NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

ROLE DESCRIPTION

Year Here is a platform for entrepreneurs who want to tackle problems that matter, consisting of a one-year Fellowship and an Accelerator programme offering investment and business support.

Since launching at 10 Downing Street in 2013, we’ve worked with over 250 aspiring social entrepreneurs and launched award-winning social ventures like Appt Health, Migrateful and Chatterbox.

ABOUT THE ROLES

We’re looking for talented, mission-driven people to provide expertise, scrutiny and direction to Year Here’s executive team. We are appointing a co-chair to work with Sneh Jani-Patel and at least one other Non-Executive Director to join the board of Year Here Limited.

Bringing an objective eye and fresh perspective, our Non-Exec Directors will support and challenge the executive team to make great decisions and protect the long-term interests of the company.

Non-Executive Directors will be invited to make a voluntary commitment of around 4 days per year (equivalent to 3 hours per month).

You will join a board consisting of:

- Sneh Jani-Patel – Project Director, FutureGov (Co-Chair)
- Zoë Stanton – CEO of Year Here
- Adam Swersky – Director, Social Finance

The deadline for expressions of interest is Sunday 16th May.
RESPONSIBILITIES
The purpose of Non Exec Directors’ contribution will include:

- **Strategy development**: Advise and guide the executive team towards a strategy that enables commercial success, organisational growth and social impact.
- **Advocating and connecting**: Act as an advocate for Year Here, helping us connect with useful people and organisations to bolster our faculty, drive our sales and support our fundraising efforts.
- **Financial planning**: Scrutinise the executive team’s financial reports and forecasts, offering counsel and direction on key financial decisions.
- **Risk management**: Ensure that financial controls are in place, financial reporting is accurate, legal and fiduciary duties are fulfilled, and operational risks are appropriately managed.

COMMITMENT
The Non-Executive Director roles are voluntary and consist of:

- Attendance at, and preparation for, four board meetings a year, taking place in the evening at Year Here’s studio in Hackney.
- Correspondence with the executive team and other directors on legal, financial and operational issues.
- Other specific contributions depending on the unique expertise you bring.

Non-Executive Directors will be invited to make a voluntary time commitment of around 4 days per year (equivalent to 3 hours per month).

The Co-Chair role will consist of all the above responsibilities plus shared line management of our Chief Executive. The Co-Chair will be expected to contribute 12 days per year (i.e. 8 hours per month).

Board members will serve a term of 3 years with the option to put themselves forward for one additional term, subject to the approval of a majority of other board members, up to a maximum of 6 years.
ABOUT YOU

Essential skills, experience and attributes
All those expressing interest in joining the board should have:

- Experience of strategy development at a senior level;
- Ability to interpret financial data and make sound financial decisions;
- Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to balance coaching approaches with constructive challenge as appropriate;
- An ambitious, entrepreneurial mindset with a reasonable risk appetite;
- Passion for social impact and a commitment to dismantling unjust systems that propagate systemic racism, classism, ableism and other oppressions; and
- An understanding and appreciation of Year Here’s mission and values.

Priority skills, experience and attributes
The 2-3 new Non-Executive Directors should collectively bring:

- Significant experience of non-profit or for-profit boards and/or expertise in company governance;
- Commercial strategy skills and significant private sector experience;
- Experience with startups, investment or venture incubation;
- Experience of frontline service delivery and/or lived experience of the social issues that Year Here works on.

Please only express interest in joining the board if you have at least one of the priority skills, experience and attributes listed above.

Additional skills, experience and attributes
Alongside the skills, experiences and attributes listed above, some desirable additions are listed below:

- Financial management and/or accounting experience;
- Experience in tech product development;
- Significant senior private sector networks; and
- Marketing / PR capabilities and networks (i.e. journalists and influencers).

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
We are committed to building a diverse board and strongly encourage applications from women, minorities, LGBTQ+ people and people with disabilities.

We are also committed to offering opportunities to people with criminal convictions.
BENEFITS

These are voluntary roles. Where Non Executive Directors are asked to give their time beyond the standard commitment, as outlined above, they may be paid for one-off projects.

We want Non Executive Directors to feel integrated into the team and the Fellowship. As such, we can offer:

- Occasional deskspace at our open plan studio in Hackney.
- Access to tonnes of events and training sessions delivered by some of the leading lights of the social innovation world.

APPOINTMENT PROCESS

Send an expression of interest to Sneh Jani-Patel, Year Here’s current Chair, on opportunities@yearhere.org with your CV and/or a link to your LinkedIn profile. In your email tell us, briefly, why you want to join our board.

The closing date for the role is midnight on Sunday 16th May 2021.

Following expression of interest, a short telephone call will be arranged. If both parties want to proceed, we’ll arrange a further conversation with other board members.

We anticipate inviting candidates to a board meeting as an observer in June before formal appointment as a Director.
WHO WE ARE

Unlike a traditional Master’s, the Year Here Fellowship is an immersive, action-oriented postgrad course. Over one year, diverse and multidisciplinary cohorts of Fellows learn at the frontline of inequality – in care homes, homeless hostels and schools across London. Supported by a rigorous social innovation curriculum and industry mentoring, they found some of the most promising social startups in the UK.

Our new Year Here Accelerator supports those emerging businesses with investment, specialist business support, access to clients, and office space.

We’re also launching the Year Here Foundation, a new charity aiming to widen access to social entrepreneurship through the provision of financial bursaries and other practical support to high-potential entrepreneurs from low income backgrounds.

Our growth

Since launching at 10 Downing Street in 2013, we have grown steadily. Today, we are a team of 12 and a faculty of 80+ social impact experts. We turnover £850,000 / year.

Our business model is unique. We don’t charge a tuition fee for the Fellowship. Instead, Fellows work on real-world social projects that we are paid for. This income, along with some recurring grants, covers the cost of the programme. The Accelerator makes money by taking a cut of the startup investment raised and a small stake in each company. The Foundation raises funds from philanthropists who share our mission.

Year Here is a social enterprise; meaning that our purpose is to create positive change in society rather than to maximise shareholder profits. Our Articles of Association state that at least 20% of our profits must be reinvested in our social mission.

Social Impact

Year Here’s 256 Fellows have collectively volunteered over 160,000 hours in frontline services – including homeless shelters, care leavers’ services and pupil referral units – and launched 42 new social ventures backed by Nesta, The Observer, Ashoka, UnLtd, Bethnal Green Ventures and the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation.

These ventures include:

- **Birdsong**, a fashion brand selling clothes made by women’s groups, from older knitters to migrant seamstresses, with a ‘no sweatshops, no photoshop’ ethos.
- **Fat Macy’s**, a restaurant that trains homeless Londoners, with profits helping them raise a deposit for their first flat.
- **Appt**, a HealthTech company that uses behavioural economics to improve uptake of preventative healthcare measures in diverse patient communities.