

Tiny Lives Trust – Trustee

Are you a healthcare professional looking to use your experience to shape services for premature and sick babies and their families across the North East and North Cumbria? As a Clinical Trustee at Tiny Lives, you will help shape the future direction of a charity making a lasting difference to neonatal families throughout the region.

The Tiny Lives Trust is seeking new Trustees to play an active role in helping us to support premature and sick newborn babies and their families at one of the most critical times.

Having a premature or sick baby can be one of the most difficult challenges a family can face. This journey is different for everyone. For some it may start before or during pregnancy, and for others it may continue long after discharge. We want all premature and sick newborn babies and their families living in the North East and North Cumbria to have the best possible chance to thrive.

This is an exciting time to join Tiny Lives as we continue to make strong progress against our ambitious 2024-2029 strategy. Over the past two years, we have strengthened our partnership with the Newcastle Neonatal Service at the RVI, continuing to provide practical and emotional support to families both during their neonatal journey and after discharge home. We are also expanding our reach across the North East and North Cumbria, working to ensure more families can access our services while developing new approaches to engage communities that have historically been underrepresented. You can find out more about our strategy and progress [here](#).

As a Trustee, you will:

- Provide strategic oversight and guidance to support the charity's mission and objectives.
- Bring your clinical insight and understanding of neonatal care to Board discussions.
- Support good governance and effective decision-making.
- Act as an ambassador for Tiny Lives within your professional networks.
- Help ensure the voices and experiences of families remain at the heart of our work.

You will join an experienced and highly engaged Board comprising six lay and six clinical trustees, bringing together expertise from healthcare, governance, finance, fundraising, lived experience and the voluntary sector. Previous trustee experience is not essential. We provide an induction and ongoing support to help all trustees contribute confidently and effectively.

We recognise the demands of clinical roles. Our Trustees attend four Board meetings per year (in Newcastle city centre), with occasional participation in sub-groups, strategy sessions and events. The role is voluntary, and we aim to make participation flexible and manageable alongside professional commitments.

We are seeking to appoint two Clinical Trustees to further strengthen our Board and support the delivery of our strategic ambitions.

- Clinical Trustees can come from a range of professional clinical backgrounds including, but not limited to, consultants, nurses and allied health professionals, who

have experience supporting neonatal families whilst on a neonatal unit, or after discharge home

- Whatever your professional background, you will be willing to engage fully in Board meetings and support the delivery of our strategic plan for 2024 - 2029.

We are committed to building a Board that reflects the communities we serve. We particularly welcome applications from people with lived experience of neonatal care, as well as candidates from diverse backgrounds currently underrepresented on charity boards.

In return for your time and expertise, you will have the opportunity to:

- Make a meaningful difference to neonatal families.
- Contribute to the strategic leadership of a well-established charity.
- Develop your governance and leadership experience.
- Work alongside experienced clinical and lay trustees who share a commitment to improving outcomes for babies and families.

Our values and the way we behave in order to demonstrate them in our day-to-day interactions make us who we are as an organisation. We expect all our colleagues to demonstrate strong alignment with our charity values and vision that 'all premature and sick newborn babies and their families living in the North East and North Cumbria have the best possible chance to thrive'. Our work at Tiny Lives is underpinned by the following core values:

'Families at the heart of everything we do'

- We care, support and empower
- We listen, engage and respond
- We are progressive, inclusive and future-focused

If you are passionate about the difference we make to babies and their families, we would very much like to hear from you. Please send your CV and a covering letter outlining why you are particularly interested in a Trustee role with Tiny Lives, including your experience and suitability for the role of Trustee, and **email it to kelly@tinylives.org.uk by end of Wednesday 23rd September 2026**.

If you would like to speak to the Chief Executive for an informal conversation about the role before applying, please contact Kelly Blakeney at kelly@tinylives.org.uk.

The Tiny Lives Trust - Trustee

The Tiny Lives Board of Trustees are jointly and collectively responsible for the success of the Tiny Lives Trust. Trustees of the Tiny Lives Trust are both Directors of the Company and members of the Board of Trustees.

The key attributes of Trustees will be their ability to grasp complex issues, to work well as a Board team, and to be driven by a passion to improve neonatal care.

Main Duties

The duties of the Trustees are to:

- Ensure that the organisation complies with Charity law and Company law.
- Ensure that the Charity does not breach any of the requirements set out in its governing document and that it remains true to the purpose and objects set out within that document
- Comply with the requirement of other legislation and other legislators which govern the activities of the Charity.
- Act with integrity and avoid any personal conflicts of interest or misuse of funds or assets.
- Develop and monitor the delivery of a strategic plan to achieve the overall charitable objectives, including a financial plan, for the achievement of the overall charitable and business objectives;
- Agree operational and governance policy and procedures for Tiny Lives Trust and monitor the implementation of these;
- Set and ensure maintenance of a framework of delegation and internal controls;
- Receive, scrutinise and analyse financial reports and progress information provided by the Chief Executive of Tiny Lives and the Treasurer;
- Disburse funds in pursuit of the charitable aims and objectives;
- Promote the interests of Tiny Lives Trust within a wider network.

Person Specification

It is expected that all Trustees will be able to demonstrate:

- a commitment to equality and diversity;
- a commitment to work in the best interests of Tiny Lives Trust at all times and to take part in the work of the Charity through involvement in sub-committees and by serving as an officer of the Board as required and agreed;
- a professional approach to the work of the charity and Board and to the development of Tiny Lives Trust.

The role of Trustee of the Tiny Lives Trust is voluntary although reasonable out-of-pocket expenses will be reimbursed according to the rates agreed by the Board.