



Department
for Culture,
Media & Sport



APPLICANT PACK

Trustees

Royal Museums

Greenwich

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Introduction

The Prime Minister is seeking two new Trustees with a background in either Astronomy or Finance and Accounting to join the Board of Trustees of Royal Museums Greenwich.

Royal Museums Greenwich

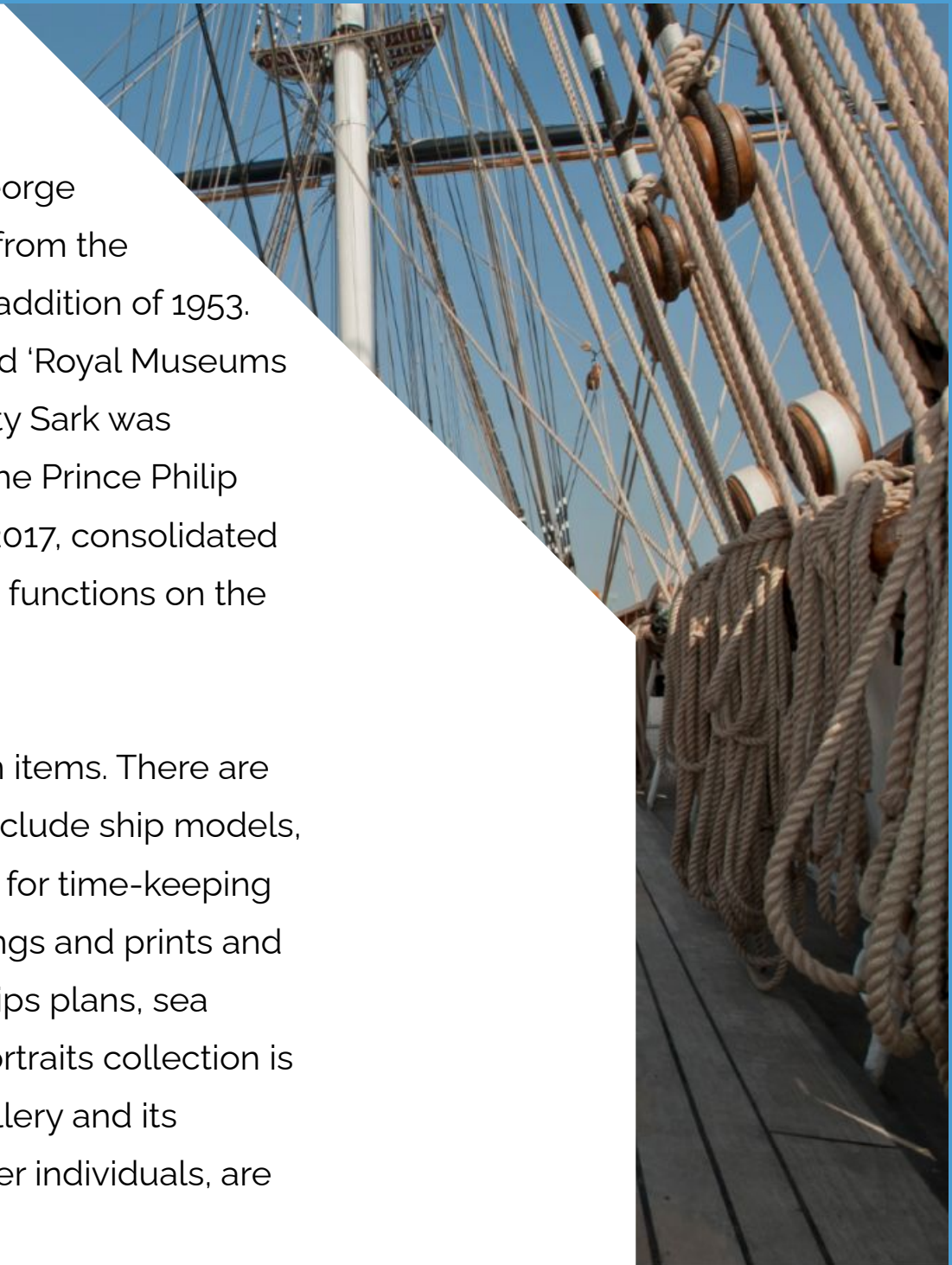
By virtue of its sites and subjects, Royal Museums Greenwich enjoys a unique conjunction of subjects - History, Science (in particular, astronomy), Arts - and works with its audiences at local, regional, national and global levels to provide a greater understanding of humanity's connection with the sea, space and time. RMG aims to be a welcoming place for everyone, receptive to engage with communities and provide a multi perspective social history, to become a place of memory and dialogue.



