**Disability Equality Scotland**

**Board of Director Appointments**

**Voluntary Position**

Disability Equality Scotland is seeking to recruit individuals to join our Board of Directors. By joining Disability Equality Scotland’s Board of Directors, you will help to improve accessibility for disabled people in Scotland.

* We are a national organisation working to achieve full access and inclusion for every disabled person in Scotland.
* We want disabled people to live as independently as they can.
* We want disabled people to have the same opportunities and choices as everyone else.
* We want disabled people to live a life of dignity and respect.
* We work on behalf of everyone who has any type of impairment.
* We also work with disability organisations, groups who share our beliefs and the Scottish Government to influence policies.
* We are the umbrella organisation for all disability Access Panels in Scotland, providing them with support and guidance to improve the lives of disabled people at a local level throughout Scotland.
* We are membership led.

To carry out this role, you will require enthusiasm and commitment for the work of Disability Equality Scotland, and will be a team player with a willingness and appetite to get involved with new activities.

You will be given induction and training on all aspects of this role.

All appropriate materials will be supplied by Disability Equality Scotland.

A dedicated person will be available to give you continuous support, advice and guidance. Other team members will be available for help, support and advice.

Our Board are committed to continuous learning and development and working as a team to share knowledge and experience.

**Duties and Responsibilities**

As a member of the Board of Directors you will work closely with other Board members to provide governance and contribute to the overall strategy of the organisation, ensuring that it meets its objectives and primary aims as a charitable organisation. You will also be required to:

* Ensure effectiveness of, and accountability for Disability Equality Scotland’s operations, aligned with our primary aims and criteria set by our funders.
* Communicate effectively with Board members, the Chief Executive Officer and staff, as well as other stakeholders, including Access Panels and their members.
* Championing the primary aims of the organisation and ensuring that our work is always focused on those it works to serve.

**Essential Criteria**

You will be a credible spokesperson for the charity with the ability to communicate effectively across all levels and backgrounds.

You will be balanced in your approach to governance, able to make good decisions and communicate your thoughts and ideas to others effectively.

You will understand the duties and responsibilities of a board member and work to these accordingly.

You will understand The Equality Act 2010 and promote this legislation, embedding it in your thoughts and actions.

Applicants should also demonstrate experience in **one or more** of the areas listed below:

1. Knowledge and understanding of living with a disability, for example:
* as a disabled person
* personal or family experience
* as a carer
* experience in a work or voluntary capacity
1. Access Audits
2. Financial, especially charity accounting
3. Equal Opportunities
4. Fundraising (all source)
5. Marketing
6. Media / PR
7. Policy Implementation
8. Political and parliamentary
9. Housing / Property

**Desirable Criteria**

1. History of Sector: non-governmental organisation/wider
2. Legal (charity, company, employment, Health and Safety)
3. Consultancy
4. Research

**Time Commitment**

Board meetings are held quarterly, and you will be required to give a maximum of 8 days per annum.

Four days will be used for Board Meetings and 1 day for our Annual General Meeting. You will also be required to attend our Access Panel Conference, held in the Spring of each year. Further days may be necessary to allow for any interim meetings or training, which may arise over the course of the year, totalling a maximum of 8 days.

Board Meetings are held quarterly and currently scheduled as follows from 10am-12pm in Alloa, this will be subject to change:

Wednesday 18 April 2018

Wednesday 18 July 2018

Wednesday 10 October 2018

Wednesday 23 January 2019

Wednesday 24 April 2019

Wednesday 24 July 2019

Wednesday 9 October 2019

**Location of Meetings**

Board meetings are usually held in Stirling or Alloa. Occasionally it may be necessary to travel to other locations.

**Communication**

You will be required to be contactable by email and/or by phone to consult on decisions or documents which require comment between board meetings. It is vital that board members are able and willing to contribute where required, and that this is understood as a necessary part of the appointment.

**Expenses**

All reasonable expenses will be reimbursed in line with our expense policy. If necessary, accommodation will be organised by our office and travel expenses will be processed via our internal claim form at each board meeting.

**Additional information**

The successful applicant will be subject to a check under the Protecting Vulnerable Groups scheme. These costs will be met by Disability Equality Scotland.

For an application pack please contact Morven Brooks 01259 272064 or Email admin@disabilityequality.scot