

# DEBRA UK: Trustee Role Description

## Summary

Organisation Type:	<b>Charity</b>
Coverage:	<b>National</b>
Position Title:	<b>Trustee (two positions)</b>
Duration of Appointment:	<b>3 years</b>
Remuneration:	<b>Voluntary position, expenses paid</b>
Industry / Sector:	<b>Health/Medical Services</b>
Skills:	<b>Transformation/Growth, Safeguarding, HR/People, Challenge/Critical Thinking, Lived Experience of epidermolysis bullosa</b>
Closing Date:	<b>5 February 2023</b>

## Position description

DEBRA is governed by a Board of Trustees, of whom half are closely connected to a person living with EB. The charity is now looking for two Trustees who can use their experience and knowledge to help shape strategy and delivery of the charity's objectives.

Your role will be to ensure that DEBRA fulfils its duty to its beneficiaries and delivers on its core objectives and values. As a member of the Board of Trustees you are jointly responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of the charity, its financial health, the probity of its activities and developing the organisation's aims, objectives and goals in accordance with the governing document, and legal and regulatory guidelines.

## **Time commitment**

Board and Committee meetings both happen on a quarterly basis. In addition to Board meetings, it is encouraged that Trustees will sit on an internal Committee. Meetings last approximately three hours, with occasional ad hoc meetings where required, and papers are distributed several days in advance to enable Trustees to prepare.

Meetings are generally held virtually, although at least one meeting a year will be held in person in a location which is central to the Trustees. Outside of the formal governance responsibilities there will be invitations to attend events, equating to some additional time commitment each year.

Trustees are appointed for an initial term of three years, which may be renewed once. This role is not remunerated. All reasonable expenses will be paid in line with the Charity expenses policy.

Relevant training will be provided.

## **Diversity**

DEBRA is aware that studies have shown that women, people of colour and those living with a disability are less likely to apply for roles unless they believe they meet every single one of the qualifications as described in a job role. The charity is committed to building a diverse and inclusive environment and therefore welcomes applications from everyone regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, faith or disability. The charity aspires to maintain a representative and diverse Board including women, individuals from ethnic and LGBTQIA communities and those living with disability. Applications from these communities would be welcomed, even in the case that you do not believe you meet every one of the requirements of the role described.

## Selection criteria

We're looking to recruit people from a wide range of experiences and backgrounds. If you believe you have skills developed from your professional life combined with the proactivity, commitment and drive to make a difference and bring a new perspective we would love to hear from you.

We are particularly looking for candidates with the following experience:

### **Safeguarding**

The Trustee will ensure that there are appropriate policies and procedures in place within the charity and champion best practice in all aspects of safeguarding

The successful candidate may come from a range of sectors and organisations, but they should have recent experience of safeguarding and will understand the risks and mitigation required for a charity that engages with adults and risk and young people.

### **Human resources**

The Trustee will review policies, plans and practices relating to HR, culture and leadership of the organisation. They will support and challenge the Board and the Senior Management Team as they seek to maintain and further build a robust HR function and develop a generative culture.

## How to apply

If you think you can help steer DEBRA as we journey forward, please email [membership@debra.org.uk](mailto:membership@debra.org.uk) to express your interest, and answer the following questions:

1. Why do you want to become a DEBRA Trustee?
2. What skills do you believe you can bring to the Board?
3. What experience will you bring to the Board?

You can send this submission as a written statement, a video or aural submission to [membership@debra.org.uk](mailto:membership@debra.org.uk).

DEBRA is committed to being an inclusive charity, and we welcome and encourage applications from all sections of the community.

The successful candidate will need to undertake a DBS check and sign a Non-Disclosure agreement.

Appointment details

Term: Three years

Closing date: 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2022

## About the organisation

### About DEBRA

DEBRA was established in 1978 by Phyllis Hilton, whose daughter had Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB) as the world's first patient support group for people living with EB.

Today DEBRA UK is a national charity supporting 3,000+ members, which includes people living with EB, relatives, partners, or carers of someone with EB, healthcare professionals and researchers who work with EB.

DEBRA UK employs over 350 staff and 1,000 volunteers who support us across a network of 100+ charity shops located throughout England and Scotland.

### **What we do**

DEBRA UK exists to provide care and support to improve quality of life for people living with EB, and to fund pioneering research to find effective treatments and, ultimately cure(s) for EB.

Our vision is for a world where no one suffers with EB, and we will not stop until this vision becomes a reality.

From discovering the first EB genes to funding the first clinical trial in gene therapy, we have played a pivotal role in EB research globally and have been responsible for making significant progress in advancing diagnosis, treatment, and daily management of EB.

We are committed to making sure that the estimated 5,000+ people living with EB in the UK and their families and carers get the vital and wide-ranging support they need.

The income we generate from our fundraising activity and our network of charity shops, enables us to provide care and support to improve the quality of life for people living with EB today, and fund pioneering research to find treatments and cure(s).

### **Website**



[www.debra.org.uk](http://www.debra.org.uk)