

Pancreatic Cancer UK

Chair of Trustees



Welcome to applicants

We sincerely hope your life hasn't been impacted by pancreatic cancer, but sadly if it has, you will share our sense of injustice and determination to improve the outlook for those who receive the diagnosis.

It defies belief that survival rates have barely improved over the last 50 years – shockingly half of people diagnosed die within three months. Yet, over the same 50 years, across society we have seen the impossible become possible: commercial space travel, driver-less cars, robotic surgery, and in the last two years the world developed and took to market vaccines to tackle a global pandemic.

But, our time is coming. Pancreatic Cancer UK, with its network of global charities and research institutions are confident that over the next few years we will see the major breakthroughs in the early diagnosis and treatment of pancreatic cancer. Active research and development, part funded by Pancreatic Cancer UK, looking at early diagnosis through blood tests would dramatically improve survival and save the lives of thousands of people each year. The seemingly impossible is becoming possible for us too.

We are now looking for a Chair of the charity to lead us through the next four years – a term where the hard work of so many people over so many years, finally pays off.

We have funded pioneering research into early diagnosis and new treatments for pancreatic cancer, and launched high-profile campaigns, like the attention-grabbing [Lost Voices](#), which garnered unprecedented support and brought in new audiences. In the past five years, we have grown our annual income from £4.2m to £9.3m, with a five-year strategy launching in 2023 which aims to take us to an annual income of £15m. We need more people to join our cause to help provide vital funding, raise awareness and campaign for the change that will truly transform the future for people affected by this deadly disease.

The new Chair will support our Chief Executive Diana Jupp, the leadership team, and trustee board through this transformational period. They will provide the leadership experience to help the charity effectively scale during this period of growth, with a laser focus on committing the charity's resources to activity that advances our cause. The Chair will use their voice and influence to excite and garner the support from multiple audiences across the UK.

We are clear about the experience and attributes a successful Chair will need. In assessing these, we will look to complement the backgrounds and strengths of existing members of the team. A qualified candidate could come from many different backgrounds and it is this diversity that excites us about our search.

The description of the role and person specification is attached. We hope this role and the challenge excites you. If you share our passion and commitment to the cause and want to lead us through this period of real breakthrough, then we would love to hear from you.

Eleanor Phillips
Trustee, Chair of Search Committee, Pancreatic Cancer UK

About pancreatic cancer

We're facing a pancreatic cancer emergency. Too little has improved and too many people are dying - more than half of people diagnosed with pancreatic cancer die within 3 months.

Survival rates have improved enormously for most cancers, but sadly, for pancreatic cancer, this is not the case. Symptoms are often vague and not recognised. People are experiencing unnecessary delays to get diagnosed, and waiting too long to be referred for treatment. Alongside this, effective new treatments are not being developed. As a result, 9 out of 10 people with pancreatic cancer don't get the treatment they need to give them the best chance to survive.