Background

The National Maritime Museum was opened by King George VI in 1937. The Queen's House was part of the Museum from the outset whilst the Royal Observatory, Greenwich was an addition of 1953. In 2011 Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II formally approved 'Royal Museums Greenwich' as the new group brand and in 2015 the Cutty Sark was donated to the National Maritime Museum collection. The Prince Philip Maritime Collections Centre, completed in September 2017, consolidated and upgraded the collections storage and conservation functions on the Museum's Kidbrooke site.

The Museum's collection comprises more than 3 million items. There are some 45 thousand three dimensional objects – which include ship models, scientific and navigational instruments, and instruments for time-keeping and astronomy. There are around 75 thousand oil paintings and prints and drawings and over 2 million manuscripts, rare books, ships plans, sea charts and historic photographic negatives. Its British portraits collection is exceeded in size only by that of the National Portrait Gallery and its holdings relating to Nelson and Cook, among many other individuals, are unrivalled.



Background (cont)

The Museum has the world's largest maritime archive and maritime historical reference library including books dating back to the 15th century. An active loans programme ensures that items from the collection are seen in the UK and overseas. Through its displays, exhibitions and learning programmes the Museum also explores our current relationship with the sea, and its future as an environmental force and resource.

We are currently embarking on a once in a generation redevelopment of the Royal Observatory Greenwich, to celebrate the 350th anniversary of celestial observation at Greenwich in 2026, making it a place of 'awe and wonder'; not only an essential stop off on the tourist map to visit the Prime Meridian but also a 'must-see' destination for the domestic audience to discover Time and Space.

All Board Members of Public Bodies must adhere to the Seven Principles of Public Life, the 12 Principles of Governance and The Code of Conduct for Board Members of Public Bodies.



The Trustee Role

The Board of Trustees is now seeking a Trustee from each of the following fields: Astronomy; Accountancy and Finance

Members of the Board have corporate responsibility for ensuring that Royal Museums Greenwich complies with any statutory or administrative requirements for the use of public funds. Other important responsibilities of Board members include:

- overseeing the delivery of planned results by monitoring performance against strategic objectives and targets;
- representing Royal Museums Greenwich, as its ambassadors, to stakeholders and potential donors; and
- ensuring that high standards of corporate governance are observed at all times.



Essential Criteria

All candidates will need to demonstrate in their application that they meet the following criteria to a high standard:

- Good communication skills and the willingness and the ability to act as an advocate for the Museum and a supporter of staff in areas such as research, media, fundraising and community engagement;
- The ability to contribute to Board discussion on strategy, governance and policy development;
- A strong interest in and commitment to the values of the Museum, as well as its future development;
- The ability to work collaboratively with other Trustees and the senior management of the Museum; and
- A commitment to highlighting and preserving cultural heritage, and improving education and understanding of British and World history.

Essential Criteria

Astronomy Trustee

A comprehensive and demonstrable record of success in the field of historical and contemporary astronomy at national and/or international level;

- Experience establishing relationships with academic and commercial partners; and
- Evidence of the capability of engaging actively with key stakeholders in the astronomy field.

Finance Trustee

Candidates for the Finance Trustee role must demonstrate appropriate evidence that they can become Chair of RMG's Audit Committee including:

- Significant experience in Accountancy and Finance
- A comprehensive record of success in finance or commerce and senior experience of the work of Audit Committees;
- Experience of working with internal and external auditors; and
- Experience of risk management.

Desirable Criteria

Astronomy Trustee

Candidates should demonstrate experience in one or more of the following areas:

- Significant expertise in astronomy in particular its communication to the public and in the media
- A personal profile and network within the field of science, science communication
- Interest in and knowledge of learning and interpretation within the context of formal and informal learning
- The ability to influence and persuade external partners to contribute funding and other support to the development of the Museum's programmes

Desirable Criteria

Finance Trustee

Candidates should demonstrate to become Chair of our Audit Committee, in particular we are seeking:

- An accountancy qualification
- Experience of working with the National Audit Office
- Familiarity with Government Risk Management and Internal Audit Standards
- Experience in investment management



Time Commitment: Ad-hoc - average 1 day per month

The Board of Trustees meets for four quarterly meetings usually taking place in February, April/May, July and October/November. The business of these Board meetings usually lasts ½ a day.

In addition to the Board meetings there are usually two or three Committee days per year which include updates on major projects for all Trustees.

