Board of Trustees Applications:

Open until 18 October 2024

BDA

BRITISH DEAF ASSOCIATION

Board of Trustee Applications 2024

Thank you for your interest in joining the British Deaf Association Board of Trustees.

The following information is included in this pack to help guide your application:

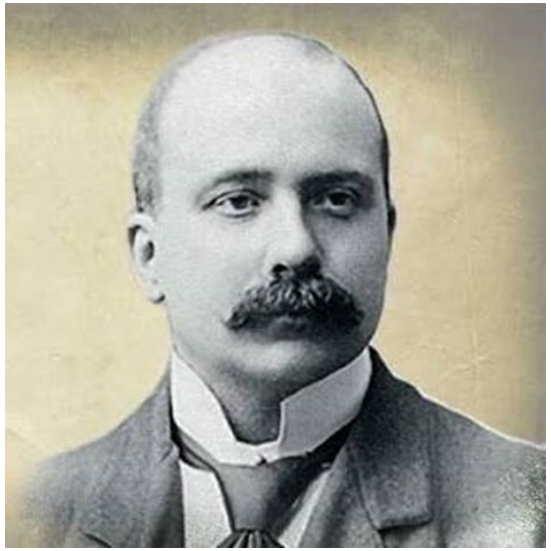
- About the BDA
- Trustee Role
- Eligibility Criteria
- Process for nomination
- Other Information & Questions

If you have any further queries please get in touch with Robert Adam at **robertadamtrustee@bda.org.uk**.

Charity number 1031687 | Company number 2881497 in England & Wales and SCP42409 (Scotland)

About the British Deaf Association

- Established 1890 by Deaf people concerned about Deaf Education
- UK's national representative organisation of BSL & ISL
- Member-led. Our Board are elected by members
- Recognised by the World Federation of the Deaf
  (136 National Deaf Associations – all Deaf-led)
- Recognised by the European Union of the Deaf
  (31 National Deaf Associations – all Deaf-led)



Francis Maginn

UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Article 4.3

'In the development and implementation of legislation and policies and in other decision-making processes concerning issues relating to persons with disabilities, ***States Parties shall closely consult with and actively involve persons with disabilities through their representative organisations****.'*

"The BDA is the Deaf community" – Roundtable participant, 2022

About the British Deaf Association

Our vision is Deaf people fully participating and contributing as equal and valued citizens in the wider society.

Our Mission is to ensure a world in which the language, culture, community, diversity and heritage of Deaf people in the UK is respected and fully protected, preserved and promoted, ensuring that Deaf people can participate and contribute as equal and valued citizens in the wider society.



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Our work – What we do

The work of the BDA is centred around 4 key activities and services:

1. Community and Advocacy
2. Training and Consultancy
3. Human Rights and Equality
4. Sign Language and Culture



Current Board

Our current Board of Trustees are:

1. Dr Robert Adam (Chair)
2. Abigail Gorman (Vice-Chair)
3. Hamza Shaikh
4. Jonathan Evans
5. Ahmed Mudawi
6. Caroline Doherty
7. Irfan Yusuf
8. *Vacant*
9. *Vacant*

Trustee Role

Expected Work And Time Commitment Of Trustees

1. Attend a minimum of 4 Board meetings each year (weekdays and weekends), usually held via Zoom and/or in London.
2. Attendance at the BDA's AGM on **Saturday 16th November 2024** in Glasgow. We will cover your travel, accommodation and meal expenses.
3. Attendance at the AGM every year.
4. Attendance at BDA Strategy Meetings or Away Days.
5. Attendance and promotion of BDA's Conferences.
6. Represent the BDA at external events or conferences as requested by the Chair.

Trustee Role - continued

Expected Work And Time Commitment Of Trustees

7. Be interactive with and visible amongst the membership of the BDA
8. Make decisions at meetings and by email (via E-Decision Papers).
9. Ability to respond to emails and other documents as required.
10. Agree to undergo - and satisfactorily pass – a PVG (Scotland), Disclosure and Barring Service (England and Wales), or Access NI (Northern Ireland) check.

