



Make a difference to older people's lives in Plymouth

Become a Trustee

Why become a Trustee?

Becoming a Trustee at Age UK Plymouth gives you the opportunity to make a real difference to the lives of older people in our city. You will use your skills, experience and judgement to help shape the charity's direction and strengthen its impact.

Whether or not you have been a Trustee before, you will join a friendly and committed Board, working together to provide strong governance and strategic oversight.

Age UK Plymouth has supported older people since 1942, when a young Elspeth Sitters began volunteering to help older residents. The same spirit of care and community continues today.

We are now refreshing and expanding our Board, alongside the appointment of a new Chair, making this an exciting time to join and help shape the future of the charity.

What does it mean to be a Trustee of a local charity?



**Making a
difference locally**



**Using your skills
for good**



**Being a trusted
voice**



**Supporting long
term impact**

As a Trustee, you share responsibility for the charity's long-term direction and success. Working as part of the Board, Trustees provide strategic leadership, ensure good governance and oversee areas such as finance, policy and key decision making.

Trustees are not involved in day-to-day operations. Instead, they support and appropriately challenge the executive team to ensure the charity is well run, financially sound and focused on its charitable purpose.

Trustee roles are non-political and are carried out in the best interest of the charity and the people we support.

As a Trustee, you also have the opportunity to see the direct results of your contribution and to be actively involved in a charity that is making a real difference locally. You gain insight in how services are developed and delivered, and the satisfaction of knowing your time, skills and judgement are helping to improve lives within the community.

What we are looking for

We are seeking people who can bring insight, perspective and practical skills to our Board and help strengthen the work we do.

In particular, we would welcome individuals with experience in one or more of the following areas:



**Financial
management/accounting**



**Fundraising and income
generation**



**Health and social care
provision**
with a particular interest in
dementia



**Change, transformation
and strategy**



Legal



Governance

We are keen to support people who may not have formal Board experience but are motivated to develop their governance skills. For these individuals, we offer an Associate Trustee role, which provides a supportive pathway into full trusteeship.

The time commitment is approximately 4 to 6 hours per month, giving flexibility for those with other commitments. There is also an option to attend some meetings remotely if that is more convenient.

How we support you

New Trustees at Age UK Plymouth receive a thorough induction that introduces them to the charity, our mission and its structure. They are also supported in ongoing training and support from other board members and staff, helping new Trustees settle into their role with confidence.

What will my role **involve?**

- Ensuring the charity remains focused on its charitable purposes and meets Age UK service standards
- Overseeing the charity's financial health, stability and long term sustainability
- Providing support to, and appropriate challenge of, the Chief Executive Officer and senior team
- Contributing skills, ideas and expertise to support the organisation's development
- Upholding and protecting the charity's reputation and acting as a positive ambassador
- Preparing for and participating actively in Board meetings, including reading papers in advance
- Undertaking relevant induction, training and ongoing development

We also hope our Trustees will help raise awareness of Age UK Plymouth by supporting events, sharing news with your networks and keeping up to date with and promoting our social media, Prime Magazine and regular newsletters.

How much time will I need to give to do a good job?

Board meetings take place quarterly, usually between 4pm and 6pm at our Mount Gould centre, with parking available. Trustees are encouraged to join one of our two sub-committees

We also hold a small number of half day or full day Board events each year. Papers and documents are shared in advance and can be accessed from home.

Occasionally, Trustees may meet informally, either in person or online, depending on the need.

At the start, you should expect to spend up to the equivalent of two days per month getting up to speed. Once established, the time commitment is typically around one day per month, with flexibility if you are able to offer more.

Register your interest

If you would like to find out more about the charity, Board and the role of Trustee or you would welcome an informal discussion, please email personnel@ageukplymouth.org.uk and one of the team will be in touch.