**Appointment Brief**

**Trustee**

**South Downs National Park Trust (SDNPT)**

We are seeking exceptional, pioneering people as Trustees of an ambitious charity, the South Downs National Park Trust (SDNPT). The charity will look to generate substantial income to protect and conserve the UK’s newest National Park, the South Downs. This is a special opportunity to be instrumental in shaping the future for our National Parks and driving forward a culture of philanthropy, supporting one of the country’s best loved assets.

**Responsibilities**

The Board of Trustees will be responsible for developing our philanthropy programme by helping to secure significant support for projects that seek to conserve and enhance the South Downs National Park.

It will have a strong relationship with the South Downs National Park Authority; carrying out its work in line with their Partnership Management Plan, which seeks to conserve and enhance the national park for all to enjoy.

You will oversee the Trust governance, ways of working and grant giving mechanisms, enabling the discharge of its business in the most efficient, effective and collaborative way whilst meeting its duties in accordance with requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

**The role**

Strategic Leadership

* To contribute actively to the Board of Trustees' role in giving firm strategic direction to the organisation, setting overall policy, defining goals, setting targets and evaluating performance.

Assisting with the philanthropy program

* Work with the Head of Income Generation and Marketing to identify potential major donors - philanthropists, companies, trusts and foundations.
* To introduce new contacts to SDNPT from your personal and professional network.
* Actively seek financial support to assist the Trust in its objectives.

Represent the SDNPT

* Act as figureheads for the SDNPT’s philanthropic activities and allowing the trust to use their names in literature, press releases and other materials.
* To attend South Downs National Park’s events whenever possible and participate actively if requested.
* Attend donor meetings and events where appropriate.

 Internal governance and ethical standards

* To work in partnership with Members of the South Downs National Park Authority, in order to meet our shared objectives in respect of the National Park.
* To help establish and advise on strong governance, particularly relating to operational aspects of the charity.
* To help establish and oversee grant giving processes; representing the SDNPT on these panels as required; ensuring that the SDNPT applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its objectives.
* To ensure that SDNPT complies with its Memorandum and Articles of Association, Charity Law, Company Law and any other relevant legislation or regulations.
* To ensure that fundraising is conducted in line with the values of the organisation and best practice as established by the Fundraising Regulator.
* To ensure the financial stability of the organisation.
* To act in the best interests of SDNPT at all times.
* To attend quarterly trustee meetings and the AGM.

**Person specification**

We are seeking individuals with demonstrable skills and knowledge that match the following requirements:

* Strong relevant national/international networks and connections.
* Ability to negotiate with and influence others to secure results.
* Ability to support and constructively challenge.
* Ability to analyse proposed projects and evaluate complex issues and options.
* Ability to communicate clearly in non-technical language.
* Ability to provide leadership and advocacy.
* Experience of being a board member of a charitable or public sector organisation.
* Experience of income generation and or fundraising.
* Experience of Company Governance.
* Understanding and enthusiasm for the South Downs National Park.
* Financial prudence.

**Terms of appointment**

* The position is not remunerated. Travel and reasonable subsistence expenses will be reimbursed.
* The initial time commitment will be commensurate with the requirement to establish the Trust. This commitment will reduce over time to approximately 10 days per annum.
* The position is offered initially for a three year renewable term.