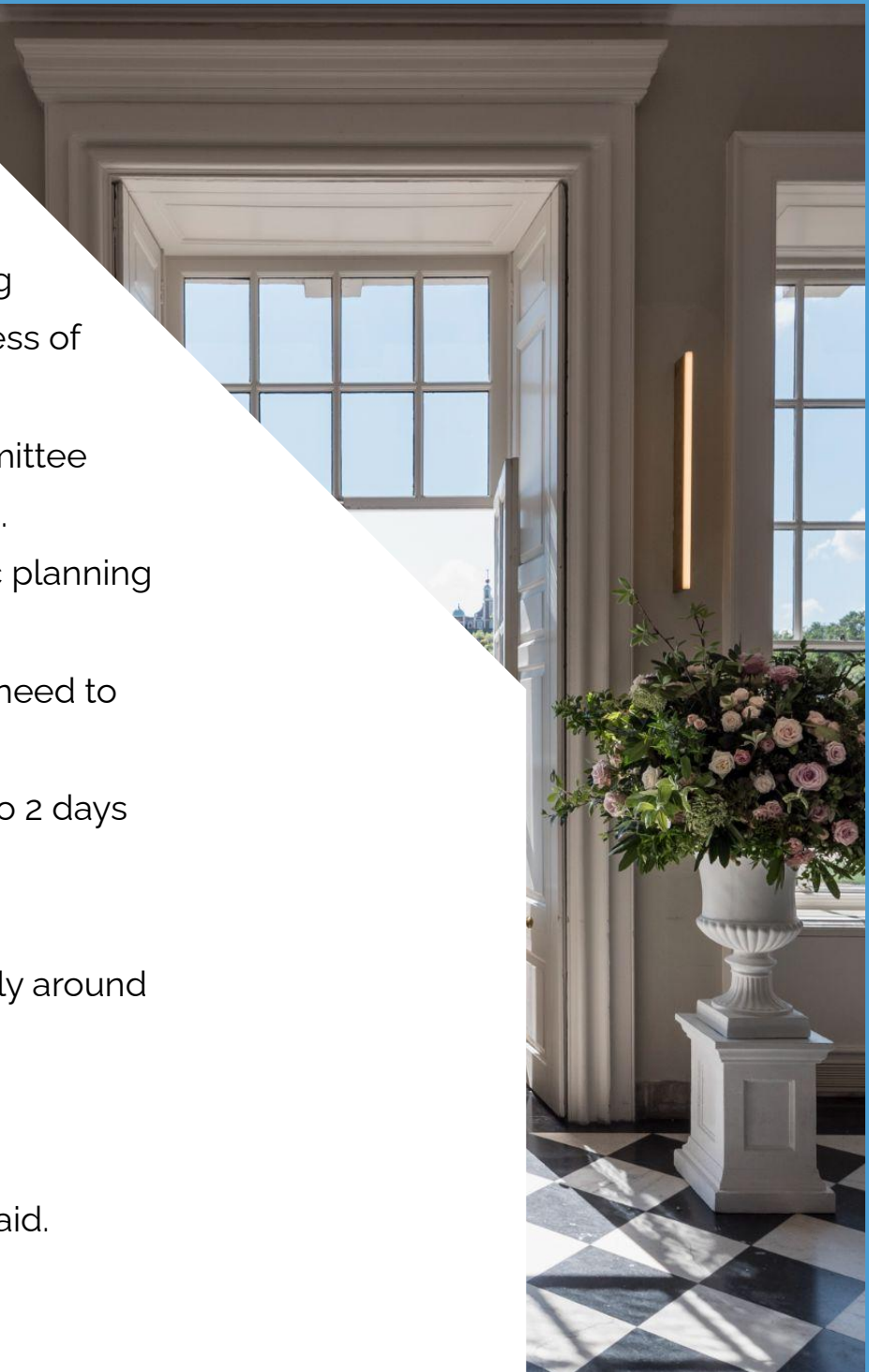
Depending on the planning cycle, there may also be a single strategic planning meeting at a point in the year.

In addition to the four plenary Board meetings, the candidates would need to have sufficient time resources to:

- attend an induction programme at the Museum – total time up to 2 days but over a period
- study papers ahead of meetings
- attend a number of evening or day events at the Museum (usually around four per year)
- take part in other committees where appropriate

Remuneration - The role is unpaid but reasonable expenses will be paid.

Term of Appointment - The term of appointment is four years.



