



International  
Longevity Centre UK

# ILC Chair

Recruitment pack 2024



## Who are we?

ILC is the UK's leading authority on the impact of longevity on society. We combine evidence, solutions and networks to make change happen.

We help governments, policymakers, businesses and employers develop and implement solutions to ensure we all live happier, healthier and more fulfilling longer lives.

We want a society where we all live happier, healthier and more fulfilling longer lives, where tomorrow is better than today and where future generations are better off. ILC wants to help forge a new vision for the 100-year life where we all have the opportunity to learn across our lives and where new technology helps us contribute more to society.

That doesn't mean we're just about protecting the interests of older people. It doesn't mean we're just about promoting their needs. And it doesn't mean we're just about prioritising their requirements.

The impact of longevity on society isn't just about older people: it will impact everyone.

We know the implications of demographics, today and tomorrow.

- We know that every girl born today will have a one in four chance of living until she's 100.
- We know that when she starts work, she will need to save at least 20% of her earnings every year in order to afford a comfortable retirement.
- We know that if she wants to buy her own home, she'll probably need to wait until she's over 35, in a relationship and working full time.

And that is where we come in.

We believe society has to adapt now so we can all enjoy the benefits of longevity, and we want a society that works for everyone, regardless of their age.

We were established in 1997 as one of the members of the [International Longevity Centre Global Alliance](#), an international network on longevity.

We're independent and politically neutral, so we can say the things about our future society that others can't. We know that society is ageing. We know the numbers. We know the challenges. What happens next will define us for generations.

We work with central government, local government, the private sector, the charity sector, and professional and academic associations to provoke conversations and pioneer solutions for a society where everyone can thrive, regardless of age.

Since our inception, we have published over 400+ reports and organised over 500+ events, including the annual [Future of Ageing conferences](#).

We are a small team, headed by David Sinclair as Chief Executive. More information about our team and their expertise is available on our [website](#).

We are governed by a board of 13 dedicated Trustees, chaired by Nigel Waterson. The full list of our Board of Trustees, along with their biographies, is available on our [website](#).

## We make a difference

We want you to help us provoke conversations and discussions about the impact of longevity on society, and what happens next.

Over the last decade we:

- Convinced G20 Ministers to put greater focus on the prevention of ill health.
- Convinced Government and employers to engage with mid-life health and wellbeing checks and introduce older apprentices.
- Got the mortgage industry to end the practice of upper age limits for home loans.
- Produced research that was used by both the SNP and HM Treasury in the lead-up to the vote on Scottish independence.
- Helped employers prepare for an ageing workforce and develop age-friendly standards and practices.
- Highlighted the power of music for people with dementia.
- Began the conversation about downsizing and under-occupancy back in 2007.

We have changed the media narrative around people having to work until they drop: now, it's a more nuanced debate about fuller working lives and how this benefits us all. We created the first LGBT intergenerational project in the world, which has inspired others around the world. We made it possible for people with dementia to have relationships in care homes, producing a best practice guide for carers.

See [ILC Impact Report](#) and [Prevention Programme Impact Report](#) for more examples of our impact.

## ILC Chair recruitment

ILC is recruiting for a new Chair to lead our Board of Trustees to ensure that ILC is regarded as the UK's leading authority on the impact of longevity on society.

You will be a voice for ILC, promoting the work of the organisation. You may be asked to chair and speak at events as well as represent the organisation to the media or in meetings with politicians or funders.

The ideal candidate will:

- understand charity governance;
- have strong influencing skills and good political and policy connections (UK and ideally internationally);
- have good understanding of and connections with businesses, particularly those who are likely audiences and funders of ILC's work;
- have an interest in ILC's work, care about the issues and have a passion for making a difference.

The Chair will

- set a clear strategic direction for the organisation and ensure the organisation is performing against these objectives;
- represent the organisation externally;
- lead the board of trustees;
- support and manage the Chief Executive;
- ensure the organisation meets or exceeds the standards of governance expected of a leading registered charity in the UK.

The Chair is a member of the trustee board. The six main duties of a charity trustee are:

- ensure your charity is carrying out its purposes for the public benefit;
- comply with your charity's governing document and the law;
- act in your charity's best interests;
- ensure your charity is accountable;
- manage your charity's resources responsibly;
- act with reasonable care and skill.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3>

ILC trustees are expected to conduct themselves with integrity and commitment, and with understanding of the responsibilities of charity trusteeship. They should be willing to devote the necessary time for this. They should have strategic vision, good independent judgement, ability to think creatively, willingness to speak their mind, and the ability to work effectively as a member of a team.

**We are also recruiting to strengthen our trustee board. The recruitment pack for the new trustees is available on our [website](#).**

## ILC Chair Role description

### Purpose of role

To lead the organisation so it is highly regarded as the UK's leading authority on the impact of longevity on society.

### Main responsibilities

#### Setting direction

With the Board of Trustees and senior staff, set a clear strategic direction for the organisation setting out clearly what it aims to achieve over what time scales.

#### Corporate governance

With the Board of Trustees and senior staff, ensure the organisation meets or exceeds the standards of governance expected of a leading registered charity in the UK.

