



# **The Evidence Quarter CIC**

## **Non-Executive Director**

**Candidate Brief**

**December 2022**

Dear Colleague,

[The Evidence Quarter](#) (EQ) is a home for evidence based organisations. Established in 2020, the EQ brings together a number of evidence and research charities and organisations at Albany House, Westminster. The Evidence Quarter is a Community Interest Company, limited by guarantee, and a subsidiary of What Works for Children's Social Care.

Our mission is to bring together leading evidence organisations to increase collaboration, reduce duplication and tackle joint challenges. More than just an office space, we aim to facilitate evidence-minded organisations to become greater than the sum of their parts. By working together, we seek to increase members' impact and deliver evidence-based change for society.

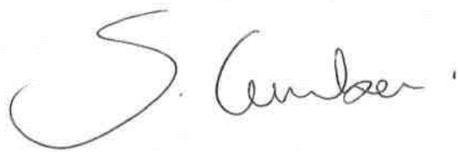
We are seeking new directors who:

- Are committed to ensuring evidence is at the forefront of policy and decision making
- Can help The EQ think long term and strategically
- Have strong communication skills and a critical and curious mind
- Have the ability to influence key stakeholders within their sphere of expertise and more widely.

**We are keen to appoint two directors at this time and are particularly interested in hearing from candidates who have expertise in fundraising, property and estate and legal skills.**

**We are also passionate about improving the diversity of our board of directors, and especially welcome applicants from backgrounds that are not currently well represented on the board.**

More information about the organisation and the role is included with our information pack. I look forward to receiving and reading your application.



**Sarah Cumbers**  
**Chair of Trustees of The Evidence Quarter**  
Dec 2022

## Introduction to The Evidence Quarter

The Evidence Quarter Community Interest Company (EQ CIC) aims to create a space for leading evidence-based organisations to collaborate and promote the importance of research and evidence in policy making. Examples of current activity include:

- Sharing resources and knowledge through collaboration meetings across our members and the wider What Works Centre community
- Creating a community environment through events and activities that bring together the research community, policy makers and evidence-minded organisations
- Training and career development support through our mentorship scheme, internship scheme and Early Career Development group
- A focus on sharing challenges and successes in promoting equality, diversity and inclusion
- Enabling institutions to share office space, back-office functions, and technical functions such as data protection.

## Role Description

As a member of the board, you will work with the Chair and other directors to set the strategic direction and shape the work of the EQ CIC.

The specific duties of the directors are to:

- Contribute to all aspects of board business, governance, and strategic oversight
- Actively engage with key stakeholders in fields which are relevant to our organisations, acting in an ambassadorial capacity as appropriate
- Promote the work of the EQ CIC as a key agency for evidence based improvement and change across numerous sectors.

### **Essential criteria for director appointments:**

- A successful track record in one or more of the following areas in the UK or internationally:
  - Fundraising, property and estate or legal skills/experience
  - Working across public, voluntary, charitable or private sectors
  - Social investment and social enterprise: working with innovations and other investors for capital or revenue or other collaboration
  - Research and/or evidence based policymaking
- Connections to networks of people in the UK or internationally from whose expertise the EQ CIC may benefit, and a willingness to use those connections for the organisation's benefit.
- A mind-set aligned to the organisation and its board of directors, including:
  - Independent: able to challenge and support
  - Creative and enthusiastic about work that makes a difference
  - Team player: honest and transparent
- A good understanding of, and commitment to, the EQ's aims and the ability to meet the time commitment outlined on the next page.

### **Desirable criteria for director appointments:**

- Personal commitment to improving outcomes for the communities these organisations support
- Understanding of the financial, structural, and human dimensions of a new organisation
- Understanding of the agenda around What Works Centres and the broader agenda around evidence-based policy and practice in public services
- Experience of operating as a non-executive director, or evidence of transferable skills, including:
  - Strategic capability: sharp mind and good judgement
  - Ability to build strong relationships
  - Demonstrable understanding of roles and responsibilities of non-executives and of collective decision-making.

## Terms of Appointment

**Remuneration:** We are a community interest company, so these roles are non-executive and unremunerated, except for the reimbursement of reasonable expenses.

**Time commitment:** The Board of Directors meets four times a year. There may also be events and functions at the EQ that directors will be asked to attend.

**Length of appointment:** The appointment will be for a term of up to two years, and is anticipated to start in February 2023 or as soon as possible after appointment.

**Location:** Board meetings are normally held in Central London and online.

**Equal opportunities:** We are an equal opportunities employer, and we aim to have a diverse mix of skills and backgrounds amongst the members of the board of directors that can in turn better reflect the sector we work with. We welcome applications from candidates from all backgrounds, particularly from candidates from communities that are currently underrepresented on our board. These include disabled people and people from Black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds.

Please help us monitor this by completing our voluntary Equality and Diversity monitoring form.

## How to apply

To apply for this role please email [info-eq@theevidencequarter.com](mailto:info-eq@theevidencequarter.com) :

- A covering letter which:
  - Addresses the essential criteria for the role
  - Tells us why you want to join the Board
  - Explains what difference your contribution is likely to make to the work of the EQ
- A copy of your CV.

**Deadline: 16th January 2023, 5pm.**