



The River Restoration Centre – Director Profile

This is an exciting opportunity to join the River Restoration Centre (RRC) Board of Directors and use your skills, knowledge, and experience to contribute to a world-class organisation which leads the field of river restoration in the UK and across Europe.

The RRC

The RRC champions the natural and societal benefits of restoring river systems. It is the UK's expert information and advisory centre for all aspects of best-practice river restoration and catchment management. As an independent, not-for-profit company limited by guarantee (no. 2904139), RRC funds its activities through membership, grants funded through service level agreements with UK government agencies, and through providing a variety of advisory project work and training activities. The RRC office is located within Cranfield University, Bedfordshire. The day-to-day leadership and management of the RRC and its staff is undertaken by the Managing Director, reporting to the RRC Board. The RRC employs an accounts technician to manage its financial affairs, verified by an independent accountant and overseen by an RRC director with responsibility for finance. RRC undertakes all filing associated with the statutory requirements of a registered UK company. You can learn more about the organisation [here](#).

The Board

The RRC is governed by a Board of Directors, with a smaller executive group formed by the Chair, Vice-Chair(s), and Secretary. Directors have a range of professional backgrounds with many having spent years working in the field of river restoration and others coming from completely different sectors; this diversity of perspectives and broad span of knowledge enables the Board to function effectively. The Board is responsible for the governance of the RRC, determining strategic direction, and providing appropriate oversight of the operation of the organisation, including keeping abreast of strategic risks and significant resource decisions. Unlike some companies, the RRC Board does not have permanently constituted specialist committees with matters such as finance and HR instead being covered during quarterly Board meetings. The Board of Directors is assisted in strategic planning by the RRC's Advisory Group, made up of representatives from NGOs, academia and the various UK Government agencies that support the RRC's work. The RRC Board and Managing Director are responsible for determining the staff resource and remuneration (which are fulfilled through a service contract with Cranfield University).

Director Profile

You will be an experienced leader, bringing strategic vision, sectoral awareness, and intellectual capacity in your area of expertise. You will be comfortable using your understanding of the key drivers within your market and the wider national/international setting to help assess and set business direction.

Essential Skills & Experience:

- Commitment to RRC's mission and willingness to act in the corporate interest
- Knowledge of, and strong personal interest in, areas of RRC's work
- Proven leadership skills, with an ability to tackle challenges with rigour, objectivity, and energy, and to work collaboratively and respectfully with colleagues to generate solutions

- Experience of developing organisational plans, and an understanding of budgetary management
- Capacity to devote sufficient time to fulfilling the responsibilities of a director
- Willingness to take on executive Board roles in the future after a period as a director

Desirable Skills & Experience:

- Record of working at senior level and/or experience in directing or managing organisations
- Working with or within ecological/environmental contracting organisations
- Professional background in financial management/accounting
- Understanding of funding schemes for environmental projects and experience in securing funds
- Professional background in marketing, business development and/or communications
- Running or overseeing membership organisations/schemes

Duties

As a director you are bound to ensure that the RRC undertakes the work for which it was established. You will be responsible for developing and maintaining a high standard of governance to:

- Comply with Company Law and ensure that high standards of corporate governance are observed at all times
- At all times act in the Centre's best interest, providing balanced advice and ensuring that no personal interest will conflict with the best interests of the RRC
- Ensure that the business is financially sustainable and meets the financial reporting requirements of Companies House
- Consider the interests of the employees as well as ensuring that the company complies with all relevant HR, health and safety, and environmental protection legislation for their welfare
- Observe the highest standards of impartiality, integrity, and objectivity in relation to the allocation of public and membership funds, and the strategic management of the organisation

Commitment

Board members are expected to work for around 8 days a year on RRC business (this includes preparation for meetings). Board members will also be expected to contribute to related business through membership of working groups according to their experience and expertise. The post is held initially for a three-year period and directors may be re-appointed for a further term or terms by mutual agreement. The post of Chair is typically held for three years, with the incumbent acting as Vice-Chair for the preceding and subsequent year in office.

Remuneration

Directorships are unfunded voluntary positions for which reasonable travel and subsistence expenses are reimbursed. There is an honorarium associated with the role of Chair of the Board.