#### Corporate performance

With the Board of Trustees and senior staff, monitor the performance of the organisation against its strategic objectives and initiate corrective action when actual or potential shortfalls are identified.

#### Team and personal development

Lead the Board of Trustees so it behaves as an effective team and personally ensure the learning and development needs of Trustees and the Chief Executive are identified and addressed.

Support and manage the Chief Executive, conducting quarterly and annual reviews.

#### External relations

Help to achieve the strategic goals of the organisation by forming useful external relations and by representing the organisation when possible and appropriate.

## Want to know more?

If you would like to discuss the role and responsibilities in more detail before submitting an application, please contact the ILC Chief Executive, David Sinclair, at [davidsinclair@ilcuk.org.uk](mailto:davidsinclair@ilcuk.org.uk). David can arrange conversations with existing trustees or our Chair ahead of your application.

### Time commitment

Our Chair represents ILC at external events through the year and has regular conversations with the Chief Executive and other trustees.

The Chair is expected to attend four meetings per year plus ad hoc away days.

Board members are also expected to represent the ILC Board at a minimum of three ILC events each year, including the annual ILC Future of Ageing conference.

### Remuneration

This is a voluntary position. However, ILC will cover reasonable expenses to attend board meetings and away days.

## How to apply

ILC is keen to encourage applicants from as diverse a range of backgrounds as possible, to better reflect the range of work we do.

Please send a covering letter detailing your interest and suitability for this role along with a recent CV to ILC's Head of Operations at [recruitment@ilcuk.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@ilcuk.org.uk).

### Application deadline

9am, Monday 9 September 2024

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to a call with the ILC Chief Executive ahead of the interview to learn more about the organisation.

### Interview date

Interviews will be held shortly after the closing date

Interviews will be conducted by three ILC Trustees.

### Unsuccessful candidates

If your application is unsuccessful, you will be notified by ILC.

### Start date

New board members will be invited to join the 30 October 2024 board meeting. They will be sent the meeting minutes from the last three meetings.

The Head of Operations will arrange introductory meetings with the Chair.

## What it's like to be an ILC Trustee

For a relatively small organisation, the ILC punches way above its weight. In a crowded field, with many thinktanks and other bodies being active in the longevity arena, we are still regarded as the market leader. As an independent, non-party thinktank we are widely respected across government, politics and the media.

I hugely enjoy being a trustee. The team are enthusiastic and talented. And my fellow trustees bring a wide range of expertise and experience to the table. We set high standards of governance and ensure they are met.

The ILC is a great organisation to be associated with in any capacity.

***Nigel Waterson - ILC Chair; Governor of the Pensions Policy Institute and former MP***

I find the role of ILC Trustee to be stimulating and enjoyable. The work of the organisation is varied, important and clearly valued. Working alongside the other Trustees and the knowledgeable staff team, I have learned much about the opportunities and challenges of increased longevity in arenas from housing to pensions to the future of the High Street. The Trustees come from a wide variety of backgrounds and bring a range of experience and expertise. Board meetings are stimulating and robust, but respectful discussion is encouraged. Trustees are expected to contribute to strategy as well as ensuring good governance and, as such, we are in my view enabled to add real value to the organisation and its work.

***Annabel Scarfe – ILC Trustee; Director, Change-fx OD Ltd***

Demographic change is something that is going to affect all of us and have an impact on generations to come. The ILC is leader in this field and has been for 25 years and brings a unique life course approach to its work.

As a trustee I enjoyed the opportunity to get acquainted with the issues, meet fascinating people at our events and share experiences with a talented and passionate board of trustees. We had an array of talents within the ILC professional staff as well as on our boards of trustees and advisors.

The opportunity to contribute to such important work was very rewarding and I enjoyed my time as treasurer enormously and would highly recommend the opportunity to join the board of trustees to anyone who shares an interest in helping our world adapt to the changes, opportunities and challenges of increased longevity.

***Kevin Bounds – Former ILC Treasurer***

Ageing populations across the world are likely to be one of the distinguishing features of the 21st century, posing both challenges and opportunities for economic performance, social welfare, health and retirement systems. The ILC is the UK's leading research institute into these far-reaching issues in collaboration with other specialist agencies. I found my years as a Trustee to be both engaging and fulfilling.

***Lawrence Churchill CBE - Chairman at Clara-Pensions and former ILC Trustee***

Being a trustee of the ILC was rewarding, satisfying and immensely enjoyable. Not only did it allow me to play a part in steering and supporting the important work the organisation does tackling one of the biggest issues facing society today, but it provided the opportunity to work alongside, and learn from, the other dedicated, experienced trustees. The alchemy of the mix of backgrounds and skills on the board is what made it such a stimulating group and such an effective and valuable component of the work of the ILC.

***Diane Kenwood – Former ILC Trustee; Editorial Director at Noon and Director of Women of the Year Lunch and Assembly***

I thoroughly enjoyed my time as a trustee of ILC during a time when it was growing in influence in the longevity arena. The people – whether trustee or staff - worked hard, were committed with a strong team spirit.

***Trevor Llanwarne - former Government Actuary and former ILC Trustee***