

Chair of Trustees

Who are we

Baby Basics is an innovative and unique charity that, since 2009, has helped health & social care professionals to give urgent and critical provision to some of the most vulnerable families in our communities. The recent years have seen a huge increase in demand for our services and a similar increase in our profile. Baby Basics UK has doubled the size over the last 3 years and is now the largest network of baby banks in the UK.

In 2020 The Duchess of Cambridge visited Baby Basics UK & Baby Basics Sheffield, promoting the charity as one of the key resources to improve the early years life quality she supports. The Royal connection continues. The charity aims to readily responded to urgent needs and has done so recently for Afghan and Ukrainian refugees.

In 2021 our network of 56 centres supported over 32,000 children and their families across the UK and is set to support over 40,000 in 2022. Included in this is our support, from our National Warehouse, to Afghan and Ukrainian families being resettled in the UK. To date we have supported 3376 Afghan and 936 Ukrainian children & their families.

We continue to develop our network, opening new centres in localities of need across the UK. By the end of 2022 we anticipate our network having grown to more than 65 centres. Each centre runs under a franchise model, working to our strict operations manual to ensure consistent quality of provision.

The role

We are seeking to appoint an experienced Chair to take over from our outgoing chair. The role is an unpaid, volunteer role although reasonable and agreed expenses will be paid.

Required skills

Applicants for the role will be required to demonstrate the following:

- Passion for, and commitment to, the values of Baby Basics
- A vision for developing the role of Baby Basics and its strategic direction
- Experience of service on a charity board in the role you're applying for
- A full understanding of charity governance and a willingness to hold the board to account
- Available time to dedicate to the role
- Experience of operating at a strategic level within a similar sized organisation
- Strong leadership skills - ability to motivate others and encourage participation
- A willingness to take on the legal responsibilities of the role and be eligible to do so

We welcome and encourage applications from people of all backgrounds. We do not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, colour, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, age, or other category protected by law.



Time commitment

The role of Chair requires a significant time commitment.

As a minimum, we expect all trustees to be able to commit to preparation for, and attendance at all board meetings. We hold quarterly board meetings which last up to 2 hours each. These are held at times to suit trustees and may be during the working day or evening. Our meetings are a mixture of in-person and remote. There is no requirement for trustees to be Sheffield-based or to attend all meetings in person. However, it is expected that all trustees would be available for in-person meetings as required.

As Chair, we require further commitment as necessary such as:

- Providing supervision of and support to the CEO
- Leading, supporting and developing the rest of the board
- Promoting good governance among the charity
- Acting as a figurehead for the charity as required

How to apply

Please submit your CV and a covering letter stating your relevant experience to

kit.barker@baby-basics.org.uk

The closing date for applications is 5pm, Friday 24th June 2022. Shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interview during the week commencing 27th June 2022. Interviews will be in person or remote as appropriate.

