

**Social Work Scotland (SWS) Ltd**  
**Company number: SC317274**

## **Call for Nominations to Board of Directors**

In anticipation of the Social Work Scotland Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 24 November 2020, **we are now inviting nominations and expressions of interest for places on the Board of Directors.** We are keen to hear from all eligible members interested taking up one of these roles, now or in the future, and for suggestions / nominations of individuals you would like to see considered for the roles. **Interest should be noted at [admin@socialworkscotland.org](mailto:admin@socialworkscotland.org) by Friday 6 November 2020.**

Directors are the key governance and leadership roles for Social Work Scotland, overseeing our strategy, setting our positions in national debates, and ensuring activities are conducted properly and efficiently.<sup>1</sup>

The Social Work Scotland Board consists of:

- a) the Convener
- b) the Vice Convener
- c) the Immediate Past Convener
- d) the Treasurer
- e) the Chair(s) of the Children and Families Standing Committee
- f) the Chair(s) of the Adult Social Care Standing Committee
- g) the Chair(s) of the Justice Standing Committee
- h) the Chair(s) of the Workforce and Resources Standing Committee
- i) four Non-Executive Directors

Terms on the Board are for three years, with an option for a second term.<sup>2</sup> Confirmed candidates are put to a vote of eligible members at a general meeting. There is no financial remuneration associated with the roles.

### **Director roles falling vacant in 2020-21**

Members are strongly encouraged to indicate their interest (or nominate another member) for any of the Director roles, whether they are falling vacant next year or not. Social Work

<sup>1</sup> Full details on the responsibilities of the Board can be found in Social Work Scotland's [Memorandum and Articles of Association](#) (November 2019); in particular Part 4: Directors. Further detail on the legal responsibilities of a company director can be found on the [Companies House website](#).

<sup>2</sup> The role of Convener is a three year term consisting of one year as Vice-Convener, one year as Convener and one as Immediate Past Convener. Full details on the Convener roles can be found on pages 12 and 13 of the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Scotland benefits from having strength in depth, able to draw on a range of knowledge, experience and opinion, and knowing of member's interest in leadership roles within the association helps with that. There is also a good degree of flexibility around some Board roles, allowing us to have Co-Chairs of Standing Committees, for example. And by expressing interest now we can plan and support your transition into the role better, such as with Vice-Chair opportunities. If you have any interest please do get in touch with the Social Work Scotland team at [admin@socialworkscotland.org](mailto:admin@socialworkscotland.org), who'll be able to answer any of your questions.

The specific Director roles opening up in 2020-21 are:

### **Vice-Convenor of Social Work Scotland**

The Convenor (formally known as the "President") of Social Work Scotland is Chair of the Board, and the organisation's primary representative in national discussions. The role is a unique opportunity to promote the values and contribution of social work, and to advocate for policies and practice which will improve the lives of people across Scotland. Convenors play a significant part in shaping the direction of the social work profession, ensuring the voice of members is clearly articulated and understood.

A person holds the role of Convenor for just a year, but serves an overall term on the Board of three years, as Vice-Convenor, Convenor and then Past Convenor. Those interested in being Convenor are confirmed by members as the Vice-Convenor, joining the Board with a specific responsibility of overseeing preparations for the Social Work Scotland Conference & Exhibition. At the next relevant AGM the Vice-Convenor becomes Convenor.

Candidates for the Vice-Convenor / Convenor role must be an Executive Member of Social Work Scotland: i.e. a qualified and registered social worker, employed in a social work management role, by an organisation which is subject to statutory duties to deliver social work services.<sup>3</sup>

If this is a role you'd be interested in finding out more about, please don't hesitate to contact Kathryn Lindsay (Convenor) [LindsayK@angus.gov.uk](mailto:LindsayK@angus.gov.uk) or Alison Gordon (Vice-Convenor) ([Gordonal@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:Gordonal@northlan.gov.uk)). If you would like to nominate someone for this role, please write to [admin@socialworkscotland.org](mailto:admin@socialworkscotland.org) directly.

### **Non-Executive Directors**

The four Non-Executive Director positions are a relatively recent addition to the Board, designed to broaden out its membership and improve its governance and leadership

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<sup>3</sup> If you are interested in the Convenor role and meet this eligibility criteria, but are not currently an Executive Member (or are unsure of your membership status) don't worry, just get in touch with the Social Work Scotland team at [admin@socialworkscotland.org](mailto:admin@socialworkscotland.org). We will be able to resolve any issues quickly, including amending your membership category, if necessary.

capacity by drawing in a wider range of members and experience. The Non-Executive Directors are distinct from other members of the Board in that they are not 'Company Directors' (i.e. holding legal responsibilities in respect of the Association), nor do they hold specific organisational roles (e.g. Treasurer, Convenor). However, they are essential to ensuring we make informed decisions, reflecting the diversity of our membership and complexity the context in which we operate.

A person is appointed as a Non-Executive Director at a general meeting, through a vote of members. They will hold the position for three years, with an option of serving a second three-year term should they wish.

Candidates for these Non-Executive Director roles can come from any category of individual member: Associate, Ordinary and Executive.

If this is a role you'd be interested in finding out more about, or if you would like to nominate someone, please write to [admin@socialworkscotland.org](mailto:admin@socialworkscotland.org) and one of the Social Work Scotland team will get back in touch.

**Issued on behalf of Social Work Scotland Ltd's directors**

**Date: 22 October 2020**

**Registered office:**

Social Work Scotland Ltd  
Mansfield Traquair Centre  
15 Mansfield Place  
Edinburgh  
EH3 6BB