



Chair of Trustees

Make a Lasting Impact on Mental Health in Surrey



Inspiring Mental Wellbeing

Welcome from Patrick

Thank you for your interest in becoming the next Chair of Trustees at Mary Frances Trust.

This is a really important moment in our journey as an organisation. We're proud of what we've achieved over the past 30 years, supporting thousands of people across Surrey with their mental health and wellbeing. We've built strong partnerships, developed innovative services and created a culture that puts people first.

At the same time, the world around us is changing. Demand for mental health support continues to grow, communities are facing increasing pressures, and the environment for charities is becoming more challenging. This makes the role of our Board, and particularly our Chair, more important than ever.

Our current Chair, Sam, will be stepping down after completing her full term with us. She leaves with our enormous gratitude for the wisdom, commitment and support she has brought to Mary Frances Trust. She has played a key role in helping us navigate change, strengthen our governance and continue to grow as an organisation. She will be greatly missed! We're now looking for someone who can build on this strong foundation and work with our Trustees, staff team and partners to help shape the next chapter of Mary Frances Trust.

The Chair plays a vital role in supporting effective governance, providing leadership to the Board, acting as a trusted partner to me, the Chief Executive, and ensuring we remain focused on our mission and values. This is not about running the organisation day-to-day, but about asking the right questions, creating the space for good decisions and helping us think ambitiously about the future.

What makes Mary Frances Trust special is our people and our values. We're ambitious for the communities we support, but we're equally committed to working with compassion, openness and humility. We believe in the power of partnership, lived experience and doing things with people rather than to them.

I'm looking for someone who shares that approach, who will bring curiosity, challenge and encouragement, and who is excited by the opportunity to make a real difference. Thank you again for your interest. I hope this pack gives you a sense of who we are, what matters to us and why this is such an exciting time to join Mary Frances Trust.



Patrick
CEO, Mary Frances Trust

About Mary Frances Trust

Mary Frances Trust is a leading mental health and emotional wellbeing charity in Surrey, supporting adults across Banstead, Elmbridge, Epsom & Ewell and Mole Valley.

We believe everyone should feel confident to ask for help and inspired to maintain their wellbeing.



Supporting Surrey Since 1994

For over 30 years, Mary Frances Trust has supported adults across Surrey to improve and maintain their mental health and emotional wellbeing.

Today we:

- Support people across Banstead, Elmbridge, Epsom & Ewell and Mole Valley
- Deliver a wide range of community mental health and wellbeing services
- Work closely with NHS, local authority and voluntary sector partners
- Support people through both face-to-face and online provision
- Continue to develop innovative and partnership-based approaches to mental health support.

We're ambitious about the future and committed to strengthening sustainable, community-based mental health support across Surrey.



The Opportunity

This is a pivotal leadership role for someone who is passionate about mental health, strong governance and community impact.

- Location: Surrey/Hybrid
- Time Commitment: Approx. 1-2 days per month
- Remuneration: Voluntary (expenses reimbursed)
- Term: Three-year term, with potential for re-appointment for up to two further terms.



Why This Role Matters

Mary Frances Trust is at an exciting point in its journey, and this is a chance to play a key role in shaping what comes next. As Chair of Trustees, you'll help the charity stay true to its purpose, support the Chief Executive and Board, and ensure we continue making a real difference to the mental health and wellbeing of people across Surrey.

It's an opportunity to use your skills and experience to support a charity that changes lives every day, while working with a passionate and welcoming group of Trustees, staff and volunteers. If you're motivated by purpose, collaboration and community impact, this role offers a rewarding way to contribute and help create positive change.



What You Need For This Role

- Leadership and governance experience, ideally at Board or senior level
- Strategic thinking, sound judgement, and the ability to provide constructive challenge
- Strong communication and relationship-building skills
- Understanding of mental health, wellbeing, charity, or community services
- Commitment to our values, mission and making a positive impact across Surrey
- Additional experience in HR, people governance, co-production or lived experience of mental health is welcomed but not essential.



"I share [MFT's] values and believe in the importance of involving the people we support in designing, developing and delivering our services.

Mental health issues can affect many of us and it is not always easy when you're experiencing emotional distress to get the help and support you need. I'm continually impressed and inspired by the people I meet both working for and using the services of Mary Frances Trust, which increases my commitment to ensuring that our important work continues and grows."

Sam Greenhouse,
Current Chair of Trustee's,
Mary Frances Trust.



Why Join Us?



- Join a friendly, dedicated, ambitious and collaborative team culture
- Champion MFT's values and our commitment to improving mental health and wellbeing across Surrey
- Bring your own lived experience expertise to the role
- Act as an ambassador for MFT where appropriate
- Lead the Board, with effective governance and strategic direction - help shape the future of MFT!
- Your role will also support our dedicated staff and our volunteers
- This is a pivotal leadership role for someone who is passionate about mental health, strong governance and community impact.

How To Apply

To view the full job role and to apply visit:

<https://www.maryfrancetrust.org.uk/jobs/chair-trustees-role/>

To apply you will need to:

- Email your CV & cover letter to Kerry Winteridge at: kerry@maryfrancetrust.org.uk.

We welcome applications from people under-represented in charity governance (including disabled people, people from minoritised ethnic communities, and people with lived experience of mental health challenges).

For an informal, confidential conversation about the role, please contact Sam Greenhouse, current Chair of Trustees at: sam@maryfrancetrust.org.uk.



Recruitment Timetable

Closing Date: Tuesday 25 August 2026

Thank you for taking the time to read about our charity and the position we are recruiting for, if you decide to apply we wish you every success.