

Board Member

What will you do at CDS?

You will ensure that CDS is a well governed organisation, championing our vision and embodying our values. You will ensure that the work we do as a landlord, as a housing co-op service provider and as a promoter of new community led homes lives up to our values and achieves our strategic goal of offering services that are reliable, affordable and of good quality compared to our peers. You will shape our strategy, scrutinise our delivery and provide 'critical friend' challenge to support improvement and efficiency. In your personal contribution you will add value by putting your skills and experience to work in pursuit of our goals and embodying our values.

What difference will you make for us?

- We will be clear and consistent about our purpose and direction
- We will have ambitious goals and sensible measures of progress and success
- We will be safe and compliant as a landlord, employer and business
- We will operate safely and be mindful of our duty to customer, clients, employees and others
- We will be agile as a business, able to respond to opportunities and change
- We will have a keen awareness of risk and clear, effective risk management
- We will use our resources to best effect in pursuit of our goals
- We will learn from setbacks and failures quickly and effectively
- We will be connected to the wider world, especially housing, co-operative & community led housing issues
- We will have a highly motivated workforce who feel the support of the Board

We will look to you to ...

- Be a champion for CDS and the work of growing a successful and mainstream co-op and community led housing sector
- Shape and monitor policy and strategy, helping the Executive Team to deliver plans and outcomes that are true to CDS's values and charitable objects
- Offer challenge in the interests of improvement and effectiveness, always in line with CDS's values
- Review and approve each year's budget and final annual financial accounts for presentation to the auditors prior to publication
- Monitor our performance
- Appoint and monitor the performance of the Chief Executive
- Ensure through both service and conduct that CDS is a well-managed and well governed organisation, complying with our adopted Code of Governance and with the general principles of charitable and ethical good governance
- Ensure that our affairs are conducted lawfully and in accordance with generally accepted standards of performance and propriety
- Establish and oversee a framework of delegation and systems of control
- Be diligent in learning about the strategies, plans and goals and in preparing for meetings and discussions fully so that you can make a meaningful contribution
- Act impartially and objectively and not to act as a "delegate" or "representative" of any particular interest or group, including client or tenant groups
- Comply with the requirements of the board member contract for services and the code of conduct and to do nothing that will bring CDS, the social housing sector or the co-op and community led housing movement into disrepute

- Serve on one or more committees and to your personal talents and knowledge to support CDS's success
- Participate in appropriate training and in board member workshops and conferences
- Declare any conflict of interest or personal interests in a timely and open manner and withdraw from any influence or decision making where these arise

You will definitely bring...

- Enthusiasm and energy
- Excitement about our vision and direction
- Curiosity and a willingness to ask questions for clarity/understanding
- A preference for working collaboratively and supportively
- An interest in housing and/or co-operation
- The ability to read/digest reports and data
- A willingness to share knowledge information and thoughts
- Optimism
- Commitment to learning about our business and sector
- Reliable and prompt attendance at meetings and consistent and sufficient preparation for meetings
- A commitment to our values

You will be a star performer in this role if you

- Like working as part of a team
- Enjoy thinking about how things can be done
- Have high personal standards and integrity
- Can explore failure as a route to learning/improvement and without blame
- Are interested in housing and the power of community action
- Understand and enjoy the links between the big picture and small actions
- Like measuring things

This isn't your dream job if you...

- Like to be told what to do
- Dislike big picture planning
- Find it hard to pay attention to written information/reports
- Prefer to be in charge
- Don't enjoy working within a framework of rules/obligations
- Have little interest in housing
- Find monitoring boring
- Dislike asking questions
- Are uncomfortable with open enquiry and straight talking
- Struggle with being organized and prepared and aren't great at responding to emails

Your team will include.....

No staff report to this role

You will get support from:

The Chair of the board and other board members
The Chief Executive and wider executive team

What we offer:

Board Member Pay:
£ 2,447 per annum
Reimbursement of reasonable travel expenses

Other Benefits:

Training
Development Opportunities