



**BRISTOL MUSEUMS
DEVELOPMENT
TRUST**

TRUSTEE RECRUITMENT PACK

Bristol Museums Development Trust

Helping treasure to shine

ABOUT US

There are seven sites across the city which play a significant role in enhancing the cultural life of the city's residents and visitors: Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, M Shed, The Georgian House Museum, The Bristol Archives, Blaise Museum, The Red Lodge Museum and Kings Weston Roman Villa. These venues attract over 1.3m visitors a year making Bristol Museums the most visited free attraction in the South West. In a normal year they stage more than 400 community events and host nearly 50,000 pupils and students with 95% of all Bristol schools having visited or participated in a museum-led activity.

INTRODUCTION

Bristol Museums Development Trust (BMDT) is an independent registered charity (registered charity number 1137777) which supports the work of Bristol's Museums, Galleries and Archives – a civic museum service which is part of Bristol City Council.





The BMDT Board of Trustees encourages fundraising across the income portfolio, and with these funds, awards grants towards collections and activities across all these venues. In doing so, the Trust supports the maintenance of the seven sites and over two million objects as well as conservation, research, documentation, archiving and digitisation, new acquisitions, displays and community events.

The Board of Trustees is critical in setting and overseeing BMDT's mission, vision and values, as well as supporting the Bristol City Council (BCC) staff team to implement projects and programmes. It costs some £8m to run the museums every year, made up of support from Arts Council England and BCC with the remainder from fundraising and income generation. National government budget cuts mean local authorities have less money to spend, leading to a greater reliance on additional funding streams. Our work as a Board, therefore, is to ensure that unrestricted funds are spent wisely and accountably and subject to the most rigorous governance. We also oversee the dispensing of restricted funds, including ring-fenced donations which support specific areas.



THE ROLE

You don't need previous trustee experience to join us, nor do you have to come from an arts, heritage or cultural background. A passion for our organisation and our portfolio of buildings and collections is the most important requirement. We are seeking people who appreciate the value arts and heritage contribute to society and the part we play within this ecology, particularly in Bristol and the West of England. Having a good network of contacts is also beneficial, though not a requirement.

If you think you have something to contribute, then we would love to hear from you. We are currently hoping to increase the board's skills specifically (but not exclusively) in the following areas:

- Legal
- Fundraising (within the arts is desirable)
- Stakeholder/community engagement

BMDT is an equal opportunities organisation and welcomes applications from people of all backgrounds. The above categories are not exclusive, we welcome applications from anyone who feels they have other skills useful to the Board.

As a trustee you will be expected to:

- Attend and contribute to four Board meetings and an Away Day a year
- Attend exhibition openings or other events and meetings that we programme
- Become knowledgeable about our core aims and objectives and support their growth
- Provide informal advice and guidance to the staff team
- Join working sub-committees to focus on specific areas of development

APPOINTMENT PROCEDURE AND TENURE

You will be appointed initially for a period of three years. This is then renewable for a further three years, based on mutual agreement. In some instances, you may be asked to remain for a further exceptional period of one year.

For more information visit www.bristolmuseums.org or for an informal chat with a current board member please email development@bristol.gov.uk

Expressions of interest will be expected by Monday 27 February. Please send through with a current CV to development@bristol.gov.uk. We aim to shortlist and interview in early March.

