



Introduction to TRS

#GfSConference2022

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What is the Trustee Recruitment Service (TRS)?

- Bespoke matching service specialising in identifying strong, board-level trustees for academy trust boards from corporate, charity and third sector
- A paid-for service, delivering cost-price alternative to executive search organisations
- Education sector-specific knowledge, insight and challenge
- Broad access to industry partners and senior leadership figures
- Provider of sector-leading post-appointment CPD and training/support via The Key





What is the Trustee Recruitment Service (TRS)?

- Launched in summer 2022 following loss of Academy Ambassadors Programme
- Shares the principles, priorities (and people!) of AAP
- No central government funding/subsidy
- Sits alongside Governors for Schools' existing and continuing free-to-access Governor recruitment service
- All roles pro bono/voluntary





Why use TRS?

- Diagnostic process to help support and identify need
- Impartial, but informed, service
- Access to quality, independent potential trustees
- Production of external collateral/adverts
- Access to networks, partners, headhunting tools
- Managed process
- Joined-up pathway for volunteers, offering progression opportunities from governor to trustee, helping improve sector quality and depth





Who can TRS support?

- Academy trusts of any size, phase or location
- Academy trusts seeking trustees and members
- LGB and LA-maintained Governor roles continue to access Governorrecruitment service
- We don't currently support Independent Schools or Universities through TRS





What might a TRS 'good trustee' look like?

- Seniority
- Board level or strategic decision-making
- Industry qualifications
- Multi-site experience
- Budgetary responsibility
- Previous education/charity governance experience
- Consultants with experience in largescale projects





Diversity

- GfS has a strong record in helping to diversify boards and recruit volunteers from minority ethnic backgrounds:
 - 35% of all appointed volunteers in 2021-22 were from a non-White British background
 - 29% of appointed trustees were from a non-White British background
- Currently in the trustee pool:
 - 45% of the trustee volunteers are under the age of 45;
 - 51% are female;
 - 22% are from a non-White British background





Volunteers

Are...

- Independent
- Experts in their field with a strong record of success
- Often have experience of several different industries
- Appointed by the trust <u>not</u> GfS/DfE

Are not...

- 'Governance Police'
- Controlled by the GfS or DfE
- Experts in <u>school/education</u> governance
- The answer if intervention is required

May....

- Be familiar with education
- Have significant experience of governance in business





Skills and expertise

The key skill for all trustees is to be able to offer strategic guidance, challenge and support across a range of areas including, but not exclusively, their own professional skill set. For example, all trustees should offer a view as how well the public funds are spent.

Audit: Review the accounts/statements from CFO. Offer challenge as to how/where money is spent.	Finance: Ensure best value by challenging leaders over spending decisions and if budgets are aligned to priorities
Branding/Marketing: Offer advice on messaging to stakeholder via challenge to execs	Human Resources: Challenge the execs on HR policies, Performance Management, recruitment, retention, well-being
CEO/General Management: Challenge expansion plans and whether systems are robust depending on complexity of organisation	Legal and Compliance: Challenge leaders over matters of due diligence and the way they are handling complex personnel cases or contracts they are minded to enter into
Change/Growth Management: Offer challenge for growth and transformation	IT/Technology: Challenge leaders on organisation-wide integration, efficiency and procurement
Corporate Governance: Advise on structures for more efficient/prudent operation/management	Property & Real Estate: Offer challenge to leaders in relation to how the trust manages its property portfolio including its use of capital development funding and facilities management
Entrepreneur/Founder: Challenging for innovation and advising on when systems need to change as trust develops/moves to a new phase	Risk: Offer challenge to executive as to how effectively they manage the range of risks as well as the trust's risk register





What's the process?

- Trust registers on <u>www.trusteerecruitmentservice.org.uk</u>
- TRS team helps coordinate initial information required for recruitment
- Trust Chair/Member(s) hold in-depth diagnostic call with TRS expert Adviser
- Requirements finalised, TRS team commences search activity/headhunt
- TRS share expressions of interest with Trust Chair for review; suitable individual introduced to Chair to commence Trust internal protocol
- TRS liaise with Chair/Member(s) to review feedback on any unsuitable candidates to inform ongoing process
- Process from initial Adviser diagnostic call to volunteer introduction typically 8-12 weeks





Pricing

- One appointment = £2,500
- Two appointments = £4,500
- Three appointments = £6,000
- Trust invoiced for service after introduction of candidate second payment due after confirmation of intent to appoint
- As a non-profit, fee directly covers GfS service costs; any surplus is reinvested into service delivery and improvement





Things to consider

- Sometimes appointing two can be easier than just one
- Complex cases can take a long time please provide as much information as possible at the outset
- Some volunteers seek a challenge they want to feel they can make a difference - so trusts should be honest about challenges/priorities
- Induction, references and DBS are <u>always</u> handled by the trust





The team



















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