



Appointment of Chair and Non-Executive Director of Scottish Canals

Appointments commencing in April and July 2022

Would you like the opportunity to play a significant role in the management and development of Scotland's canals and the regeneration of their surrounding areas? From the majestic Caledonian Canal to the beautifully picturesque Crinan Canal, you could have a pivotal role in ensuring these historic assets are preserved for future generations to come.

We are looking to fill the roles of the incumbent Chair and up to two Non-Executive Directors in April and July 2022 respectively. There are currently six valued and respected members of the Board comprising four Non-Executive Directors, the Chair and the Chief Executive.

Roles and responsibilities

Through active, dynamic and creative leadership of the Board, the Chair will lead discussions on complex issues, weigh up conflicting opinions and facilitate Board decisions consistent with its strategic vision and objectives as set out in its Corporate Plan 2020-23.

The Non-Executive Directors are expected to provide strategic direction and challenge to the organisation in line with Scottish Ministers' priorities. They will also maintain high standards of corporate governance and financial probity. They will develop and maintain an appreciation of the political and policy context and of the needs and interests of canal users and surrounding communities.

Scottish Canals

Scottish Canals is the operating name of the British Waterways Board in Scotland. Scottish Canals, operating as a non-departmental public body, operates and manages all five canals in Scotland: the Forth & Clyde, Union and Monkland Canals in the Lowlands, the Crinan Canal in Argyll, and the Caledonian Canal in the Highlands. Scotland's canals and their towpaths provide a stunning setting for sailing, boating, paddle sports, walking and cycling.

Scotland's canals were built hundreds of years ago, but they are contributing to the contemporary prosperity of our country in an increasingly diverse number of ways. Our canals offer access to green and blue space in urban areas, and community hubs in rural areas. Scotland's canals are places where people can escape to nature, while also offering unique opportunities to address challenges such as climate change, health inequality and mental wellbeing.

The increasing environmental impact of climate change is being observed first-hand on Scotland's canals network. Scottish Canals is working with partners to find sustainable solutions to these challenges and have recently announced their ambition to reach net zero on direct carbon emissions by 2030.

As well as their primary role of providing leisure and active travel opportunities, they stimulate multi-million pound regeneration and development, support Scotland's tourism and destination economy, contribute significantly to the active living agenda, biodiversity, heritage, education and enable skills and confidence building projects in some of Scotland's most disadvantaged communities.

Skills, Knowledge and Experience

Those applying for either of the roles will need to demonstrate the following skills and knowledge:

- Corporate Governance;
- Strong analytical and decision-making skills;
- Strong constructive challenge;
- Corporate Finance;
- Influencing and communication skills;
- An ability to harness diversity;
- Knowledge & experience of the issues relevant to the operations and activities of Scottish Canals such as dealing with the impact of climate change and infrastructure asset management.

Those applying for the role of Chair of the Board will also need to demonstrate evidence of:

- Strategic leadership skills;
- Excellent networking, mediation and conflict resolution.

Applicants will be asked to demonstrate evidence in an application form and return along with a letter and a tailored CV. Further information can be found in the application pack.

Remuneration and Time Commitment

The Chair receives £335 per day with Non-Executive Directors receiving £240 per day. Expenses incurred as a result of carrying out the duties of the appointment, including reasonable travel and subsistence costs and dependant carer and childcare expenses, will be reimbursed. The appointment is non-pensionable.

The Chair is expected to devote around 42 days per year to the role with Non-Executive Directors expected to devote up to 20 days per year.

Length of Term

The appointments are for three years and will take effect from 1 April 2022 for the Chair role and 1 July 2022 for the Non-Executive Director role as detailed earlier in the advert. Reappointment is not automatic and is subject to performance and the individual continuing to satisfy the requirements of the role.

Applicants for public appointments must be legally entitled to work in the UK.

An application pack and full details can be found at <https://applications.appointed-for-scotland.org/> and www.scottishcanals.co.uk.

Completed letters, tailored CV's and the application form should be returned to ScottishCanals@transport.gov.scot **The closing date for completed applications is midnight Sunday 21 November 2021.**

Accessibility to public appointments is a fundamental requirement and the public appointments process promotes, demonstrates and upholds equality of opportunity for all applicants. The Scottish Government will always give consideration to disability-related reasonable adjustments that an applicant might request to enable them to demonstrate their merit and participate fully in the selection process. If you require any of the application pack documentation in an alternative format, please contact ScottishCanals@transport.gov.scot.

Scottish Ministers particularly welcome applications from people with protected characteristics that are under-represented in Scotland's public bodies, such as women, disabled people, those from minority ethnic communities and people aged under 50.