



Trustee and Independent Committee Members Vacancies

Candidate Information Pack

September 2026



Image: Broken Silence group project in London,
Face Front Theatre



Welcome from our

Chair of Trustees

We are delighted that you are interested in becoming part of our governance.

At People's Health Trust, we work with local communities to stop people dying too young and to help them live longer, healthier lives. We want everyone to be able to live a healthy life.

Our challenge is that while life expectancy has been rising for a century, in the last decade it went backwards, particularly in the most disadvantaged areas. While there's been recovery post covid, *healthy* life expectancy has fallen sharply in many places. This means more people are spending more years in poor health. There is a two-decade gap in healthy life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas. We know that the drivers of poor health are poor housing, poor work, poor air and poor access to natural spaces. We believe that it doesn't have to be like this.

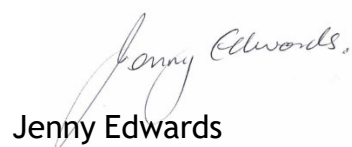
Our work focuses on:

- Programmes that support communities to tackle conditions that are making them unwell – for example to challenge and improve their housing conditions, to create routes into good work and to get out into the natural world with the health benefits that brings.
- Evidence, lived experience and community expertise used to design and share solutions.
- Our lived experience network - made up of over 600 grassroots leaders from across England, Scotland and Wales - works directly with us to share their experience and to help build evidence of the impact that community focused action can make on the conditions that shape their lives and health.

To achieve our ambitions to do more it is important that we strengthen our board expertise to advise on philanthropy and major donor engagement to help our long-term sustainability and achieve impact at a pivotal point in our growth.

We also look to strengthen scrutiny and independent challenge in our committees. These are focused on Finance, Audit and Operations and on Programmes, Impact and Influencing.

If one of these roles sounds right for you, we would be very interested in hearing from you. Please get in touch.

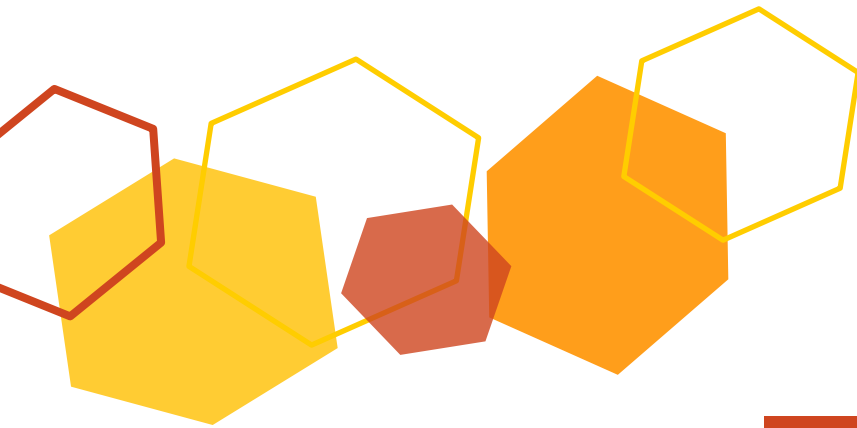


Jenny Edwards

Our strategy

People's Health Trust is entering a pivotal new phase. Our current strategy concludes at the end of September and our new five-year strategy will begin on 1 October. This will set a clear direction for the next stage of our work: a fair society where everyone can live a healthy life, and a mission to work with communities to stop people dying too young and help them live longer, healthier lives.

By 2031, we will have co-developed programmes that improve health and wellbeing for people with the poorest health prospects; shaped national and local policy through our lived experience networks and evidence; and established philanthropic and impact partnerships that drive improved health and wellbeing in the poorest communities across England, Scotland and Wales.



Our funding ambition

Our income generation strategy is designed to give us the resilience, reach and flexibility to deliver this ambition. Agreed by the Board in 2025, it focuses on diversifying and growing income so that we can respond to rising levels of need and increase our impact on health inequalities.

The first year has provided strong foundations. We have secured major investments from charitable foundations, including two significant regional funding programmes; developed a high-profile government partnership with the Department of Health and Social Care on men's health; and built corporate engagement across several thematic priorities.

As we move into the second year of the income strategy, our focus is on building further and faster: deepening relationships with philanthropic donors and partners, securing long-term strategic corporate relationships with organisations that share our goals and values, and developing public sector partnerships that can help scale what works.

Governance

The Trust is overseen by the Board of Trustees with two committees providing advice to the Board and Executive.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the overall direction of the Trust.

The Finance, Audit and Operations Committee reports to and advises the Board and Executive on the key areas of audit, risk, legal, finance and HR, including income and investment.

The Programmes, Impact and Influencing Committee provides a level of support and scrutiny to ensure that the Trust's work in these areas is progressing and impactful.

Equity, diversity and inclusion

We are committed to strengthening our approaches to equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) as an organisation and as a funder and we have a published (and very much alive) EDI strategy. We aim to have a trustee team in place that represents the communities we serve, including having the necessary range of skills and perspectives.

