



Tower Hamlets  
Law Centre

Trustee Recruitment  
2021





## Who we are

### The Law Centre

Tower Hamlets is one of the most diverse and deprived boroughs in Britain. We provide specialist, high quality, free legal advice to thousands of people in the borough every year, supporting families to avoid eviction, people in poverty to get financial support, and people at risk of being deported to stay with their relatives and communities in the UK.

Our funding has been severely cut over the last decade and we have faced exceptional challenges just to keep afloat. We've weathered the pandemic and carried on with not a single day of interruption to our services. Yet our long term position is still immensely challenging if we are to ensure we're still here to serve the next generation in our East End community.

We're an ambitious organisation, determined to survive, to thrive and to grow. We've expanded our support to encompass employment law in the last few months, recognising this as a major area of growth in need post-pandemic.

### The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for the strategy, vision and good running of the organisation, appointing and working closely with the Chief Executive and senior team to drive us forward. We're there to make sure the Centre is still here in 50 years' time, but also that we are providing outstanding support right now to the people who need us most.

The Board meets 4-6 times a year, and does a lot of its business through three committees (Finance, Development and Personnel) – all trustees are expected to sit on at least one. Most meetings are in the evenings.



# What we are looking for

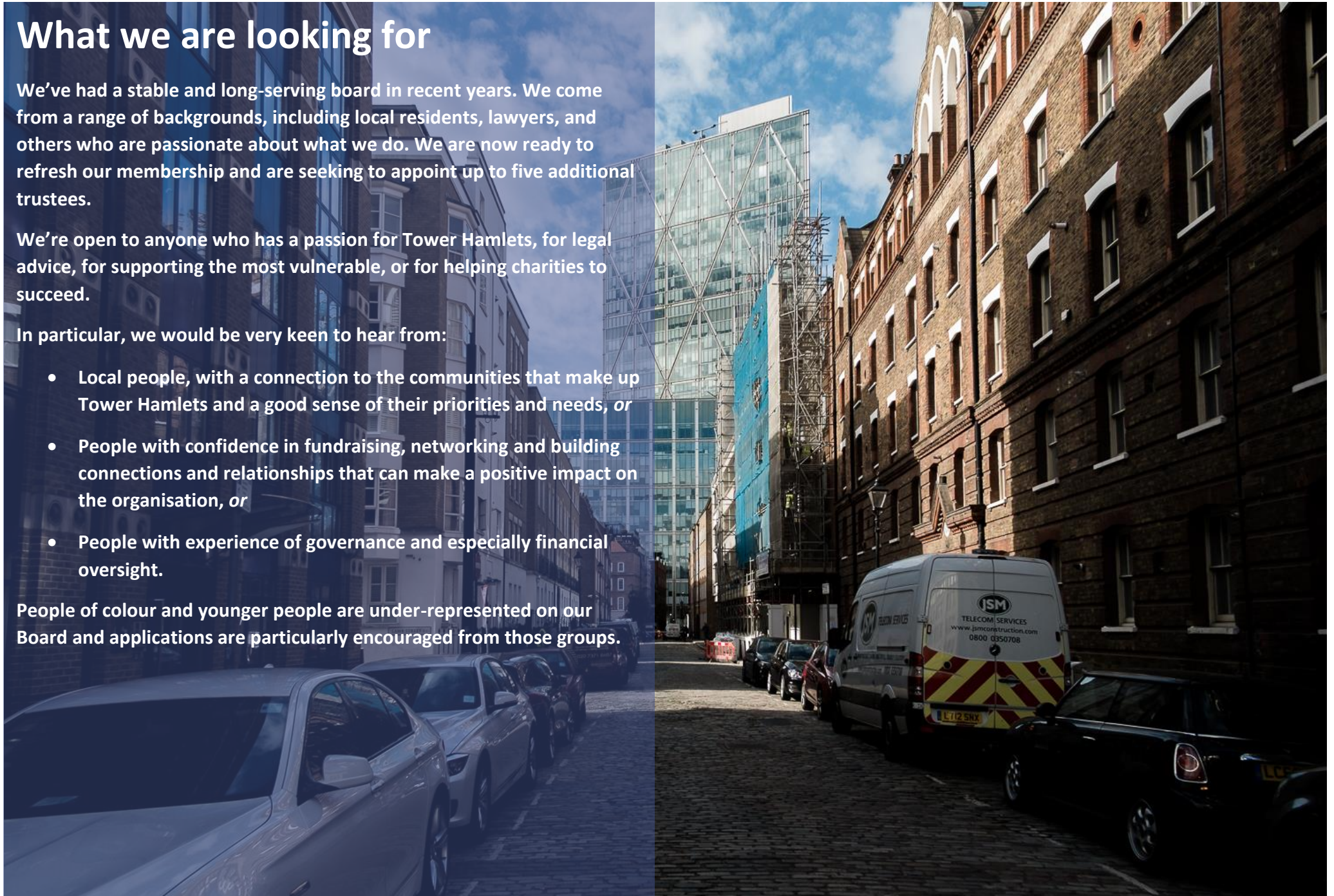
We've had a stable and long-serving board in recent years. We come from a range of backgrounds, including local residents, lawyers, and others who are passionate about what we do. We are now ready to refresh our membership and are seeking to appoint up to five additional trustees.

We're open to anyone who has a passion for Tower Hamlets, for legal advice, for supporting the most vulnerable, or for helping charities to succeed.

In particular, we would be very keen to hear from:

- Local people, with a connection to the communities that make up Tower Hamlets and a good sense of their priorities and needs, *or*
- People with confidence in fundraising, networking and building connections and relationships that can make a positive impact on the organisation, *or*
- People with experience of governance and especially financial oversight.

People of colour and younger people are under-represented on our Board and applications are particularly encouraged from those groups.







## What to do next

If you are interested – please email our Chair of Trustees, James Blythe ([jamesblythe@gmail.com](mailto:jamesblythe@gmail.com)) for an initial conversation. We will then invite people to shadow a few meetings and gradually come to a shared view with you about whether you are a good fit for us, and us for you.



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