



Chair of the Trustee Board - Role Description

About PCA:

Pancreatic Cancer Action (PCA) was founded in 2010 by Ali Stunt, a rare survivor of the disease. We are a small, creative and passionate team committed to improving early diagnosis and saving lives. In August 2020, Pancreatic Cancer Action merged with Pancreatic Cancer Scotland making our team stronger than ever.

Pancreatic cancer has only a 7% survival rate and this figure has not improved significantly for over 50 years. Despite it being the 5th biggest cancer killer in the UK, pancreatic cancer receives only 3% of overall research funding.

With a strong focus on early diagnosis, it is PCA's aim to improve survival rates through raising awareness, medical education, improved patient information and by funding research specifically into the early diagnosis of pancreatic cancer. Simply put, we want more people diagnosed in time for surgery, currently the only potential for a cure.

Our Mission:

Our mission is to improve the survival rates of pancreatic cancer by ensuring more people are diagnosed early and in time for surgery – currently the only potential cure – and improve the quality of life of patients. Our vision is a day when everyone is diagnosed early and survives pancreatic cancer.

Why early diagnosis?

Early diagnosis of pancreatic cancer is important because if it can be diagnosed and treated at an early stage, before the tumour has spread or grown too large, then survival rates for patients are significantly better. Every day 29 people die from pancreatic cancer.

We raise public awareness of pancreatic cancer and its symptoms

Public awareness of pancreatic cancer is very low with half of all patients having not heard of the disease before their own diagnosis. This is why it is one of our key aims to improve this so more people recognise the symptoms they or a loved one may have and go to the doctors sooner.

We provide education and awareness training for healthcare professionals

Healthcare professionals have a vital part to play in early diagnosis of pancreatic cancer which is why we provide free resources for GPs, pharmacists and pancreatic cancer specialists.

We campaign and lobby the government and key stake holders for change

It is important that key stakeholders and policy makers in Government are made aware of the issues surrounding pancreatic cancer. From inequalities in funding, care and survival to access to treatments and the lack of public awareness of the disease, we highlight this wherever we can.

Saving lives through early diagnosis

☎ 0303 040 1770 ✉ enquiries@panact.org 🏠 panact.org

Pancreatic Cancer Action, BASE Bordon Innovation Centre, Broxhead House, Louisburg Barracks, 60 Barbados Road, Bordon, GU35 0FX. **Scottish office:** Suite 3.10 Covault, Fullarton Road, Cambuslang, Glasgow, G32 8YL.



Pancreatic Cancer Action, a registered Charity in England & Wales (1137689) and Scotland (SC049777). A Company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales No. 07272699.



We fund research into the early diagnosis of pancreatic cancer

The amount of research funding for pancreatic cancer is minuscule compared to other common cancers (currently 3%) and the proportion spent on early diagnosis is small. We fund research specifically to improve early diagnosis and nothing else because we know that early diagnosis saves lives.

We provide free patient information for those diagnosed and living with pancreatic cancer

We want patients and carers to have credible, evidence-based information on the disease and its treatments. That is why we provide free, comprehensive information in a variety of formats.

Role Summary:

As Chair, you will be working with a dedicated Board of Trustees whose diversity of skills, personal qualities and experience make it a powerful team that works collaboratively and with energy.

The Board meets once a month to undertake its crucial governance role of guiding, supporting, and challenging the CEO and Leadership Team to ensure that Pancreatic Cancer Action continues to achieve its charitable objectives, remains in a strong financial position, and puts patients and families at the heart of decision-making.

You will lead the Board in steering Pancreatic Cancer Action's strategic direction and ensuring its continued growth and success. You will ensure that the Board of Trustees collectively fulfils its duties and responsibilities for effective governance and accountability to stakeholders and regulators.

You will develop a professional and collaborative relationship with the CEO, meeting regularly between board meetings. The Chair is also an ambassador for Pancreatic Cancer Action and where possible will join the Leadership Team in enhancing its profile locally and nationally as appropriate.

This role would suit someone with a passion for campaigning to improve early diagnosis of pancreatic cancer and making a positive difference to the lives of patients and families living with the realities of a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer.

This role can be done by someone with a demanding day job or portfolio career.

On average, we estimate it will require around half a day a month to cover formal and informal meetings, events and reading time. You will also need to be available for the CEO and the Leadership Team by phone and, email outside of this.

The initial term for the postholder will be 3 years.

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Person Specification:

As a respected strategic and people leader in your field, you should have:

- Significant experience of chairing Boards, preferably with experience of a Board of voluntary trustees.
- A broad understanding and knowledge of charity governance and an effective appreciation of the financial, legal and operational responsibilities of a Board of Trustees.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- A strong commitment to equality, diversity, and inclusion, with an understanding of the challenges faced by cancer patients, survivors and bereaved families.
- A collaborative and inclusive leadership style that empowers and motivates staff and trustees to achieve service improvement.
- Ensuring the Charity has financial stability.
- A commitment to the Nolan Principles of public life (selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership).

Application Process:

Please send your CV (including contact details for two referees), together with an accompanying document of no more than two sides A4 explaining how you meet the Role Description and Person Specification to enquires@panact.org

Please send your documents either as Word documents or as PDFs.

We encourage applications from all sections of our diverse community, irrespective of age, disability, sex, gender identity, pregnancy, maternity, race (which includes colour, nationality and ethnic or national origins), sexual orientation, religion or belief, or because someone is married or in a civil partnership.

For an informal chat about the role or the organisation, please contact Joe Kirwin our Chief Executive, via email at joe@panact.org to arrange an appointment.

Closing date: Friday 8th December 2023

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