



South Yorkshire Climate Alliance Recruitment Pack for Board of Directors 2022

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Introduction and How to Apply

Thank you for interest in applying to join our Board of Directors. Our vision is to create a thriving, successful climate movement across South Yorkshire. We want to shape a region where public bodies, companies, communities and individuals urgently make positive changes to meet the needs of all people in our region within the means of the living planet.

We are an alliance of organisations and community groups working together to reduce climate change and its impact on South Yorkshire through solutions which are fair and reduce inequality. To find out more about us, please visit our website at <https://www.southyorkshireclimatealliance.org.uk/about>.

South Yorkshire Climate Alliance is campaigning for and working towards a fairer, greener, sustainable future. We are looking for committed and energetic volunteers to join our Board of Directors to help manage our ongoing commitments and expand our horizons with new points of view and new skill sets. You do not need any direct knowledge of the climate crisis, just a readiness to learn and a commitment to the cause. The smallest of



tasks can contribute to a much larger whole – which can, eventually, lead to real change. We are currently constituted as a non-profit limited company committed to moving towards charitable status. So this is an exciting time to become involved with us to shape this important change.

We are particularly interested in applications from people in under-represented groups and minority communities. Applications from those living in and around Doncaster, Barnsley, Rotherham or in rural South Yorkshire are sought. We would also very much welcome applications from people with a good knowledge of social media, fundraising or the law related to charitable status.

If you fit any of these criteria please consider making an application to join our Board of Directors. If you would like an informal chat about the role with one of our directors before deciding to apply please contact us at info@southyorkshireclimatealliance.org.uk.

We ask applicants to please submit a CV and a short letter setting out your suitability and any relevant knowledge or skills for the role of director. This needs to be based on the aims and objectives of South Yorkshire Climate Alliance, the role of a director and the person specification, which are all described below. Please submit your application by **31st July 2022** to info@southyorkshireclimatealliance.org.uk.

About South Yorkshire Climate Alliance

Our Vision

We want to see a thriving, successful climate movement in South Yorkshire, shaping a region where companies, public bodies and individuals urgently make the changes to:

- Create a thriving region and a thriving planet;
- Meet the needs of all people in our region within the means of the living planet;
- Reduce climate change and its impact on South Yorkshire;
- Seek solutions to climate change which are just, and reduce inequality.

Our Mission

We facilitate growth in the climate change movement, and provide a platform for organisations in South Yorkshire to collaborate on campaigns which:

- Increase understanding of the causes and effects of climate change and the just solutions to it.
- Take action to mitigate, adapt and build resilience to climate change on both an individual and system scale.

Who is part of it?

We want to involve and include all, and believe the best way to achieve this is if we all work together as allies. Any individual or organisation in South Yorkshire and its surroundings who shares our vision, and wants to play a part in carrying out our mission—you're an ally! And if you're an ally, we consider you part of our Alliance.



Individual groups, campaigns, etc, who work with the Alliance all have their own autonomy to make decisions, set goals and priorities.

As an Alliance, we will strive to support climate action, and find areas of synergy where we can achieve more collectively. We will work to bring the region together and develop a common purpose.

SCA is also a member of [The Climate Coalition](#) and [Zero Carbon Yorkshire](#). We have representatives on Barnsley's Positive Climate Partnership, and one of our Board members sits on the Yorkshire and Humber Climate Coalition.

How we support our allies

SCA acts as a 'hub' for climate action, supporting citizens, community and campaign groups to achieve high impact, effective action.

Coordination and Facilitation

We help people work together to effect change and to do this we support:

- Communication and engagement
- Community grassroots action to directly lower our region's greenhouse gas emissions
- The coordinated lobbying of politicians, bodies of power and stakeholders to urgently adopt climate solutions.

Providing infrastructure to support activities

We can help with the background stuff of 'being an organisation' to help you focus your efforts on your campaigns!

For example: training, support from our staff, a spot on the groups page of this website, newsletter, bank account, and policies such as whistleblower, equal opportunities and safeguarding. We can 'host' new groups which are starting up with SCA infrastructure, until they are ready to move on to use their own structures.

Black Lives Matter: Our response

The climate crisis is one of the most urgent and crucial issues in the UK public agenda. In any crisis it is the poorest and most vulnerable that suffer the greatest impacts. As summed up by Patrisse Cullors and Nyeusi Nguvu, members of the Black Lives Matter movement, "Racism is endemic to global inequality. This means that those most affected – and killed – by climate change are Black and poor people" However the representation of Black and ethnic minority communities in the climate movement is desperately lacking. We believe that the environmental movement needs to reflect the political and social realities facing Black and ethnic minority communities. As part of our response to Black Lives Matter, we are therefore particularly interested to hear from potential Directors from these backgrounds.



Cost of Living Crisis: Our Response

Reliance on fossil fuels underpins the current high inflation we are witnessing, which is driving up the costs of heating our homes, putting food on the table and travel. We are committed to a just and equitable transition to a green economy based on renewable energy which addresses the causes of poverty and leaves no one behind.

Director Role Description

South Yorkshire Climate Alliance Board of Directors are responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of the company and developing the organisation's aims, objectives and goals in accordance with the governing document *Articles of Association*, legal and regulatory guidelines. Board meetings are held approximately 9 times per year, one meeting of which will be designated the AGM.

There are opportunities for individual Directors to become involved in specific working groups or time limited pieces of work, according to skills and availability. New directors are appointed by a vote of the existing directors in consultation with representatives from allied organisations.

The specific duties of a director are as follows:

- Ensuring that the organisation pursues its stated objects (purposes), as defined in its constitution by developing and agreeing a long-term strategy, defining its goals and evaluating performance against agreed targets
- Ensuring that the organisation complies with its governing document (ie its trust deed, constitution or memorandum and articles of association), company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations
- Ensuring that the organisation applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its charitable and no-profit objects (ie the organisation must not spend money on activities that are not included in its own objects, however worthwhile those activities are) for the benefit of the public
- Safeguarding the good name and values of the organisation
- Ensuring the effective and efficient administration of the organisation, including having appropriate policies and procedures in place
- Ensuring the financial stability of the organisation
- Following proper and formal arrangements for the appointment, supervision, support, appraisal and remuneration of employees

In addition to the above statutory duties, each director should use any specific skills, knowledge or experience they have to help the Board reach sound decisions. This may involve scrutinising board papers, leading discussions, focusing on key issues, providing advice and guidance on new initiatives, or other issues in which the trustee has special expertise.



Person specification

- A commitment to the organisation.
- A willingness to devote the necessary time and effort.
- An ability to think strategically.
- Good, independent judgement.
- An ability to think creatively.
- A willingness to speak their mind.
- An understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of directorship.
- An ability to work effectively as a member of a team.
- A commitment to Nolan's seven principles of public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.

Objectives set out in our Articles of Association

Conservation/education

- To promote, for the benefit of the public, the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment.
- To advance the education of the public in the protection, enhancement and rehabilitation of the environment.

Sustainability

To promote, for the benefit of the public, sustainable development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs by:

- The preservation, conservation and the protection of the environment and the prudent use of resources.
- The prevention or relief of poverty through undertaking and supporting activity which promotes factors concerning climate change and environmental damage that: contribute to poverty, and affect the conditions of life in socially and economically disadvantaged communities and the most appropriate and just ways to mitigate these.