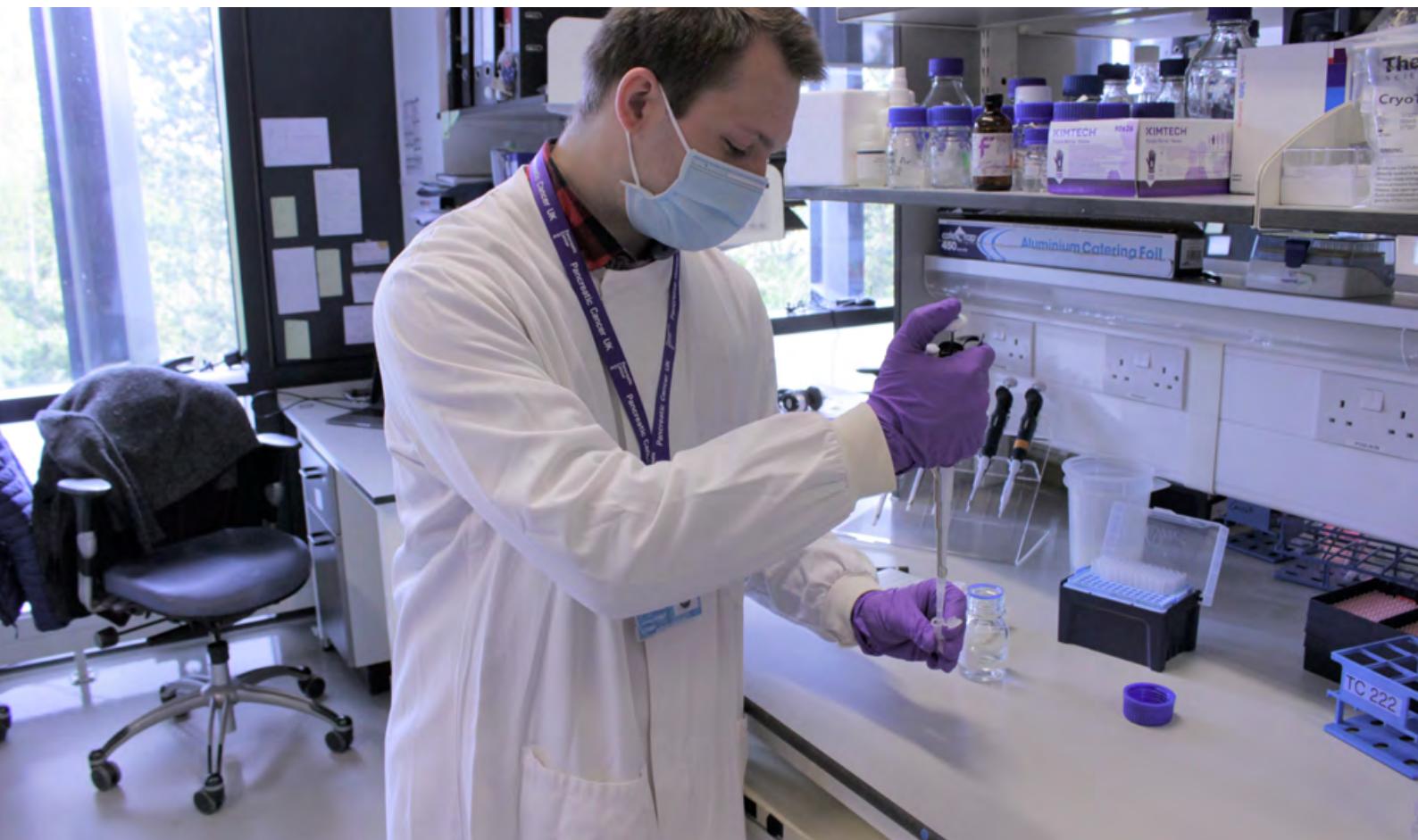
Nearly 10,500 people a year are diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, but it has the lowest survival with around 9,000 people dying every year. By 2026, more people will die from pancreatic cancer than breast cancer.

On a global scale, the UK is trailing behind the rest of the world. Five-year survival is less than 7%, putting the UK in a pitiful 29th position out of 33 countries.

And yet, despite being a common cancer and having the poorest survival rates, only 3% of the annual UK cancer research budget goes into pancreatic cancer. This is unacceptable.

But there is hope.

By working together, our actions today can transform the future for people affected by pancreatic cancer.



About Pancreatic Cancer UK

We're leading the fight against pancreatic cancer. Our vision is that everyone with pancreatic cancer survives to live long and well.

We're here for people affected by pancreatic cancer today, providing specialist nurse-led support and information to help guide and support people every step of the way. And, we're funding pioneering research and campaigning to transform the future for everyone affected by this disease.

Everything we do is guided by our values **compassionate, determined, pioneering**, acting with **integrity**.

This is a crucial time for the charity. We've experienced significant growth over the past five years: our annual income has more than doubled, our incredible community of supporters has multiplied and we've had more impact for people affected by pancreatic cancer than ever before.

With the support of so many people, we've already made great strides in taking on pancreatic cancer, laying the foundations for what transformational impact in the coming years.

- We've invested a total of £10m in pioneering research, and this is already showing promising results, with new diagnostic tests on the horizon, new treatment advancements and two Future Leader Academies bringing world-class early career scientists into pancreatic cancer research.
- Our campaigning has led to the introduction of a national clinical audit in England, which will shine a spotlight on the challenges and issues that need tackling in pancreatic cancer treatment and drive much needed care.
- We're continuing to improve quality of life for the 2,200 people we support each year, through our award-winning Support Line, information and support accessed by nearly 800,000 people each year and highly rated training for healthcare professionals.
- We are currently developing a new five-year strategy, which will launch in 2023, and it will be our boldest and most ambitious strategy yet.

Our long-term goals are clear. By 2030:

- Survival rates will be the best in the world, and at least double today's rates
- Everyone affected by pancreatic cancer will have a better quality of life.

We'll do this by:

- Driving earlier and faster diagnosis
- Accelerating research breakthroughs
- Ensuring best treatment and care everywhere
- Improving quality of life today.

Pancreatic Cancer UK is led by our [Board of Trustees](#), all of whom are volunteers, and our [Senior Leadership Team](#). Everything we do is also informed and guided by the voices of people with lived experience of pancreatic cancer.