We are committed to providing a safe place of work, free from racism, oppression and bigotry.

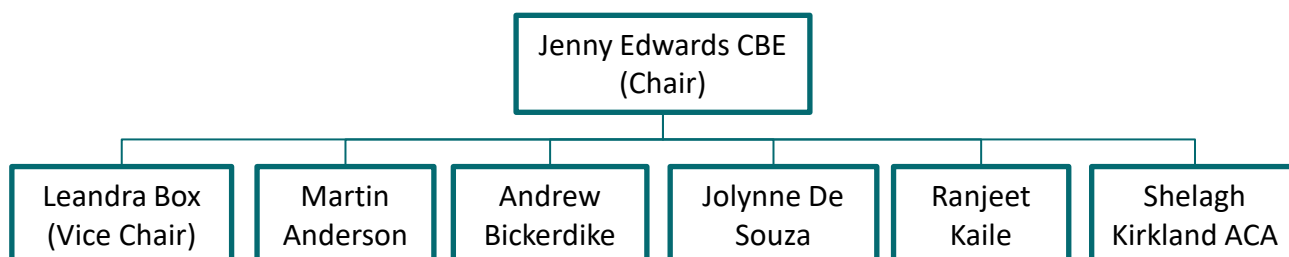
**people's
health
trust**

**people
make
change**

**we
help it
happen**

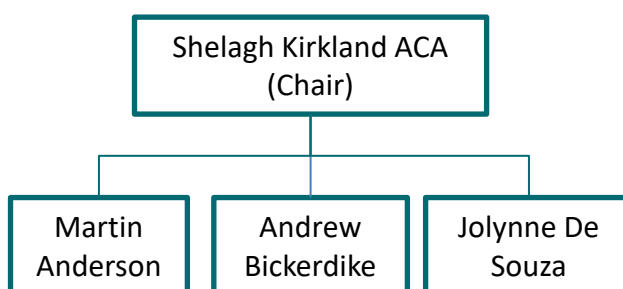
Organisation chart

Board of Trustees



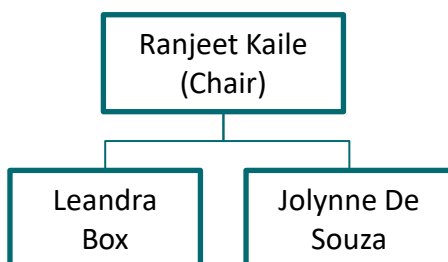
Finance, Audit and Operations Committee

(Jenny Edwards is ex-officio member)



Programmes, Impact and Influencing Committee

(Jenny Edwards is ex-officio member)



More information on our board of Trustees and the staff team is available on our [website](#)

Philanthropy Trustee

Key responsibilities

Philanthropy and major donor experience

- To provide strategic guidance and constructive challenge on the Trust's philanthropy and major donor fundraising approach
- To use insight to advise on raising the Trust's profile with prospective supporters
- To act as an ambassador for the Trust in relevant fundraising and philanthropic settings
- To support the executive team in building confidence, credibility and effective practice in engaging major donors and philanthropic partners

Strategic leadership

- To contribute to and influence the Trust's strategic direction, in line with its charitable objectives. In particular, to influence the Trust's work in partnership with local communities
- To oversee the Trust's financial sustainability to support the development of grant-making programmes

Equity, diversity and inclusion

- To actively champion the Trust's commitment to anti-racism and anti-oppression within the organisation and within its grant-making policies and practice

Governance

- To ensure the Trust fulfils its regulatory requirements under company and charity law in England, Scotland and Wales
- To ensure the Trust is in sound financial shape through overseeing financial planning, reporting and management
- To oversee the development of policies and practices across the organisation which are in line with legislation and good practice

External relations

- To promote the Trust and safeguard its reputation at all times
- To support the development of strategic partnerships, including with national and regional government, other public sector bodies, relevant communities and neighbourhoods experiencing disadvantage
- To act as an ambassador for the Trust

What you will bring to the role

You will:

- Have worked with Board colleagues to provide clear strategic direction and oversight for the executive leadership of the charity
- Understand the responsibilities of charity trustees
- Bring significant experience of philanthropy, major gifts fundraising and major donor engagement - as a practitioner or as a philanthropist
- Understand and have experience of building networks and creating opportunities with major donors (either directly or via wealth advisers and philanthropy intermediaries)
- Be willing to use insight, knowledge, and influence to support the Trust's fundraising goals
- Commit to the values, mission and aims of People's Health Trust and support the Trust to be effective and successful
- Have an interest in the factors that form the building blocks of health

You may also have:

- Specific knowledge of a community or geographical region.
- Experience of representing organisations or groups including voluntary positions such as trustee of a charity, committee member, community forum or steering group member, school governor etc.
- Knowledge and understanding of community-led approaches to building blocks of health.
- Insight into the communities and places the Trust supports. This may come from lived experience, long-standing community connection, or close work alongside communities facing disadvantage.