Eligibility Criteria

Key Criteria For Position Of Trustee
(*as stipulated in the BDA's Articles of Association)

1. Must be Deaf*
2. Must be a member of the BDA*
3. Must be over 18 years of age*
4. Must live in the UK*

Eligibility Criteria - continued

Key Criteria For Position Of Trustee

5. Must declare that you:

- Have not previously been removed from trusteeship of a charity by a court or by the Charity Commissioners;
- Are not under a disqualification order under the Company Directors Act;
- Are not disqualified from acting as a trustee by S72 of the Charities Act;
- Have not been convicted of an offence involving deception or dishonesty (or any such conviction is legally regarded as spent);
- Have not made compositions or arrangements with my creditors from which I have not been discharged;
- Are not conflicted by virtue of other offices held or organisational allegiances (either yourself or through connected persons);
- Do not hold office or have decision-making authority in another organisation working with or for D/deaf people;
- Have not been involved in tax fraud.

Eligibility Criteria - continued

Key Criteria For Position Of Trustee

(*as stipulated in the BDA's Articles of Association)

6. Have an understanding of or active experience of the following **(please note, we will provide training to ensure you are able to fulfil your legal duties):**

   - Deaf community and the challenges we face
   - The importance of Protecting, Preserving and Promoting BSL and ISL
   - The difference between governance and operational aspects of the BDA

Be committed to the BDA's Vision, Mission and Values and what we stand for.

Process for Nomination of a Trustee

To nominate yourself or someone for the role of Trustee of the BDA:

- You must use the Nomination Form.
- You or the candidate must be a current member of the BDA at the time of the nomination process which will commence on Tuesday 17th September 2024.
- You or the candidate must satisfy the eligibility criteria.
- You, or the Deaf person you wish to nominate, must confirm your/his/her interest to stand as candidate for Trustee.
- You must include the names of a Proposer and Seconder who is also a member of the BDA at the time of the process.
- The Proposer must satisfy the eligibility criteria listed above.
- You must send the completed Nomination form back to the BDA (see below for more details).

Process for Nomination of a Trustee - continued

BRITISH DEAF ASSOCIATION

The candidate must:

Attach a written and/or a BSL statement (between 200 - 300 words) expressing:

- Why you wish to become a Trustee?
- What skills and experience could you offer to the Board?
- What commitment you are willing to contribute to BDA's success?

When attaching a BSL video of your statement, please ensure:

- It is filmed in 'landscape' against a plain background (e.g. green screen or white wall)
- Around 2 - 3 minutes long.
- **Please don't say your name at the start of the video to avoid bias.**

Process for Nomination of a Trustee - continued

The candidate must:

Please provide permission for your statement to be published to all members:

- I give permission to the BDA to publish my statement to members

Send the **video** via: www.WeTransfer.com to: bdaelection2024@gmail.com

Send the **nomination form** by email to: bdaelection2024@gmail.com

All items must arrive no later than 12 noon on Friday 18th October 2024.

Other Information & Questions

BALLOT PAPER PROCESS

If there are more nominations than vacancies, Electronic Election Ballot papers will be sent by email to members by an independent external company week commencing 21st October 2024.

The names of the elected Trustee(s) will be announced at the BDA AGM on Saturday 16th November 2024 in Glasgow.

Other Information & Questions - continued

The Returning Officer for the election process will be Sylvia Simmonds. Sylvia is a member of the BDA and a former Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees. Sylvia is not standing for election.

Sylvia will share your application with the Nominations & Appointments Committee.

Please contact Sylvia by email at **bdaelection2024@gmail.com** if you have any questions, need further clarification or advice on the nominations process.


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BRITISH DEAF ASSOCIATION