Key dates

OPEN FOR
APPLICATIONS

DEADLINE FOR
APPLICATIONS

PANEL SIFT

INTERVIEWS

20 November
2023

18 December
2023

8 February
2024

4-5 April 2024

Advisory Assessment Panel

- Gemma Brough - Deputy Director for Museums and Cultural Property - DCMS Panel Chair
- Lance Batchelor - Chair of Royal Museums Greenwich - Public Body Representative
- Sir Philip Augar - Senior Independent Panel Member
- Nick Cosgrove - Partner at the Brunswick Group - Additional Panel Member

Diversity and inclusion

DCMS is committed to eliminating discrimination and advancing equality of opportunity in its public appointments. We particularly encourage applicants from underrepresented groups, those based outside London and the South-East and applicants who have achieved success through non-traditional educational routes. This ensures that boards of public bodies benefit from a full range of diverse perspectives and are representative of the people they serve. This will include embedding a commitment to the principles of levelling up and championing opportunity for all across the organisation, helping to ensure that the organisation is one in which a genuinely diverse range of views can be expressed, without fear or favour.

We ask all applicants to complete a diversity monitoring form. We hope you will help us by providing this information. Your data is not disclosed to the panel, but allows us to constantly evaluate any potential barriers to becoming a public appointee and what we can do to encourage a more diverse field to apply.

We try to guarantee an interview to anyone with a disability whose application meets the minimum criteria for the role. By 'minimum criteria,' we mean that you must provide evidence in your application, which demonstrates that you meet the level of competence required under each of the essential criteria.

If you wish to apply under this scheme, you can select this when submitting your application online or contact the team. This will in no way prejudice your application.

Reasonable adjustments

If you would like a confidential discussion regarding any reasonable adjustments during the process, please indicate this in the covering email or letter or communicate with the public appointments team, who will be happy to discuss this with you.

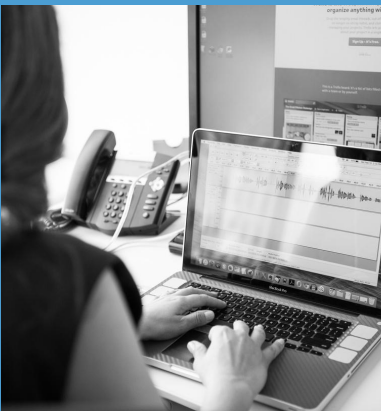




STEP 1

CV

on no more than 2 sides
of A4



STEP 2

Statement of suitability

Describe how you meet
the criteria for this role.



STEP 3

Equality information

and information relating
to any **outside interests**
or reputational issues

Apply Online

<https://apply-for-public-appointment.service.gov.uk/roles>



This appointments process adheres to the Cabinet Office Governance Code on Public Appointments, which is regulated by the Commissioner for Public Appointments.

Eligibility Criteria

You cannot be considered for a public appointment if:

- you become bankrupt or make an arrangement with a creditor
- your estate has been sequestrated in Scotland or you enter into a debt arrangement programme under Part 1 of the Debt Arrangement and Attachment (Scotland) Act 2002 (asp 17) as the debtor or have, under Scots law, granted a trust deed for creditors;
- you are disqualified from acting as a company director under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986;
- you have been convicted of a criminal offence, the conviction not being spent for the purposes of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (c. 53);
- you become subject to a debt relief order or a bankruptcy restrictions order;
- you fail to declare any conflict of interest.

Conflicts of Interest and Due Diligence

If you have any interests that might be relevant to the work of The Royal Museums Greenwich and which could lead to a real or perceived conflict of interest if you were to be appointed, please provide details in your application. If you have queries about this and would like to discuss further please contact the Public Appointments Team.

Given the nature of public appointments, it is important that those appointed as members of public bodies maintain the confidence of Parliament and the public. If there are any issues in your personal or professional history that could, if you were appointed, be misconstrued, cause embarrassment, or cause public confidence in the appointment to be jeopardised, it is important that you bring them to the attention of the Advisory Assessment Panel and provide details of the issue(s) in your application. In considering whether you wish to declare any issues, you should also reflect on any public statements you have made, including through social media.

As part of our due diligence checks we will consider anything in the public domain related to your conduct or professional capacity. This will include us undertaking searches of previous public statements and social media, blogs or any other publicly available information. This information may be made available to the Advisory Assessment Panel and they may wish to explore issues with you should you be invited to interview. The information may also be shared with ministers and the Cabinet Office.

Public Appointments Team

publicappointments@dcms.gov.uk

Campaign Manager: Miriam Howard

Miriam.howard@dcms.gov.uk



Contact Us