

Trustee Treasurer Job Description

St Francis Leprosy Guild

St Francis Leprosy Guild (SFLG) is the UK's only Catholic leprosy charity. Our mission is to see a leprosy-free world.

We have cared for people with leprosy for over 129 years. We operate in fourteen countries in Africa, Asia and in Brazil where leprosy is endemic.

We support over thirty leprosy centres and projects to play our part in caring for those affected by the disease. We fund training, research, hospitals, rehabilitation centres and capital equipment. We also fund projects that find, diagnose and treat people with leprosy before it causes disability.

SFLG was reconstituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in March 2020. In 2021, SFLG's strategy was refined under the mnemonic TRACE (Training, Research, Active case-finding, Care and Emergency relief) to explain how we are supporting the global goal of reaching zero leprosy. Further details are available in the [2022 Annual Report, the 2022 Annual Review and on this website](#).

Leprosy

Every two minutes someone is diagnosed with leprosy. That's over seven hundred people a day, including 10,000 children each year. Half of all countries in the world today report leprosy.*

Leprosy affects the poorest and most disadvantaged people in the world.

Leprosy is completely curable using an antibiotic treatment called Multidrug Therapy or MDT. But anyone left with undiagnosed leprosy is at risk of developing visible, life-changing disabilities (including clawed hands, drop-foot, blindness and tropical ulcers). They are also at risk of spreading the disease.

A lack of understanding about leprosy leads to stigma and social isolation for those with the disease. **Leprosy is one of the most stigmatised diseases in the world.** In some legal systems, the suspicion alone that someone has the disease results in rejection. Today, across the world, there are still over 100 apartheid-style laws which lead to the violation of civil, political and social rights of those with leprosy.**

We think there are up to four million people worldwide today who are affected by leprosy, either undiagnosed, or living with disabilities caused by leprosy, or subject to leprosy stigma.

*[World Health Organization WER September 2023](#)

**[Special Rapporteur on discrimination against persons with leprosy \(Hansen's disease\) OHCHR](#)

The Board of Trustees

Our Board of Trustees may comprise up to 12 members including one *ex officio* Spiritual Director and a trustee representative from the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The Trustees take responsibility for the governance and strategic direction of the organisation and ensure compliance with the Charity Commission and other external regulations. Currently there are seven trustees.

SFLG has an Executive team comprising a full-time Director, Programmes Manager and Secretariat and Policy Manager. The work of the Executive team is extended by a group of experienced professionals and contractors: an accountant, a data manager, a donations and donor relationships manager, a social media expert and a fundraiser.

The Board of Trustees provides oversight of the Executive team. They contribute to and have ultimate decision-making powers over both the development and implementation of our strategies but have no executive functions.

We are seeking a Treasurer to join our Board of Trustees. We employ an excellent accountant, so there is no expectation that the Treasurer would be responsible for day-to-day finances.

Role of Treasurer

The Treasurer will oversee SFLG's financial management with a view to meeting SFLG's strategic aims, including:

- General financial oversight (of budgets, accounts and financial statements, financial systems and controls, compliance)
- Advice on fundraising strategy, compliance and monitoring, and financial reporting
- Oversight of financial systems including banking, book-keeping etc.

Time commitment

There are four Board meetings per year, mostly online and occasionally held in central London. There are four meetings of the Finance & Investments (F&I) Subcommittee per year, mostly online and occasionally held in person. The Treasurer would chair the F&I Subcommittee meetings.

This is a voluntary role and there is no financial remuneration, although expenses for travel may be claimed.

Person Specification

- Integrity, strategic vision and measured, independent judgement.
- Financial literacy, preferably including appropriate professional qualifications.
- An interest in helping people in lower income countries.
- Commitment to the strategic aims of SFLG.
- Understanding of the legal responsibilities and liabilities of a trustee.