

Humanimal Trust Board Role Description

The trustees of the Humanimal Trust are the ultimate accountable body for the organisation. They are responsible – and accountable – for the organisation's adherence to Law and to its own Constitution, charitable purpose and objects. Its role can be described in terms of conformance and performance and incorporates expectations of trustee behaviour.

Compliance:

The Board is expected to:

- Conduct itself in line with the values of Humanimal Trust, and the Board's Code of Conduct.
- Set and champion the mission/purpose and strategic direction of the Trust, with advice from staff, and ensure that the organisation works within its objects, remit and the law.
- Ensure that the activities of Humanimal Trust, and the policies to support those activities, are in line with the mission, aims and objectives, and are kept under continuous review.
- Involve and consider the views of all stakeholders and appropriate expertise as appropriate when defining strategic direction and managing risk.
- Develop and approve clearly defined financial management, control and expenditure policies and procedures for the purposes of ensuring transparent and authorised use of resources. This will necessarily include the setting of appropriate expenditure limits, which will be subject to periodic review.
- Approve and ensure effective corporate governance arrangements are in place, and that these are fit for purpose.
- Ensure that Humanimal Trust follows governance best practice.
- Review and assess the effectiveness and impact of governance arrangements on an ongoing basis.
- Ensure that The Humanimal Trust meets all of its statutory and legal requirements, and that it acts in accordance with its constitution document.

Performance:

The Board is expected to:

- Provide leadership and oversee the delivery of results.
- Drive strategic planning and review in accordance with Humanimal Trust constitution and defined values.
- Ensure effective planning and control takes place, approve the annual business plan and budget, agree targets, including financial, and monitor performance against these.

- Ensure that board members have the appropriate suite of skills to understand and use financial and governance information they are asked to review. The board should enable this through appropriate recruitment, induction and development processes.
- Ensure that effective audit takes place at an appropriate level and approve the annual accounts prior to publication.
- Select, support and remunerate the CEO and ensure good management.
- Ensure that adequate finance is in place and that productive relationships are maintained with representatives of any financial support organisations.
- Ensure that the public is adequately informed of the work of The Humanimal Trust, through the media, annual report etc.
- Ensure a high standard of corporate governance and personal behaviour throughout Humanimal Trust, including approving policies and procedures, and overseeing an appropriate risk management system.
- Board members should always be clear about the most significant strategic risks facing Humanimal Trust, and ensure mitigation steps are in place. They should receive regular reports on risk management and ensure board input to the process.
- Review and approve strategic partnerships with other organisations.