**TALK Surrey CIO**

 **Charity No:1176014**

**TRUSTEES NEEDED - JOIN US TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

TALK is a small local charity based in Surrey that offers long-term communication and social support for people with aphasia and their families.

Aphasia is an acquired communication disorder, most commonly resulting from stroke. It affects speaking, understanding, reading and writing, and has a sudden and profound effect on a person’s life, making many everyday tasks difficult.  It also impacts on confidence, personal relationships, and social life and can lead to frustration and isolation.

Our mission is to support and empower people to live positively with aphasia through engagement with their local peer network and the wider community.

Our enthusiastic team of trained volunteers helps people with aphasia to practise their communication, rebuild their self-confidence and, most importantly, have fun! We run four weekly groups (Guildford, Knaphill, Ashford and Walton-on-Thames) that provide a friendly and supportive environment and positive opportunities for connection and friendship.

TALK is supported by The National Lottery Community Fund and various councils and grant-giving bodies across Surrey, where it has a well-earned reputation for the help it provides to local people. We received the Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service in recognition of the outstanding contribution made by our volunteers.

For more information about TALK please visit our website [www.talksurrey.org.uk](http://www.talksurrey.org.uk)

**TRUSTEE ROLE**

We are seeking new Trustees to help lead our charity and make a real difference to people’s lives. The Board currently consists of seven Trustees and we are looking to recruit up to four more. This is an exciting time to be joining TALK as we develop our services post-Covid to ensure we meets the needs of people with aphasia in our local community. You will be joining a friendly, committed and active Board and training will be provided.

You would participate in our regular committee meetings (around 6 per year, approx. 2 hours) alongside the Chair, the Treasurer and the three paid members of staff. These usually take place in person, but virtual attendance is possible. You would also attend the AGM and may be involved in some project work, depending on your interests and skills.

As a Trustee you will be committed to the purpose, objectives and values of the charity and be willing to devote the necessary time and effort to carry out the role effectively and responsibly. You will be prepared to work as part of a team, engage with the detail of policies and financial information, bring your views to the table, offer challenge and support to other Trustees and to the executive team and be committed to always acting fairly and in the best interests of the charity.

We are particularly keen to hear from people with knowledge of the following areas:

·         business/ management

·         secretarial/ human resources

·         IT systems

However, these are not essential – the most important thing we look for is enthusiasm.

We are committed to a diversity of voices in our organisation.  We welcome applications from all backgrounds – you do not need to have held a trustee or similar role before.  We would also love to hear from you if you are from an under-represented or minority group, or if you have experience of aphasia or other communication disorders in your own personal life.

TALK is committed to safer recruitment and trustees will be expected to complete a Disclosure and Barring Service check.

Please note that this would be an unpaid role. TALK trustees have not historically claimed out of pocket expenses but this will be considered if requested.

 **INTERESTED?**

To find out more about this opportunity, please contact our Operations Manager, Sharon Spurdle: phone 07718 425953 (Mon – Thurs); email info@talksurrey.org.uk with a brief biography and a contact number or email address. We would be pleased to call you for an initial informal discussion.