Independent Member

Finance, Audit and Operations Committee

Key responsibilities

The Independent Member will primarily provide scrutiny to the work of the committee to ensure that the Trust is in sound financial shape and that there is a strong framework for accountability by advising on:

- Financial planning, reporting and management
- Financial procedures and reporting on audit, including appointment of and working with auditors
- Risk management policy and practice

In addition, you may also provide guidance to the wider work of the committee, including:

- Income generation
- Information technology policy and practice
- Human resources, policies, procedures and practice
- Legal work

What you will bring to the role

An Independent Member of the FAOC should be able to demonstrate and provide evidence of the following:

An accountancy background, being a full member of ICAEW, ACCA, CIPFA

- ICAS, CAI or CIMA, or qualified by experience
- Experience of charity financial management and accounting policies and awareness of the relevant legal and financial regulations
- Experience of scrutinising accounting and risk management policies
- Knowledge of governance processes
- Experience at senior level in a charity or business environment
- Understanding of the operating environment
- An ability to think in a strategic, innovative and flexible way
- Experience of contributing regularly, constructively and with respect for other views to strategic planning or project meetings
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills and be a strong team player
- An interest in the work undertaken by People's Health Trust
- Commitment to our anti-racism and anti-oppression intentions
- A willingness to devote the necessary time and effort to fulfil the duties as a committee member.

Independent Member

Programmes, Impact and Influencing Committee

Key responsibilities

The Independent Member will primarily provide advice to and scrutiny of the Trust's programmes, influencing and impact work.

Specifically they will advise on:

- Programmes: design, delivery and strategic alignment
- Impact & evidence: outcomes, evaluation, learning and use of data
- Influencing & communications: effectiveness in shaping policy, practice and public understanding
- Strategic coherence: alignment with the Trust's priorities and external environment

What you will bring to the role

An Independent Member of the PIIC should be able to demonstrate and provide evidence of the following:

- Experience of providing strategic oversight, scrutiny or challenge in a committee, board or advisory setting
- Understanding of the operating environment
- Experience of contributing regularly, constructively and with respect for other views to strategic planning or project meetings
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills and a strong team player
- An interest in the work undertaken by People's Health Trust
- Commitment to our anti-racism and anti-oppression intentions
- A willingness to devote the necessary time and effort to fulfil the duties as a committee member.

The Independent Member will also have knowledge of:

- programmes designed to address matters of social injustice; and/or
- Policy and public affairs; and/or
- research, evaluation and learning, and the use of evidence to inform decision-making

Values and behaviours

Our trustees and independent members are expected to:

Work considerately and respectfully with all those involved with the Trust, respecting diversity, roles and boundaries.

Support and encourage all people they encounter at the Trust.

Participate in collective and consensual decision-making.

Commit time to carry out their role fully.

Consider what is best for the communities we support.

Avoid bringing the organisation into disrepute.



Time commitment

Trustees

All Trustees commit to attending:

- Four board meetings per year, either during the day or early evening.
- Annual away day.

Commit to join and take part in one committee (meetings are for two hours four times a year) and/or a working group.

Independent Members

Independent Members are required to commit to attending and preparing for four two and a half hour meetings a year.

These are currently timed for the end of the working day (from 16:00).

Remuneration

- All Trustee and Independent Member roles are unpaid.
- All expenses (travel, accommodation, meals) to meetings are covered.
- If you experience financial barriers to participating, we will discuss how we can support you to remove such barriers.

Meetings are held at People's Health Trust offices in London or online.



Image: Barriers to Employment programme in Longbenton, Justice Prince

How to apply

Please forward a CV together with a supporting statement of no more than two sides of A4, clearly stating which opportunity you wish to be considered for and explaining how your experience relates to the role. Applications should be sent to Alex Williams at Giving Back Recruitment: alex@givingbackrecruitment.co.uk.

To assist us to monitor the effectiveness of our equity, diversity and inclusion practices, we would encourage you to complete this [monitoring form](#). This is kept separate from your application.

We want to ensure our governance team includes experience and understanding of the communities we work with. We also particularly encourage applications from people from minoritised ethnic backgrounds, disabled people and younger people.

Please get in touch if you'd like this document in an alternative format or if you require any additional support with your application. This particularly applies to people who need us to make reasonable adjustments under the Equality Act 2010. This could include, but is not limited to, accepting applications in a different format, offering information or explanations in a way which helps you, or working with BSL interpreters.

You can contact Giving Back Recruitment to discuss support by:

Telephoning 020 3807 2635

Emailing alex@givingbackrecruitment.co.uk or erica@givingbackrecruitment.co.uk

Recruitment timetable

Closing date:

Sunday 18 October

First round interviews with Giving Back Recruitment:

Week commencing 19 October 2026

First stage interviews with People's Health Trust:

Week commencing 2 November 2026