The Finance Sub-Committee meets 4 times a year, usually meeting for 1.5-2 hours on a morning. Meetings are usually conducted online.

Local Giving Sub-Committee meets quarterly to oversee our grants distribution.

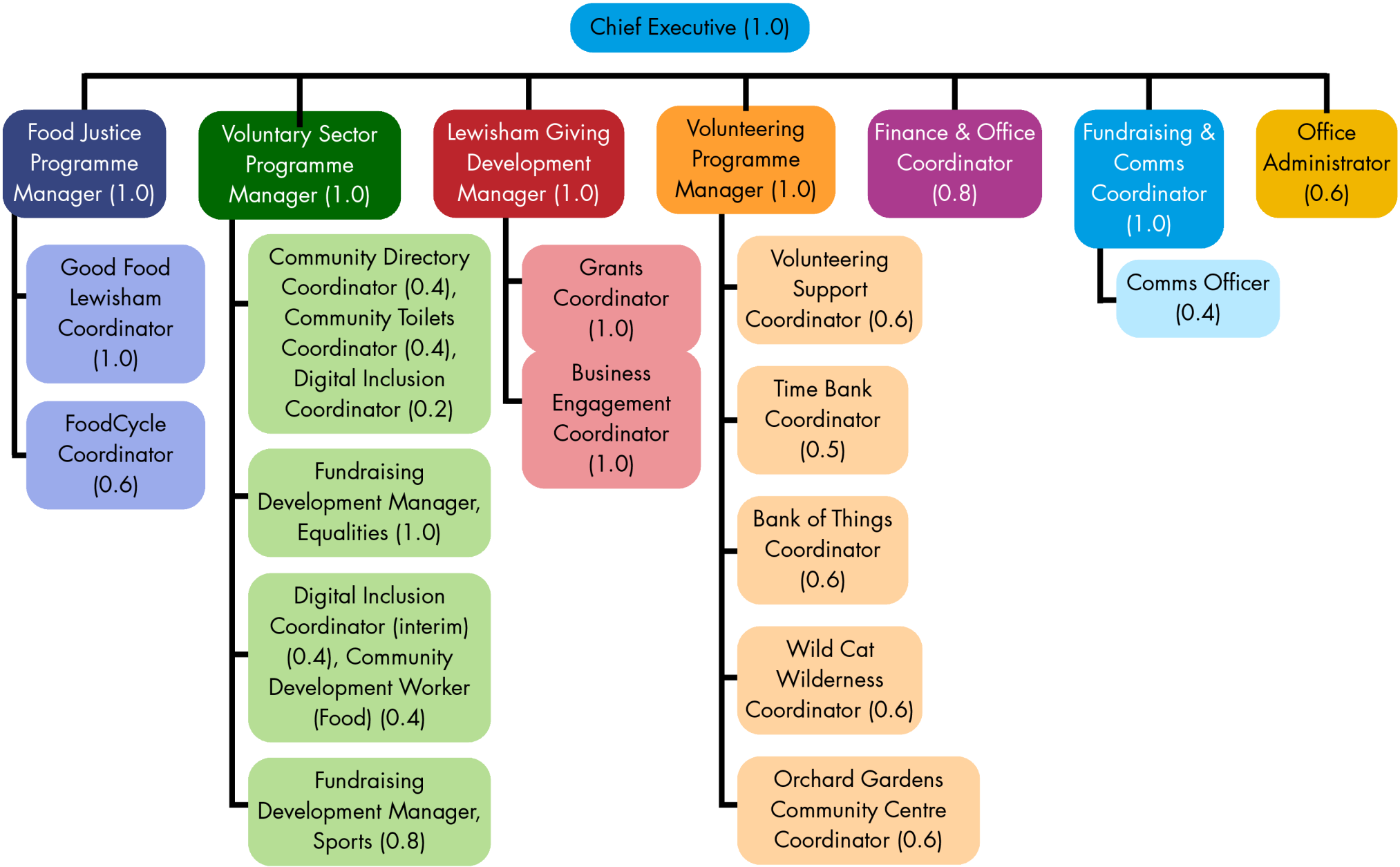
Trustees and staff meet annually for a strategic Away Day to review performance, analyse the current context and organisational strategy and identify future opportunities. The last Board away day was in October 2024.

APPOINTMENT & RESIGNATION

Trustees will usually be elected, although Lewisham Local's Articles of Association do reserve some spaces on the board for co-opted trustees. The co-opted roles are generally used for securing individuals with skills and experiences in professional fields as required.

Trustees are required to retire on rotation each year at the AGM and stand for re-election. Should Trustees wish to resign before the AGM there is a general expectation that they shall provide no less than three calendar months' notice. Whilst it is recognised that there may be occasions where this is not possible, Lewisham Local requires as much notice as possible for succession plans to be actioned and trustees' best efforts in this regard are much appreciated.

ORGANISATION STAFF STRUCTURE CHART – SEPT 2025



TRUSTEE ROLE DESCRIPTION

ROLE SUMMARY

As a Trustee of Lewisham Local, you will share collective responsibility for the governance and overall strategic direction of the charity. You'll help ensure we meet our legal obligations and deliver on our mission to build a happier, healthier, and more resilient Lewisham. Trustees play a vital role in shaping our strategic direction, supporting our leadership team, and championing our values across the borough.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provide strategic oversight and uphold and help shape the charity's vision, mission, and values
- Work with the CEO and fellow trustees to guide organisational strategy and growth
- Attend and contribute constructively to Board meetings, the Annual General Meeting, and relevant sub-committees or working groups
- Ensure financial, legal, and regulatory compliance
- Ensure the financial stability of Lewisham Local
- Act as an ambassador for Lewisham Local, promoting our work and values in your networks
- Maintain confidentiality and uphold the highest standards of integrity
- Participate in trustee induction, training, and development opportunities
- Undertake additional duties as reasonably required in your role as Trustee and Company Director



PERSON SPECIFICATION

We're looking for individuals who are:

- Strategic thinkers with sound judgement and decision-making skills
- Collaborative and respectful team players who are able to make collective decisions and stand by them
- Open to learning and willing to undertake relevant training
- Committed to inclusive, transparent, and equitable ways of working
- Respectful of confidentiality and sensitive information
- Passionate about equity, diversity, and inclusion

WE ESPECIALLY WELCOME APPLICATIONS FROM

- People with lived experience of the issues we address (e.g. poverty, social isolation)
- Individuals who have benefited from Lewisham Local's services
- Candidates with professional or voluntary experience in:
    - Finance (e.g. Finance Manager or Charity Director)
    - Time Bank membership or community exchange programmes
    - CRM systems (Salesforce experience desirable)







JOIN US AS A TRUSTEE

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