

hopscotch

WOMEN'S CENTRE

CHAIR

RECRUITMENT PACK



Hopscotch Women's Centre

Chair of Trustees

Location: London (with flexibility)

Time commitment: Approx. 5 hours per month

Remuneration: Voluntary (all expenses covered)

Website: <https://hopscotchuk.org/>

Charity:1079574 | Company: 3512914

Welcome

Thank you for your interest in becoming the next Chair of Trustees at Hopscotch Women's Centre.

This is an exciting and pivotal moment for the organisation. With a new CEO in post, and a Board which includes several first-time Trustees, we are looking for a Chair who can combine strong governance leadership with a supportive, mentoring approach; helping Hopscotch thrive through its next stage of development.

Hopscotch is a values-led organisation working at the intersection of violence against women and girls (VAWG), gender justice and equity – across London.

Simran Chawla, outgoing Chair says:

Chairing Hopscotch has been one of the most rewarding leadership roles I've held. It's a values-led organisation where intersectional feminist principles, care and accountability genuinely shape how we work and govern.

One of the things I've valued most is the Board itself. We've worked hard to build a Board culture that is collaborative, thoughtful and supportive; one that takes its responsibilities seriously, learns together, and works in close partnership with the organisation. That way of working has been a real strength, and something we hope the next Chair will want to build on as new trustees join.

As I step down, I do so feeling confident about Hopscotch's direction and positive about what comes next. The incoming Chair will be joining at an important moment: supporting a first-time CEO, working with an engaged and committed Board, and helping to guide the organisation through a challenging period for specialist women's services.

This role would suit someone who leads with care and clarity, values collective leadership, and wants to contribute in a practical, grounded way. It's a chance to do work that matters, alongside people who take that responsibility seriously.

About Hopscotch Women's Centre

Hopscotch Women's Centre provides vital, trauma-informed support to women and families, responding to complex needs with compassion, expertise and ambition.

We are recognised within the VAWG sector for our commitment to women's safety, justice and long-term change. In addition are experts around poverty, mental wellbeing, pre-employment and refugee support. We also have a thriving Homecare service which feeds income into our Women's Centre. We operate pan-London, and our next phase of development includes

strengthening our reach, resilience and influence, potentially expanding our impact beyond London across the UK.

Annual income: approximately £4 million

Why We Are Recruiting a New Chair Now

Hopscotch is at a transition point.

This appointment comes at a time when the organisation is:

- building with a new Chief Executive Officer in post
- supporting a Board that includes new Trustees and developing governance confidence
- strengthening strategic focus to match growing profile and ambition
- operating in a challenging sector environment shaped by funding pressures, policy shifts and rising demand in the sector

The Role: Chair of Trustees

The Chair is responsible for leading the Board of Trustees to ensure Hopscotch Women's Centre is well-governed, strategically focused, financially resilient, and values led.

The incoming Chair will work closely with the CEO and Board to support strong decision-making, clear accountability, and a healthy culture of challenge, care and ambition.

This role would suit someone with Board experience plus previous experience as a Chair, or substantial senior governance leadership, who is confident providing strategic oversight and supportive challenge.

Key Responsibilities

Board Leadership & Governance

- Provide effective leadership to the Board of Trustees
- Chair Board meetings and ensure well-run, purposeful governance
- Support Trustees to contribute confidently and develop in role
- Maintain high standards of integrity, accountability and good governance

CEO Partnership & Support

- Line-manage the Chief Executive Officer
- Provide constructive support and challenge to the CEO
- Help the CEO succeed by creating conditions for strong leadership and decision-making

Strategy, Sustainability & Risk

- Work with Trustees and executive leadership to ensure strategic clarity and delivery
- Support the organisation's sustainability, resilience and long-term growth

- Ensure appropriate oversight of risk, safeguarding, finance and organisational performance

Culture, Values & Representation

- Uphold Hopscotch's values and ensure they are reflected in Board leadership
- Support trauma-informed ways of working at governance level
- Represent Hopscotch externally where appropriate, strengthening credibility and relationships

Who We Are Looking For

We are looking for a Chair who brings sound judgement, warmth, and the ability to convene people.

We are particularly keen to hear from individuals who:

- bring a strong intersectional feminist lens to leadership and governance
- understand the realities of trauma-informed practice within the VAWG sector
- are attuned to the political, funding and policy climate affecting specialist women's organisations
- lead with empathy, clarity and confidence, and enjoy supporting others to grow into their roles

Experience we'd love (but don't rigidly require):**

- Previous experience as a Chair of Trustees
- Chairing a women's charity or relevant specialist organisation
- Significant Trustee experience, or committee chair experience at a senior level
- Lived experience: welcomed and valued, but not essential.

What Success Looks Like in This Role

In the first 12-18 months, the successful Chair will have:

- built a strong, trusted working relationship with the CEO
- further developed a confident, effective, supportive Board culture
- strengthened governance in a way that enables leadership to flourish
- ensured Hopscotch remains resilient and ambitious within a challenging external climate
- helped position Hopscotch strongly for its next phase of pan-London (and potential UK-wide) development

How to Apply / Next Steps

Anderson Quigley is acting as employment agency advisor to Hopscotch Women's Centre on this appointment.

Apply through: <https://andersonquigley.com/job/aq3479/>

Applications should consist of:

- A full CV
- A letter of application (maximum two pages) outlining your motivation for applying and how you meet the Person Specification
- Details of two referees (we will not approach without your consent)

For informal conversation: Contact Helene Usherwood, Senior Partner at Anderson Quigley on helene.usherwood@andersonquigley.com or +44(0)7719 322 669 or Aino Betts, Consultant on aino.betts@andersonquigley.com or +44(0)7743 934 723.

Closing date: 12 February 2026