

May 2020

Dear Friend

Thank you for your interest in our work and for the taking the time to engage with our campaign to find new people who can help us develop our work in Islington.

The Cripplegate Foundation has been a feature of life in Islington for over half a millennium and throughout this time has undergone a journey of constant change and adaptation. This moment matches any other in the life of the Foundation, in terms of the challenges Islington faces. Poverty, isolation, inequality, disadvantage – despite 500 years of progress – all remain prevalent in our area, and the Foundation works tirelessly, alongside the local community, to tackle these issues. We now find ourselves at a time of great unpredictability, where all of these challenges risk becoming more prevalent – and it is even more important that we work together to find more creative and collaborative ways of tackling them with the community.

We need to find at least four new governors (the equivalent of trustees) to join Cripplegate's board. Please don't let a lack of experience of being a trustee before put you off applying; we can support and train people in the skills required. Far more important to us is who you are and what you bring in terms of your relationship with, or knowledge about, or experience of the issues and/or of Islington itself. Having a board that reflects the diversity of the local community is also really important to us – so we are particularly encouraging people from a range of backgrounds and experiences to apply.

We are hoping to attract people with some of the following qualities: creativity, listening skills, team players, emotional intelligence, curiosity, and most importantly a passion for the work we do. If you feel you offer some of these qualities and are able to amplify the voice of the community, or help us be more representative of the community, then we would love to hear from you.

We are running a gentle and flexible process (due to the lockdown) but the first step is to express your interest. Have a look at the pack in order to find out a bit more, and if you're interested in joining us, then please consider putting yourself forward. I cannot emphasise enough how a lack of experience of being a trustee, or a lack of confidence shouldn't stop you applying if you feel a connection to our work. Allyson Davies, who is working with us on this process, is a coach as well as a selection specialist and she would be delighted to have an early conversation with you about your interest, so please do give her a call.

Thank you again, we really appreciate your interest in our work and we hope to hear from you.

Yours,

Frances Carter, Chair of Governors