

# Appointment of OCF Chair



**We are an Oxfordshire-based philanthropy organisation, operating in an environment that is fast paced and innovative.**

We have aspirational targets to achieve significant growth over the next five years, which will see the organisation manage in excess of £20 million assets on behalf of ourselves and others.

We are now seeking a **strong, strategic thinker** to lead the board and influence other major players; an individual who has the entrepreneurial drive to maximise the potential in new opportunities as they emerge, and to ensure the organisation is well placed to benefit from them.

If you are now curious and have the capacity, energy and inspiration to join us in developing a vision that will revolutionise philanthropy across Oxfordshire, we would love to tell you more and start a conversation with you.

*This will be an unremunerated role involving about 20 days a year.*

**Please see the attached role summary for further information.**

*Contact:*

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*Please enclose a CV and  
respond by 10<sup>th</sup> July 2015*



# OCF Chair

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## Role summary

### Organisation background

**Oxfordshire Community Foundation (OCF) is one of 48 community foundations that collectively represent the fastest growing philanthropic movement across the UK.**

OCF is dedicated to strengthening local communities and helping people in need by inspiring local giving and building permanent community funds. OCF has detailed knowledge about community needs and social priorities across Oxfordshire, alongside experience of working with a wide range of local charities and voluntary groups, awarding them grants that are focused where they can make the most difference.

OCF has recently experienced a period of unprecedented growth and, with exciting plans underway to celebrate the organisation's 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary in 2016, these achievements are establishing OCF as the local expert on philanthropy, as well as a thought leader and key convener of the voluntary sector across Oxfordshire.

Since 1995, OCF has supported around 1,850 local community projects, and in the last year ending March 2015 awarded over £800,000 in grants. The foundation has also built permanent charitable investments of over £4.1 million, from which the income generated is used to support further grant-making to community groups.

### Context

Oxfordshire Community Foundation is now looking to recruit a new Chair and to identify additional trustees to join the Board in order to build strategically on this period of continued growth.

The successful candidates will play a key role at the heart of the foundation, raising awareness of our work; helping to advise, govern, and oversee policy and strategic direction; inspiring philanthropy; and increasing our impact by significantly growing the total value of the grants awarded.

There are currently nine trustees on the Board and four executive staff, with a range of skills and experience in business, finance and investment, legal, community needs, grant-making, marketing and governance.

The community foundation passed, at an exemplary level, its 2013 Quality Accreditation to standards endorsed by the Charity Commission. This external and independent accreditation is undertaken every three years.



## The Chair's priorities

- Provide strategic leadership to the Board
- Develop the foundation's mission and vision
- Support and supervise the Chief Executive, to deliver the business plan
- Raise the profile of Oxfordshire Community Foundation and attract new philanthropic supporters
- Work within the guidelines and standards for membership of umbrella body UK Community Foundations, attending UKCF Chair meetings and the annual UKCF conference

## Skills and experience needed

The Chair of Oxfordshire Community Foundation should be able to demonstrate:

- Commitment to the voluntary/not-for-profit sector
- Ability to inspire confidence and command respect in the local community and amongst key stakeholders
- Ability to work closely with the Chief Executive, developing a positive working relationship in a constructive and consultative environment
- Skill in chairing and obtaining consensus on complex and sometimes controversial issues
- Experience of managing change within an appropriate governance structure
- Knowledge of Oxfordshire, including interest in community issues

## Time commitment

The role will require at least 20 days a year, which includes a minimum of five Board meetings. A good deal of time is likely to be taken up in thought, consultation with staff and discussion with Board members.

[www.oxfordshire.org](http://www.oxfordshire.org)

