Candidate Brief
for the position of
Trustee/Treasurer/Chair
of Scientific Advisory Board
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1. Introduction from the Chair

Pancreatic Cancer UK is at a crossroads – our ten year anniversary this year marks a hugely exciting time for us as a charity. I’m extremely proud of this organisation, and the progress we have made in the last few years.

There is huge potential for us in the next ten years, and we are building a strong team of passionate and experienced individuals to help us to realise this potential.

For the first time in decades survival rates for pancreatic cancer are rising. Slow but important progress is being made. Funding for research is increasing year on year, and clinicians will soon have new national guidelines to help in diagnosis and care.

There’s much more we can do.

We have a new vision, a new mission and an ambitious, tough and exciting strategy to help us to transform the future for everyone affected by pancreatic cancer.

This is a fantastic time to join us. If you’re ready to take on pancreatic cancer with us, we’d be delighted to hear from you.

Sarah Roberts
Chair
2. About us

Pancreatic Cancer UK is fighting to make a difference.

We’re taking on pancreatic cancer together: by supporting those affected by the disease, investing in research, lobbying for greater recognition of pancreatic cancer, and being there for everyone involved in the fight. For too long this disease has been sidelined.

We want to make sure that everyone touched by it gets the support and information they need.

We provide expert, personalised support and information via our Support Line and through a range of publications.

We fund innovative research to find the breakthroughs that will change how we research, diagnose and treat pancreatic cancer.

We campaign for change; for better care, treatment and research, and for pancreatic cancer to have the recognition it needs.

About pancreatic cancer

Pancreatic cancer is not uncommon – one person is diagnosed every hour in the UK.

It remains the most lethal cancer in the UK, with only around 5% of the 8,800 people diagnosed each year surviving more than five years, and with an average survival rate of just six months. The shocking thing is, these statistics have hardly changed in forty years and the disease is predicted to overtake breast cancer as the fourth leading cancer killer by 2030.

Pancreatic cancer is a complex and hard to treat cancer. Currently there are no suitable markers or simple tests to support screening and early diagnosis of the disease, and very few effective drug treatments. Most patients, about 80%, are diagnosed when the disease is too advanced for surgery – the only curative treatment for pancreatic cancer.

We still do not know enough about the progression of the disease and it’s resistance to therapy to understand why the disease does not respond well to the drugs available, or to support the development of new drugs or treatment approaches.

About our ambitions

We have proven over the past three years that we can achieve what was once thought impossible; the first ever national pancreatic cancer clinical guidelines; a doubling of UK research investment to £10 million; the start of a culture change in treatment and care for pancreatic cancer patients.

Our vision

Everyone with pancreatic cancer survives to live long and well.

Our mission

We lead the fight against pancreatic cancer.

Our values

Compassion, Integrity, Enterprise, Passion
We have grown the pancreatic cancer community, and broken through our fundraising targets - raising well over £4 million for the last two years running.

Today, 5-year survival rates across the UK are at around 5%. In light of no change in survival for decades, recent years have seen slow but significant progress. There are now 180 more pancreatic cancer patients surviving more than 5 years each year; that’s almost 1,000 people living considerably longer in the past five years.

**Things are changing**

We are marking our ten year anniversary by calling for no less than the transformation of everything about pancreatic cancer, and our five-year strategy sets out how we will lead the way to that transformation.

- We will campaign and fundraise for a game changing annual UK pancreatic cancer research pot of £25 million by 2022. This will include a significant investment of £10 million from Pancreatic Cancer UK over the next five years. We remain committed to doubling five-year survival rates, and believe that this level of research will begin to transform the diagnosis and treatment of the disease.

- We will define a gold standard of treatment and care for everyone diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, and work tirelessly with others to make that standard a reality. This continues our commitment to change the pancreatic cancer patient’s NHS experience from one of the worst to one of the best.

In addition, we will:

- Be there for everyone diagnosed and their families by investing a further £5 million over 5 years in new and improved information and services. This will include doubling the use of our flagship national service, the Pancreatic Cancer UK Support Line

- Work with researchers, policy makers, NHS partners and industry to launch a pioneering campaign aimed at transforming access to treatments

- Expand and support a pancreatic cancer community with a stronger, louder voice, collaborating with others facing similar challenges in cancers of unmet need

- Increase our funds raised year on year to make it all happen, aiming to raise £10 million a year by 2022.

We need more; more influence, more research, more reach, more funds and more support. Join us to take on pancreatic cancer. It will be tough, but we are ready for the challenge.
3. The Roles

Trustee Role

The Trustees of Pancreatic Cancer UK collectively provide strategic direction and constructive challenge to ensure the charity delivers its goals and objectives and is governed effectively. They do this by working in partnership with the Chief Executive Officer and Chair of the Board. In addition, Trustees act as ambassadors for the charity, and represent the interests of all stakeholders.

Trustee Profiles

We are seeking to appoint up to four new Trustees, including a Treasurer and a Chair of the charity’s Scientific Advisory Board.

The Treasurer will need expertise in charity finance (desirable)/investments, and business finance/audit.

The Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board will need a high level of scientific understanding of cancer and previous experience of chairing high level committees or a senior position in a professional body.

Due to potential conflict of interest the Chair should have research experience in a non-pancreatic cancer field, and ideally should not be affiliated with any of the leading pancreatic cancer research centres in the UK.

For further specific details of the roles please refer to the role descriptions. For further specific details of the roles please refer to the role descriptions at www.pancreaticcancer.org.uk/trusteerecruitment

Other Trustees of the charity will need experience of working on a Board, and will bring a breadth of other experience and ability in support of the charity’s activities. Other particular areas of interest are:

• health/cancer
• not for profit/charity sector (particularly of an organization that has experienced rapid change and growth from £5-10M income)
• commercial experience and high levels networks in the city
• based outside London and the South East

In addition, Trustees will have:

• a demonstrable passion for the vision and mission of the charity
• an ability to analyse, synthesise and evaluate at a high level to inform strategic direction and governance
• an ability to work collaboratively within a culture of mutual respect and understanding
• strong communication and influencing skills.
Time Commitment

The Board of Trustees meets four times a year, plus one away day or half day. Meetings are currently held in central London.

In addition, the Treasurer chairs the charity’s Finance Committee which also meet four times a year. The Scientific Advisory Board currently meets or has a conference call once or twice a year.

All Trustees are expected to attend at least one charity event each year, and a staff/trustee social gathering after one of the Board meetings.

Remuneration

Trustees are not remunerated but reasonable expenses will be paid.

Period of Appointment

It is usual for a Trustee to be appointed for a first term of four years, with a potential re-appointment for a second term of three years subject to mutual agreement.

4. How to apply

Application Process

To apply please email your CV and covering letter (no more than two sides of A4) by Sunday 10 April describing how you meet the requirements for one of the roles (Trustee/Chair of SAB/Treasurer) to: claudia@pancreaticcancer.org.uk

Selection

Shortlisting will be undertaken by the end of April 2016. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an interview with the Chair and other Trustees which will take place on either 24 or 25 May.

Further Information

For further information about the charity, please refer to the charity’s website. For an informal discussion about the role(s) with either the Chair or CEO please call Claudia on 020 7820 6701 or email claudia@pancreaticcancer.org.uk and this can be arranged.