



Bringing the missing home

Registered Charity No 1204106

SUSSEX SEARCH AND RESCUE

www.sussar.org.uk



Trustee Vacancies at Sussex Search and Rescue

Position: Trustee

Location: Sussex

Type: Voluntary

Are you passionate about supporting a vital community service? Sussex Search and Rescue (Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Charity No.1204106) is looking for two new Trustees that are external to the organisation, to work alongside the current Trustees.

About Sussex Search and Rescue

Sussex Search & Rescue (SusSAR) is one of many Lowland Search & Rescue units which exist across the country. We are affiliated to Lowland Rescue who co-ordinate the county-based groups and set the training standards we must adhere to.

As a 100% volunteer organisation our members give their time free of charge and expect nothing in return but satisfaction from a job well done. We serve the communities of East and West Sussex. As we do not receive funding from government we rely on the goodwill of our members, grants and charitable donations to deliver our services.

We can be called out by Sussex Police and neighbouring search units at any time, day or night. Our team is on call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, whatever the weather.

What we do

We are professionally trained and qualified to nationally agreed standards as laid out by Lowland Rescue and are a vital volunteer search resource to Sussex Police.

Since 2002, SusSAR has helped save numerous missing people, right across the county. Most callouts are to search for vulnerable missing people such as the elderly, people living with dementia, despondents, children and anyone else deemed to be a high risk by Sussex Police. Our task is to locate them, having been given a briefing by the police, and to return them to a place of safety.

For more details about what we do refer to our website: <https://www.sussar.org.uk/>



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What we're looking for

We're seeking individuals with diverse skills, backgrounds, and experience to help us continue our vital work. As a Trustee, you will play an essential role in guiding the organisation's strategy, ensuring good governance, and supporting the team of volunteers who give their time and expertise to save lives.

Skills & Experience

We are looking for Trustees with experience in one or more of the following areas:

- Governance and Strategic Oversight
- Accounting, Financial Management and Fundraising
- Legal & Regulatory Compliance
- Human Resources
- Marketing, Communications & Social Media
- Volunteer Management

We expect potential Trustees to have a passion for supporting the local communities you live in and helping people. You don't need to be an expert in search and rescue, but the Team needs a wide range of skills behind the scenes to work effectively. You should have experience in working with a team with a range of skills and backgrounds, have personal integrity, and value diversity and inclusivity. As a Trustee for SusSAR you will need to complete police vetting.

Key Responsibilities

- Support the development and implementation of the organisation's strategy
- Act in accordance with SusSAR's Charitable Incorporated Organisation's Constitution
- Comply with Charity Commission requirements
- Ensure the organisation's financial health and sustainability
- Provide guidance and oversight on risk management
- Ensure the organisation has clear policies on key issues
- Represent the organisation to external stakeholders, partners, and the public



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- Contribute to fundraising efforts and help raise awareness of the charity's work

Why Become a Trustee at SusSAR?

- Work with a passionate, skilled, and supportive team
- Gain valuable experience in governance and leadership within a high-profile, life-saving organisation
- Help shape the future of SusSAR as we continue to evolve and respond to the increasing demand for our services.

Time Commitment

- This is a voluntary role where you will be expected to commit approximately 15 hours per month
- Trustees are expected to attend regular board meetings (typically quarterly), the Annual General Meeting (these are a mix of face to face and virtual, usually held in the evening) and provide support as required
- Trustees are frequently required to manage SusSAR e-mail / correspondence and support decision-making
- Depending upon the time of the appointment the initial term of the Trustees position may be 2 to 3 years

How to Apply

To apply or for more information, please send a CV and cover letter outlining your interest and relevant experience to secretary@sussar.org

The closing date for applications is Thursday 27 March 2025.

Join us and help make a difference. Be part of an organisation that saves lives and provides vital services to the communities in Sussex.