

Trustee - Theology & Christian Mission

About

Tearfund is a Christian non-profit organisation working for a just and compassionate world. Where we're passionate about ending poverty and living our God's kingdom values of love, hope and transformation. [Tearfund NZ](#) is located in Mt Roskill, Auckland.

Position

Tearfund is seeking to appoint a new Trustee to join the Board with deep expertise in Christian theology and mission as well as governance experience. This Trustee will help ensure Tearfund's work remains theologically grounded and missionally aligned with its Christian identity and values.

Key areas of contribution include:

- Providing governance and theological insight into Tearfund's strategic direction, programmes, and partnerships
- Advising on Christian ethical frameworks in development, advocacy, and justice work
- Bringing an understanding of Integral Mission and whole-of-life transformation to the work of Tearfund
- Providing guidance on Tearfund's engagement with churches, denominations, and theological institutions
- Overseeing the integration of spiritual formation and discipleship across the organisation
- Helping navigate theological challenges in a diverse set of cultural contexts, including the bicultural and increasingly multicultural environment of New Zealand | Aotearoa.
- Encouraging reflection on Tearfund's role within the changing global church and mission landscape with sensitivity to the posture of a Christian development organisation in a postcolonial environment and secular nation.

Requirements

Every Trustee is required to subscribe to the Statement of Faith as outlined in Tearfund's original Trust Deed. Trustees are required to complete the Ministry of Justice criminal record check as well as Tearfund's Code of Conduct including Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults. All Trustees are expected to remain current on how to best discharge their responsibilities, including keeping abreast of changes and trends in economic, political, social, financial and legal climates and governance practices, and of other developments likely to be relevant to the organisation.

Terms of office

Trustees normally serve a three year Board Member term. However, a retiring Member shall be eligible for re-appointment. The appointment of Members shall be made by resolution of the Board.

Meetings

The Board meets at least four times a year and for a strategic planning day, then otherwise as necessary to deal with any urgent matters. The quarterly meetings are held in person at the Tearfund office, typically running from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm. The Board has Finance Risk and Audit, and CEO Employment and Remuneration standing committees, which may be held in person, or via teleconference. An annual meeting (which is scheduled to coincide with the November quarterly meeting) is held for election of the chair, treasurer, and secretary as well as to receive the annual statement of accounts, and appoint the auditor for the next financial year.

Time commitment

In addition to the routine Board and Committee meetings, Board Members should allow time for travel and preparatory work, especially sufficient time to ensure that all meeting papers and related material are reviewed prior to each meeting. Meeting agendas and minutes are available on Tearfund's subscription to the BoardPro software.

Desirable qualifications and experience

- 10+ years of experience in Christian ministry, theological education, or mission leadership
- Advanced theological education e.g. MDiv, ThM, PhD in Theology or Missiology.
- Deep understanding of global and local Christian movements. Experience engaging with churches, denominations, and theological institutions.
- Competent governance leader familiar with charitable trust responsibilities for strategy, policy, planning and budgeting, legal obligations as well as management monitoring and oversight.
- Ability to draw on theological and missional insights when making big picture and strategic outlook decisions.
- Demonstrated experience of living and working cross-culturally and reflecting on faith and mission in majority world contexts.

Induction

Tearfund has a comprehensive induction programme aimed to help new Trustees broaden their understanding of Tearfund NZ (and the global family of Tearfund and Compassion International organisations), its projects, and the for-purpose environment in which it operates.

To apply

Candidates wishing to put forward an expression of interest should enclose a copy of their CV and submit a cover letter outlining why they wish to be considered for the Tearfund Trustee role: work@tearfund.org.nz

Applications close 8th August

Please note that any voluntary appointment for Tearfund will be subject to the satisfactory completion of;

- *A self-declaration process*
- *A criminal records/police check*
- *Two reference verifications*