



FOREVER HOUNDS TRUST

Matching greyhounds and
lurchers to happy homes

Registered charity 1131399

TRUSTEE INFORMATION PACK 2026

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Forever Hounds Trust is seeking committed trustees to help shape the next stage of our work for greyhounds, lurchers, whippets and other sighthounds. This is a significant moment for the charity: we are building on three decades of rescue and rehoming work while strengthening our long-term sustainability, visibility and impact.

Who we are and what we do

Founded in 1996 as Greyhound Rescue West of England, Forever Hounds Trust has found loving homes for more than 10,000 dogs across the country. We are independent of the greyhound racing industry and rely on fundraising, donations and the commitment of volunteers to meet the substantial costs of caring for and homing the dogs who need us.

Our strategic plan, "[Recovery, Stability and Visibility](#)", sets a clear path for achieving our vision and mission. Following the sale of our Centre, and the development of a new operating partnership with Margaret Green Animal Rescue in Blandford Forum, trustees will play an important role in guiding Forever Hounds Trust through this next phase of development.

You can read more [about us](#) on our website and our most recent annual report and accounts are [here](#).

Our Vision

A day when every greyhound, lurcher and sighthound is free from risk or need.

Our Mission

- Rescue and care for unwanted, abused or abandoned greyhounds, lurchers, whippets and other sighthounds, wherever our resources allow.
- Find safe, loving and permanent homes for the dogs in our care.
- Provide high-quality care, informed by best practice and each dog's individual needs.
- Promote improved sighthound welfare through advocacy, partnership and active membership of relevant sector bodies.

Our Values

Passionate: *every dog should be protected from abuse and have a permanent loving home.*

Compassionate: *acting in the best interest of our dogs to give the best possible care; we will not euthanise a healthy, rehomingable dog.*

Professional: *working to the highest standards to match our dogs to the right forever home for the dog and adopter.*

Trustee Role

Trustees are responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of Forever Hounds Trust. They help ensure that the charity remains financially sustainable, well governed and focused on achieving the best possible outcomes for hounds.

As a trustee, you will contribute to strategy, scrutinise performance, manage risk, support financial oversight and bring your skills and perspective to Board discussions. Trustees also act as ambassadors for the charity, helping to build relationships, visibility and support for our work.

The role requires commitment, availability and active participation. Alongside quarterly Board meetings, trustees may contribute through sub-committees, task and finish groups, project meetings and agreed areas of work. Meetings are currently held virtually, with arrangements reviewed periodically, and we aim to hold one in-person trustee meeting each year.

The positions are voluntary and unpaid, although reasonable travel expenses are reimbursed in line with our expenses policy.

Trustee agreement

All FHT trustees agree to fulfil the responsibilities of trusteeship and to contribute constructively to the effective governance of the charity. These responsibilities include:

- **Governance and strategy:** contributing actively to the Board's role in setting strategic direction, agreeing priorities, monitoring performance and ensuring compliance with the charity's governing documents, charity law and relevant regulations.
- **Finance, assets and risk:** helping to ensure financial stability, proper use of charitable assets, sound investment of funds and effective management of risk.
- **Knowledge and legal duties:** familiarising themselves with the charity's activities, the Charity Commission's Essential Trustee guidance, Companies House guidance on directors' duties and any relevant updates.
- **Conduct and integrity:** acting with integrity, avoiding personal gain, recording conflicts of interest and working constructively with fellow trustees, staff and volunteers.
- **Participation and contribution:** attending Board meetings, preparing for discussions, bringing relevant expertise and independent judgement, supporting agreed work between meetings and completing actions within agreed timescales.
- **Leadership oversight:** appointing and supporting the Chief Executive Officer, and monitoring organisational performance in line with agreed objectives.

Skills and Experience

We welcome applications from people who share our commitment to sighthound welfare and who can contribute to effective, inclusive and responsible governance. We are particularly keen to hear from people who bring the following core trustee attributes.

Core trustee attributes
• Commitment to Forever Hounds Trust's vision, mission and values.
• Ability to listen, reflect, ask constructive questions and exercise independent judgement.
• Clear communication skills and the ability to work respectfully with people who bring different perspectives.
• Strategic thinking, a solution-focused approach and openness to learning.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding of, or willingness to learn about, the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Integrity, accountability, confidentiality, objectivity and impartiality. |

In this recruitment round, we are particularly interested in candidates who can strengthen the Board in one or more of the following priority areas:

- **Animal and canine welfare**, including knowledge of welfare standards, rescue, rehabilitation or rehoming.
- **Digital and social media skills**, including audience engagement, digital communications or online campaign development.
- **Human resources**, a qualified human resources professional with experience of working with volunteers and paid staff.

Recruitment Process

The recruitment process is designed to explore how each candidate's skills, experience and values align with FHT's current Board needs and how they could complement the expertise of existing trustees. It also gives potential trustees the opportunity to meet current trustees and the CEO, learn more about FHT's operations and future plans, and decide whether the role is right for them. The recruitment process:

1. Apply with covering letter and CV
2. Informal call with an existing trustee if we wish to take your application forward giving you opportunities to learn more about the role and ask any questions
3. Formal interview with two trustees and the CEO to explore how your skills and experience fit with the Board's current needs
4. Invite successful candidates to observe a Board meeting
5. Successful candidates invited to join the Board.

How to apply

If you can demonstrate the skills, experience and qualities described above, and can offer the time needed, please submit a one-page covering letter and your CV setting out what skills and experience you would bring to the Board and how you could support the charity's current priorities. Submit your application to trustees@foreverhoundstrust.org.

If you need additional support to access the application process, please email us and let us know how we can help. Alternatives to written applications include video or voice recordings, as well as telephone calls.

If you would prefer an informal conversation before submitting your application, please email our Chair, Claire Pearce (Claire.pearce@foreverhoundstrust.org).

Applications will be assessed on a rolling basis, and we will keep candidates informed about next steps during the process.