For more information about Pancreatic Cancer UK, you can visit our website: pancreaticcancer.org.uk

Job Description

The Chair plays a pivotal role in creating and delivering the Charity's long-term strategy, marking the staging posts along the way. Achievements are all within the context of excellent governance and risk management. The Chair personifies the strength, excitement and determination of the Charity and all its stakeholders, to fundamentally change the outcomes of patients with pancreatic cancer within this term of office.

Role highlights

- Lead the Board in the design, implementation and monitoring of the Charity's strategy and objectives.
- Use personal brand and voice to work in partnership with the Chief Executive to represent the organisation to government and other stakeholders, and act as an advocate and influencer.
- Exercise inclusive and effective leadership of the Board in fulfilling its functions and remit, ensuring that the Board has the culture, processes, structures and relationships for effective governance and that trustees are supported to meet their legal, regulatory and fiduciary duties.
- Maintain an open, inclusive and learning culture on the Board including periodically reviewing governance arrangements, Board, Committee and Trustee (including Chair) effectiveness and how Pancreatic Cancer UK is meeting its vision, objectives and legal responsibilities.
- Build an effective relationship that can provide challenge, support and counsel to the Chief Executive. Conduct ongoing reviews of performance, in addition to the annual review of reward and performance.
- Keep informed and knowledgeable on the major advancements in the world of pancreatic cancer and issues that could positively or negatively impact the Charity's mission.
- Lead the Board in its commitment to and pursuit of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. Recruit and develop a trustee board that reflects this commitment.
- Act as a point of escalation and senior spokesperson for the Charity in the event of reputational matters and, if needed, between the Board and employees or external third parties.
- Play an active role in organised charity events, lending personal influence to fundraising activities.
- Build strong and trusted relationships with the wider pancreatic cancer community, strategic partners and funders.



Person Specification

Knowledge and experience

- Successful track record of strategic and organisational leadership of a business in growth.
- Demonstrable experience as an inspirational and collaborative leader, able to lead a high performing trustee team aligned to the vision, strategy and objectives of the charity.
- Application of governance skills in chairing a Board and adherence to the charity Governance Code principles of good governance, including collective responsibility, discharge of fiduciary duties and the Nolan principles.
- Understanding of the respective roles of the Chair and Chief Executive and experience in establishing effective, symbiotic ways of working.
- Past oversight of revenue generation either within the commercial sector or fundraising within a charity.
- Well networked, able to open doors and very comfortable in using your own voice and brand to add further weight to the charity's campaigning and the overall mission.
- Lived experience and understanding of the impact of pancreatic cancer preferable.

Skills, style and attributes

- A passion and commitment to transforming the future for everyone living with pancreatic cancer. This requires drive, determination, belief, enthusiasm, and a desire to make things happen.
- Personal and professional credibility commanding confidence and fellowship from all stakeholders.
- Empathy as a key characteristic, friendly and humble with a good sense of humour.
- Integrity and honesty.
- Excellent influencing and negotiation skills.
- Ability to empower others with strong emotional intelligence – a reflective listener.
- Highly effective relationship and alliance building abilities, comfortable in an ambassadorial role.



Terms of Appointment

Tenure

The initial term of office for an externally appointed Chair is four years, subject to annual review by the Board. If mutually agreed, the term can be extended for a further three years.

Remuneration

The role is unremunerated and offered on a voluntary basis. Reasonable expenses will be reimbursed.

Time commitment

Two and a half days per month. This includes quarterly Board meetings.

Location

Meetings are a combination of in-person and online. Physical meetings are held in London.

Conflict of interest

All our Trustees are required to be free of actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest.



How to apply

We hope you are excited about this role and the impact you could have leading the team at Pancreatic Cancer UK. We look forward to receiving your application.

If you want to explore the role further or address specific questions, please contact either Juliet Brown on Juliet.Brown@starfishsearch.com or Rebecca O'Connor on Rebecca.OConnor@starfishsearch.com and they will be happy to arrange a call.

To make an application, please go to <https://starfishsearch.com/jobs/pcuk-chair-trustees/> and click on the apply now button, attaching:

- Your CV (no more than three sides).
- A supporting statement (no more than two sides) that explains your passion and fit for this role.

We would also be grateful if you would also complete the Equality and Diversity monitoring form on the online application process. This form is for monitoring purposes only and is not part of your application.

Closing date: Friday 28th October 2022

Selection process with Starfish Search: 31st October to 20th November 2022

Interview Process with Pancreatic Cancer UK: w/c 5th December 2022

