

RCVS Knowledge Trustee

Context and purpose

RCVS Knowledge's mission is to advance the quality of veterinary care for the benefit of animals, the public, and society.

Over the next three years we want to:

- Advance the use of evidence-based veterinary medicine in veterinary practice
- Inspire quality improvement in veterinary practice
- Build upon our heritage, and invest in our future.

Role summary

The MRCVS or RVN Trustee represents the viewpoint of the veterinary professions and is one of the key contacts for RCVS Knowledge in veterinary matters.

Role description

- To ensure that RCVS Knowledge complies with its Memorandum and Articles of Association, charity law, company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations.
- To ensure that RCVS Knowledge pursues its Objects as defined in its Memorandum and Articles of Association.
- To ensure that RCVS Knowledge uses its resources exclusively in pursuance of its Objects: RCVS Knowledge must not spend money on activities which are not included in its own Objects, no matter how worthwhile or charitable those activities are.
- To contribute actively to the Board of Trustees' role in giving firm strategic direction to RCVS Knowledge, setting overall policy, defining goals and setting targets and evaluating performance against agreed targets.
- To safeguard the good name and values of RCVS Knowledge.
- To ensure the effective and efficient organisational administration of RCVS Knowledge.
- To ensure the financial stability of RCVS Knowledge.
- To protect and manage the property of RCVS Knowledge and to ensure the proper investment of RCVS Knowledge's funds.
- To appoint the Director and monitor his/her performance.

Other duties

- To act as an ambassador of the charity promoting its good name and work as well as that of its other Trustees, volunteers, and staff.
- To scrutinise the Board papers thoroughly and other relevant documents including governance guidance.
- To attend all Board meetings as well as other important events where possible.
- To employ their individual skills, knowledge, or experience to help the Board reach sound decisions.
- To take the lead on discussions and activities where RCVS Knowledge has specific and relevant experience.

- To offer advice and guidance relevant to special expertise to the executive team and other staff where appropriate.
- To liaise with external contacts and organisations within RCVS Knowledge's sphere of influence.
- To regularly communicate, cooperate and make every effort to work well with fellow Trustees, volunteers and staff at all times.

Person specification

- MRCVS or RVN with current registration with RCVS
- Understanding of Evidence Based Veterinary Medicine
- Commitment to RCVS Knowledge
- Willingness to devote the necessary time and effort to fulfil the obligations and expectations of the role
- Willingness to learn about the veterinary world and the relevant issues affecting RCVS Knowledge
- Strategic vision
- Sound, independent judgment
- Ability to think creatively
- Willingness to speak their mind
- Understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship
- Ability to work effectively as a member of a team
- Nolan's seven principles of public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership

Time commitment

Four board meetings per annum and preparation time.

Additional time may be required for other volunteer roles taken on during term of Board service.

Evaluation

Self and by the Board, annually.

Closing Date

Please e-mail your application to info@rcvsknowledge.org Monday the 2nd of November 2020, 9:00 am.