



# Trustee Recruitment Pack 2026



# The Whole Church, Whole Gospel, Whole World

The Evangelical Mission Association (EMA), operating as Global Connections, is a UK network of mission hearted organisations, churches, colleges, businesses and individuals. As part of the global Church, we have a shared vision to see:

## 'The Whole Church taking the Whole Gospel to the Whole World.'

For over seventy years, Global Connections has played a unique role within the UK mission landscape, bringing together organisations and individuals united by a shared calling. Being faithful to God's calling for His Church to work together as one body, we believe we are better together—working collaboratively as part of God's global mission rather than in isolation.

Membership of Global Connections reflects a commitment to collaboration, co-mission, and mutual learning. It is an investment in relationships and collective action for the sake of God's Kingdom and the flourishing of mission.



**Connecting:** Bringing people together to strengthen relationships across the network.

**Catalysing:** Listening for God's leading, learning from each other and encouraging innovation.

**Collaborating:** Working together to have greater collective impact.

# At a glance:

**Role:** Chair of Trustees

**Organisation:** Evangelical Mission Association (t/a Global Connections)

**Commitment:**

- Four Board meetings per year
- Four meetings per year with Executive Leaders and one other trustee.
- Ad-hoc meetings with the CEO as required.

**Term:** Three years (renewable up to a total of 9 years)

**Location:** UK-wide (hybrid)



Thank you for your interest in joining the Board of Trustees at Global Connections. This is an important moment in the life of the charity, and we are grateful that you are taking the time to explore the opportunity to serve in this way.

Global Connections exists to support and connect the UK mission community as we respond together to the call of Matthew 28. Despite the challenges faced by the church and mission sector, we are encouraged by the growing desire across our network to collaborate, share learning, and pursue a shared Kingdom vision. This role offers a meaningful opportunity to help shape and steward the future of the UK's mission network.

In recent years, Global Connections has navigated a period of leadership transition and organisational change. By God's grace, the charity has now entered a more settled and sustainable season, supported by a committed staff team, a strong and diverse Board, and an engaged membership. While challenges undoubtedly remain, we are confident in the foundations that have been laid.

As part of our governance and succession planning, we are now seeking to appoint a new Chair of Trustees, following the completion of the current Chair's maximum term. The Board brings a broad mix of skills and experience and is now seeking a Chair with the leadership, governance, and relational capacity to guide the Board effectively in this next season.

We hope this information provides a clear overview of both the role of trustee and the specific responsibilities of the Chair. As you prayerfully consider this opportunity, we ask that you would know God's wisdom and guidance.

# About the Board of Trustees:

The Board members are trustees of the charity. Collectively, they are responsible under UK law for the governance, strategic direction, and oversight of Global Connections, including GC Jobs & Mission and Mission Action Partnership (MAP).

The Board comprises:

- The Chair
- The Vice-Chair
- Up to ten other elected trustees

Trustees are also voting members of the association.

## Key Responsibilities of the Board of Trustees:

Trustees share collective responsibility for ensuring that Global Connections exists to fulfil its charitable purposes and does so for the public benefit and for its members.

Trustees work in close partnership with the executive leadership team to support the charity's vision and mission.

### **Key responsibilities include:**

- Ensuring the charity acts in accordance with its governing documents and charitable objectives
- Setting, safeguarding, and promoting the charity's vision, values, and strategic direction
- Ensuring compliance with charity law and regulatory requirements
- Acting at all times in the best interests of the charity
- Ensuring resources are managed responsibly and sustainably
- Exercising reasonable care and skill in decision-making, strategy, and risk management
- Acting as ambassadors and advocates for Global Connections
- Approving key policies, plans, and budgets

# Specific Responsibilities of the Chair of Trustees:

In addition to the responsibilities shared by all trustees, the Chair provides leadership to the Board and plays a vital role in shaping its culture, effectiveness, and focus.

The Chair is expected to:

## **Lead the Board Effectively**

- Chair Board meetings with clarity, fairness, and impartiality
- Work with the executive leadership team to shape agendas and ensure appropriate information is provided
- Foster a culture of trust, accountability, and constructive challenge
- Ensure the Board focuses on its fiduciary, strategic, and generative responsibilities, including finance, risk, safeguarding, and trustee development

## **Support and Line-Manage the CEO**

- Act as the primary point of accountability for the CEO on behalf of the Board
- Provide encouragement, guidance, and appropriate challenge between meetings
- Lead the CEO's annual appraisal and oversee performance review arrangements

**Chair Council Meetings** - chair the twice-yearly Council meetings, including the Annual General Meeting (AGM)

**Represent the Charity** - act as an ambassador and spokesperson for Global Connections within the network and externally where appropriate

**Contribute to Governance and Reporting** - provide content for the Annual Trustees' Report, with support from the Executive Leadership

## **Time Commitment**

- Four Board meetings per year, each typically lasting four to five hours, with preparation required
- Trustees normally serve an initial three-year term, with the option of two further terms
- Attendance at two annual in-person Council meetings
- Occasional involvement in sub-committees or working groups
- Travel expenses can be claimed
- A two-day residential gathering every two years

# Trustee Person Specification:

## **Trustees must:**

- Be at least 16 years of age
- Be a committed and mature Christian, in agreement with the Global Connections Statement of Faith
- Be willing to act consistently with the example of Jesus Christ
- Be fully aligned with the mission and vision of Global Connections
- Be committed to fulfilling the legal responsibilities of a trustee
- Be willing to make difficult decisions in the best interests of the charity
- Demonstrate honesty, integrity, and accountability
- Be able to analyse information, think strategically, and offer constructive challenge
- Communicate clearly and effectively, verbally and in writing

Trustees must not be disqualified from acting as a charity trustee under UK law, unless authorised by a waiver from the Charity Commission. Disqualification reasons include bankruptcy, certain unspent criminal convictions, or inclusion on the sex offenders' register.

# Trustee Skills and Experience:

The Board seeks a balanced mix of skills and experience. Trustees should be able to demonstrate strength in one or more of the following areas:

## **Ensuring Sound Governance**

- Charity and legal expertise
- Governance frameworks and policy development
- Financial management and budgeting
- Strategic and organisational development
- Employment law, HR best practice, and risk management

## **Energising Mission**

- Experience of mission agencies, associations, or networks
- Overseas mission or cross-cultural mission in the UK
- Engagement with diaspora ministries
- Mission theology, missiology, or missional leadership
- Mobilising churches and individuals for mission

## **Window on the Future**

- Visionary and entrepreneurial thinking
- Understanding key issues affecting church and mission today
- Ability to interpret trends and respond creatively to change



If you have the passion, experience, and calling to serve as Chair of Trustees, we would be delighted to hear from you.

To express your interest, please complete the application form referenced in the role advertisement and submit it with a short statement explaining your interest in the role to:  
[recruitment@globalconnections.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@globalconnections.org.uk)

Informal conversations with an existing trustee or with our CEO, Ben Stansfield, can be arranged on request.

**Closing date:** Please refer to advert

Thank you for taking the time to consider this opportunity. This is an exciting and important season for Global Connections, and we would be delighted to explore how you might contribute to the life of the charity and the wider UK and global mission community.



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Global Connections is registered in England & Wales as the  
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