

Candidate Brief

External Expert Board Members for the Togetherness Board

LFB
LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

Overview

London is one of the most diverse cities in the world and we believe our diversity is one of our greatest strengths. London's nine million residents speak over 300 different languages and come from a wide variety of cultures and backgrounds. A third of people who choose to make London their home were born in different countries and we welcome 17 million visitors every year. To love London is to embrace difference.

At London Fire Brigade (LFB) we are driven by a strong sense of purpose: we are trusted to serve and protect London. We believe that to carry out such an important role, in such a diverse city means we must do it together with Londoners embracing difference – that is what our Togetherness Strategy outlines.

As part of our plans, we have established a Togetherness Board, chaired by our Commissioner, Andy Roe. The Board exists to lead our work on equality, diversity and inclusion within the organisation and with the communities we serve across London. At their first meeting, it was agreed to seek applications for three external expert members to join the Board and expand its capability, to help us deliver our vision to be *a dynamic, forward-looking organisation of fully engaged people at the centre of the communities we serve, adapting to the changing needs of London*.

What we are looking for

The Board are specifically interested in applications from Black, Asian and minority ethnic people, members of different faith communities, people with physical disabilities and from women. We also invite applications from people with lived experience of London.

We are looking to appoint three people who are able to:

- act as a critical friend to constructively challenge the Brigade in the field of equality, diversity, inclusion and community engagement;
- enhance the organisation's work in the field of equality, diversity, inclusion and community engagement;
- utilise their expertise, insight and personal lived experience to improve the Brigade's work in this area;
- work collectively with Board members and senior officers to enhance the Brigade's strategic leadership capability in this area.

The Board will meet four times a year and Board members are expected to attend meetings, training sessions and other events internally. Board members may be asked to join or lead committees, in line with their areas of expertise.

Person specification

- A commitment to purpose and vision of the Brigade;
- Expertise, insight and lived experience of issues in the field of equality, diversity, inclusion and community engagement;
- The ability to think strategically;
- Sound, independent judgement;
- An ability to think creatively;
- A willingness to speak their mind;
- An understanding of the legal, political and regulatory context within which the Brigade operates;
- An ability to work effectively as a member of the Board, alongside internal members and other external members;
- An understanding of complex, public sector organisations and how they work;
- A willingness to devote the necessary time and effort to attend Board meetings and other meetings or events as required;
- A commitment to Nolan's seven principles of public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.

Application Information

We invite applicants to submit their CV and covering letter outlining how they meet the requirements of this voluntary position. Covering letters should be not more than two sides of A4 and respond to the key points above.

We specifically invite applications from Black and Asian people, members of different faith communities, people with physical disabilities and from women. We also invite applications from people with lived experience of London.

Late or partially-submitted applications will not be accepted. Please send all applications to together@london-fire.gov.uk by 17:00 on Wednesday 30 September. If you have any questions or you would like to access this document in a different format, please let the team know via this email address.

This is a voluntary role. Reasonable expenses will be reimbursed.

The term of office for a Board Member is Friday 13 November to 30 September 2022.

Equality Monitoring

All applicants will be invited to complete an equality monitoring form.

Timeline for Applicants

Next meeting of the Board	Friday 13 November, 10:00 – 12:00
Interviews	Week Commencing 26 October
Shortlisting	Week Commencing 12 October
Longlisting	Week Commencing 5 October
Initial Sift	2 October
Deadline for applications	Wednesday 30 September