

**On — Purpose**

**Chair of the board** —

— **Role advert**



# On Purpose

On Purpose develops leaders who will transform our economy to be healthy, regenerative and just, through changing the organisations in which they work.

We are a unique and international social enterprise that was founded in 2009 and has worked with over 750 professionals to transform their careers.

Our Chair will be expected to lead the board, working closely with our CEO. The board of seven non-executive and two executive directors includes diverse of opinions and backgrounds, including from all three countries that On Purpose operates in – the UK, France and Germany.

As the Chair of On Purpose you will join an engaged and friendly board and staff team who are working to help solve the biggest challenge of our times. We pride ourselves on taking cutting edge thinking and translating it into real world action. You will also become part of the unique and vibrant community of 2,000+ purpose-driven professionals committed to helping us make this happen.

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“My year at On Purpose was a crash course of the current challenges faced by humanity. I understood better their nature and origin, but mostly I got to discover the already promising and emerging solutions.”

April 2017 Fellow

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# The Role

The Chair's role is to ensure that the board is effective in its legal duties and in helping to steer our strategy, and to provide oversight and support to the CEO and management team.

Specifically, this will include helping us realise our recently set intention: *To play our part in the most important transformation of our age: how all organisations become part of a healthy economy, by inspiring people to transform into the leaders who will help make this happen.* It will also involve continuing to develop the board to perform at a high level.

To achieve this, the Chair will:

- Be the principal advocate for On Purpose's values and purpose
- Ensure that On Purpose's governance and financial processes are legally compliant and fit for purpose
- Lead the board and ensure that directors are recruited in a timely fashion to meet the needs of the organisation
- Work closely with the CEO, to ensure the smooth running of governance and oversight processes, board meetings and agendas
- Provide support to the rest of On Purpose's senior team as appropriate
- Lead in the appointment of a CEO and help ensure accountability for deliverables
- Support the CEO and wider organisation in generating new revenue streams (including from fundraising) and in identifying and establishing partnerships
- Where appropriate, the Chair will represent On Purpose at public events organised by and for On Purpose

## Person Profile

Our Chair will need to have demonstrated the capacity to work with a diverse set of board members and across a range of types of

organisations. They will be familiar with the challenges and opportunities of running a relatively small and complex organisation and have a good understanding of the issues On Purpose focusses on. They will be proficient in spoken and written English.

The successful candidate will be likely to have demonstrated, or be willing to develop:

- A strong belief in, understanding, and ideally experience, of the transformation to the better economy that On Purpose exists to help bring about
- An understanding of systems thinking, especially as it relates to innovative ways of managing organisations
- A relevant network and willingness to engage them
- The capacity to lead a high-calibre, diverse board, operating by consensus, whilst encouraging constructive debate and challenge
- A good grasp of the governance of a social enterprise, including the financial, legal and statutory requirements
- A capacity to represent On Purpose in public when required
- An open, inclusive and engaging style consistent with On Purpose's values and purpose

## Other particulars

### Appointment and reimbursement

This role is appointed by the board as a whole and is not remunerated. Out-of-pocket expenses are reimbursed. The term of office is three years. Renewable once by the board.

### Current commitment

- The board currently meets four times a year for 2.5 hours
- There is also an annual face-to-face awayday focussed on strategy
- The Chair currently has a fortnightly meeting with the CEO, with occasional additional email contact, as required.

**Travel:**

The Chair could be located in any of our programme cities (Berlin, London or Paris). The role involves some travel, e.g., for the annual board away day which can take place in London, Paris, Berlin or another mutually convenient location.

**Equal opportunities:**

We are a community that welcomes diversity in all forms and encourage applications from anyone who's passionate about purpose-led work.

**To start exploring if you might become our next Chair:**

Please complete [this form](#) by **Sunday 19. June**. We plan to start a first set of exploratory conversations with a range of individuals in late June and appoint our new Chair by early August.

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On Purpose gave me “a sense there is a movement, that I am not alone in the belief of purpose over profit, and the inspiration to know change is possible.”

October 2017 Fellow

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