



Board of Trustees Information Pack



**Ocean Youth
Trust Scotland**

Youth work on the waves
Inspiring young people

WHAT WE DO

Ocean Youth Trust (OYT) Scotland is a leading youth work charity and voluntary organisation. Since 1999, we have inspired over 15,000 young people aged 12-25 through the challenge of youth work on the waves.

Our voyages provide a uniquely powerful and effective environment for the personal development of young people from all backgrounds.

We believe that all young people, regardless of circumstance or ability, should have the opportunity to realise their true potential in order for them to live healthy, fulfilling lives, whilst making a positive contribution to their community and to society in general.





OUR IMPACT

Our voyages give young people the opportunity to build their confidence and resilience, develop key life skills, and achieve accredited qualifications across a range of subjects.

87% of young people report feeling more **confident** post-voyage

98% of young people report improved **wellbeing** after their voyage

81% gain accredited **qualifications** during their voyage

*Cashback for Communities Phase 5, Year 3 Annual Report



THE ORGANISATION

We deliver our voyages on our two sailing yachts, Alba Venturer and Alba Explorer.

Our offices are in Greenock, and our vessels are based in James Watt Dock Marina or Oban Marina, depending on the time of year.

We have 15 full time staff, including both office-based and sea staff.

The Trust has a diverse volunteer base of more than 250 individuals from a range of backgrounds, circumstances and experiences. Our Board of Trustees currently has 7 members, although we can hold up to 12.



OUR BOARD

Our work relies heavily on the dedication and experience of our volunteer base, including our Board of Trustees. The role of our Board of Trustees is to...

- Set and maintain the vision, mission and values of the Trust.
- Support the development of the strategic direction of the Trust and ensure its delivery.
- Ensure the Trust has the structure and resources for its work, including appropriate staffing levels.
- Ensure systems are in place for reporting and monitoring, with particular emphasis on Health and Safety, Training and Safeguarding.
- Manage risk and ensure compliance and accountability with the articles of association, external regulators and the law.
- Make certain that the financial affairs of the Trust are conducted properly and are accurately reported.

OUR TRUSTEES

Each Trustee who sits on our board is expected to...

- **Attend Board meetings.** We have around four meetings a year, most of which are online, plus our AGM.
- **Attend other events throughout the year,** including our Training Seminar, and to represent the Trust at events as required.
- **Contribute positively at meetings,** reading papers and reports, bringing ideas and questions.
- **Carry out projects and pieces of work on behalf of the Trust,** as required and as your personal time allows.
- **Undertake training and personal development** to support your role within the Board, as required.
- **Act in the interest of the Trust** at all times.

The position is not remunerated, although as a volunteer you can claim expenses.



OUR VACANCIES

As we approach our 25th anniversary, we are looking to recruit up to four new Trustees who will bring fresh ideas, enthusiasm and a willingness to help change the lives of young people from across Scotland.

To keep us sailing in the right direction, we are looking for applicants with experience in the following fields:

- **Law**, who can support the development of our constitution and articles of association, and who can also advise us on the upcoming revised Charities Act
- **Fundraising & Corporate PR**, to develop the role of the Board in our fundraising and PR work
- **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**, to ensure our work is relevant and accessible to all current, future and potential beneficiaries, particularly those from marginalised groups and those with protected characteristics

However, we recognise the value of different backgrounds and experiences, and applicants with other skill sets are welcome to apply.

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

We are continually working to improve the diversity of our Board. We welcome all applications but are particularly interested in applicants from communities with protected characteristics, e.g. age, disability, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and personal status.

Applicants do not need to show previous experience in a Trustee position. Instead, we are interested to see the unique skills and experience that you can bring to the Board, and how you can support youth work on the waves.

To learn more about Ocean Youth Trust Scotland and our Five Year Strategy, head to <https://oytscotland.org.uk/>

To apply, or to find out more about the roles, please e-mail our Chairperson , Lucie Aitkenhead, at Lucie.Aitkenhead@oytscotland.org.uk.

Closing Date: 29th March 2024



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