

# Getting on Board



**Encourages**  
new leaders  
for our communities.

**Promotes**  
board-level volunteering  
to individuals and employers.

**Helps**  
to strengthen the governance of our  
voluntary organisations, schools and  
public bodies.

**Enables**  
people with skills to build a  
volunteering career alongside  
professional careers.

**Develops**  
existing and new skills as part  
of life-long learning.

*“Board membership is a great way for people to make a difference in their communities and Getting on Board is seeking to address the fundamental need in civil society for high quality boards, by encouraging employees to volunteer as trustees.”*

**Stuart Etherington,**  
Chief Executive,  
National Council for Voluntary Organisations

*Board level  
volunteering career  
specialists*

**Contact us  
to find out more**

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*“Giving something back, honing leadership skills, meeting new people, adding meaning to one’s life are all amongst the motivations people own up to when asked why they volunteer. Getting on Board helps them do all those things really well – but, above all, it helps them make a difference”*

**Baroness Julia Neuberger DBE,**  
Chair of the Commission on  
the Future of Volunteering,  
and the  
Government’s Champion of Volunteering

*“The Getting on Board seminar provided a real insight into how to get involved as a charity trustee or school governor and the level of commitment required for this. We see this as a great opportunity for our talent to develop a breadth of experience and skills that are also highly relevant within the workplace.”*

**Katherine Thomas,**  
Group Talent Director, BT

## Working with individuals

### *Why become a trustee or school governor?*

There are lots of reasons why people want to become a trustee or school governor; here are some of them:

- Opportunity to acquire and further develop a range of skills, at board level
- Improvement of CV and raising self-confidence
- Improvement of work-life balance and reduction of stress
- Personal satisfaction and enjoyment
- For people made redundant or returning to work after a career break, filling a CV gap and maintenance of skills and confidence
- For people retired or those nearing retirement, an opportunity to share experience and skills

### *Getting on Board can help you make this happen.*

*“I am thoroughly enjoying the experience and very grateful to Getting on Board for matching me up with such an interesting and challenging role so quickly. I really feel like I'm putting something back into the local community.”*

**David Mullholland**  
Citizens Advice Bureau branch trustee,  
BT talent pool member

## Working with employers

- Promote board-level volunteering as part of learning and development programmes
- Target senior managers and talent pools

### *How do we do this?*

- Integrate this programme with Corporate Responsibility targets.
- Run stand alone seminars which can also be part of learning and development programmes
- Help individuals' search for appropriate board-level volunteering opportunities

*“Getting on Board is an excellent initiative, and the Institute of Directors fully supports it objectives. Board-level volunteering is a cost-effective way of developing leadership skills, especially of middle and senior managers, the directors of the future. Increasingly, prospective employees want to work for employers that put something back into their communities, and companies that encourage board-level volunteering are more likely to become “employers of choice”. It is also a simple way for companies to meet their CR goals”.*

**Miles Templeman, Director-General,**  
**Institute of Directors**

## Working with networks and professional bodies.

Professional bodies and networks can play a key role in alerting their members to the wide-ranging benefits of trustee and school governor volunteering. Getting on Board runs seminars for members and works with organisations to communicate the benefits of developing volunteering careers alongside their professional careers.

*“Financial skills are in great demand on boards of charities. I am confident that Getting on Board will be of real assistance to ICAEW members in finding them suitable trustee opportunities to use their expertise”*

**Michael Izza, Chief Executive,**  
**Institute of Chartered Accountants**  
**of England and Wales**

## Working with voluntary sector organisations

Getting on Board encourages organisations to forward details of their trustee vacancies. Candidates are then alerted to opportunities which match their skills and interests. It is then up to the candidates to contact the organisation and make an application to become a trustee.