

Becoming a Tenant Director

Frequently asked questions

V1: (Sep 2023)

We know you might have some questions about becoming a Tenant Director, so we've answered some of the most frequently asked questions in this document.

Don't forget if you have any other questions or want to know more, you can get in touch with our community engagement team by calling 0800 316 0897 or emailing communityengagement@2rh.org.uk.

Am I eligible to be a Tenant Board member?

You can apply for this role if you are a tenant, Shared Owner, or leaseholder of Two Rivers Housing.

There are some eligibility criteria that you also need to meet:

- You must not be employed by Two Rivers Housing Group.
- You must not be in serious breach of your tenancy agreement.
- You must not have been declared bankrupt or disqualified from being a Director of a Company or a Charity Trustee.

Two Rivers Housing is a registered charity. This means our Two Rivers Housing Board members are also trustees. To find out more about being a trustee there is some helpful advice here:

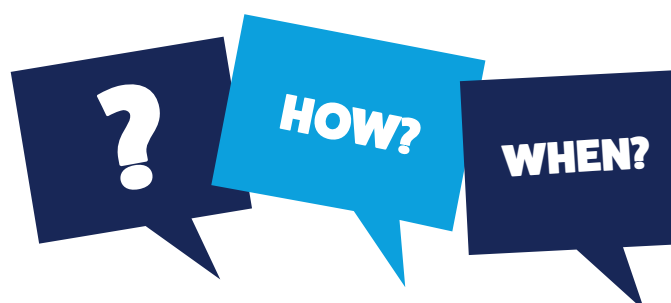
www.gov.uk/guidance/charity-trustee-whats-involved

Can I apply if I am not named on my household's tenancy or leasehold agreement?

No. We can only accept applications from customers who are resident and named on the tenancy or leasehold agreement.

What will I need to do as a Board member?

You will be expected to attend all Two Rivers Housing Group Board meetings. These meetings are usually held at Rivers Meet between 4.00 pm and 6.30 pm. There are normally 6 board meetings per year and two away days. Additional meetings may be held depending on business needs.



The Board agendas and papers are published electronically using our Board software. You will be given an Android Tablet which you will need to use to read reports before the meetings. Our Governance team will help you with the use of our Board software and will put you in touch with the right colleagues to explain more about any report.

Is there any support or training to help me prepare for the role?

Yes. We will provide support and training to help you become "Board ready". This will include help with preparing for meetings. We will develop a bespoke induction programme based on your skills and experience. We will also arrange training for your ongoing development as a Board member.

Are the Board meetings formal?

Yes. We have an agenda, but the meetings are run in a welcoming and inclusive way. The Chair of the Board leads us through the agenda and makes sure everyone feels comfortable to have their say.

Will I be paid?

Yes, you will be paid an annual fee with effect from the start of your appointment (1st April 2024). You will also be reimbursed for any prearranged expenses incurred for travel or subsistence in your role as Board member.

The fee is paid in 12 monthly instalments and is subject to tax and national insurance deductions.

The current fee is £4,000 per annum and this rate will be uplifted by the same cost of living percentage as Two Rivers Housing's employees for 2024/25.

If I currently receive benefits, will the payment of £4,000 per annum affect my benefit payments?

You will need to declare this income to the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). Please use this link to the [benefits calculator](#) to see how it could affect the benefits you receive. Please let us know if you need any further advice or assistance.

If I need to take unpaid time off work, can you make up the loss of my earnings?

No, we can't make up for loss of earnings. We can only pay the fee of £4,000 per annum plus travel expenses to attend Board meetings.

When will I join the Board?

If you are selected to join the Board as a Tenant Board member, the appointment will start from 1st April 2024. This is when our current Tenant Board member is due to retire. Prior to your appointment you will be expected to complete a training programme to get you "Board ready".

How long will my term on the Board be?

Your appointment will be for 1 year initially with effect from 1st April 2024, followed by a term of three years, unless the Board agrees a shorter term. The maximum term will normally be seven years (one x one year for induction and two x three years).



How to apply?

If you would like to apply for the role of Tenant Board member, please contact our community engagement team on 0800 316 0897 or by email communityengagement@2rh.org.uk. They will arrange for someone to talk to you about the role and provide more information and advice on the application process.