THE CAMROSE CENTRE
thecamrosecentre.org
HELPING HOMELESS AND VULNERABLY HOUSED PEOPLE IN BASINGSTOKE

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Basingstoke
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Dear friend,

I want to thank you for your interest in the Camrose Centre. If you've got this far, you are considering volunteering your time for an important cause.

Without the support and generosity of the people of Basingstoke and Deane, local community organisations and our funders we would not be able to carry out our vital work.

Every day, except Saturday, we provide a hot meal, the opportunity for a shower and a change of clothes, access to vital health, advice and social wellbeing services, as well as a listening ear, and company to our clients. They may be homeless, vulnerably housed, sleeping rough, experiencing poverty or at risk of becoming homeless. Whoever they are, we want to help them.

The Camrose Centre is a registered charity which is guided and supported by a board of trustees. Trustees give their expertise, skills and time to ensure that the charity makes decisions in the interests of its beneficiaries, that it spends its money wisely and that it safeguards the future prosperity of the charity, its clients, staff and volunteers.

Being a trustee is incredibly rewarding. If you think you have something to offer, please do read the information pack attached and get in touch!

With very best wishes

Saffron Cordery
Chair, The Camrose Centre

INFORMATION PACK:

Roles we are recruiting:	Volunteer Trustees
Area covered:	Basingstoke and Deane
Responsible to:	Board of Trustees and Charity Commission

Thank you for your interest in the Camrose Centre and becoming a member of our trustee board. Below you will find information on:

1. What we do
2. Our impact
3. What we need from you
4. What we offer in return
5. How to apply

What we do

We are a small independent charity in Basingstoke providing social, practical, and emotional support to local people experiencing homelessness, rough sleeping, social exclusion, and poverty. We do this by providing a warm and welcoming community, food, friendship, support, and comfort. We also offer practical advice and information, (e.g., on local and central government services, the criminal justice system, landlords and utility providers) and work in close partnership with other local support services as part of the local authority Social Inclusion Partnership.

We run regular drop-in sessions at Glebe Hall, St Michael's Church and are currently looking to move to larger premises and develop our service offer. We currently have six part-time staff and a pool of around 30 client facing volunteers who work together on rotas. We have a substantial support base within our community including individuals as well as social, faith and business organisations. Camrose is registered with the Charity Commission, the Information Commissioner's Office, the Fundraising Regulator and Homeless Link.

For opening times and more information, please visit our website www.thecamrosecentre.org

Our vision, mission and aims



Our Impact

'Camrose is a trusted and constant cornerstone of the homeless partnership response in Basingstoke' **Social Inclusion Manager BDBC**

Camrose is recognised as a key part of the local homeless pathway, engaging people who might not otherwise ask for support. People who need a calm, safe, space to come when they are feeling isolated, lonely, or needing help. Our customer survey found the main reason people visit is to socialise, eat and receive support, usually a combination of all three. The majority agree that we help them to make positive steps forward and access services they would otherwise have trouble accessing. In the last year we have helped 307 people, providing 3339 hot lunches and 754 food parcels, many of whom were living in temporary accommodation, sofa surfing or living on the street.

Verbatim comments from our clients:

'Thank you very much for everything you do. You have been an absolute lifeline for me'

'Keep doing what you're doing. You've made a difficult day a lot better'

What do we need from you?

At this important time of growth and expansion we are seeking self-motivated and dynamic individuals to help us move forward. We are specifically looking for:

- trustee board members who can inject their skills, energy, and expertise. We are especially interested in people with experience or knowledge of marketing/communications, fundraising, safeguarding and health and safety.

Over the next couple of years our priorities are to:

- ✓ ensure we have a secure home for the Camrose Centre that meets our clients' needs
- ✓ develop our service offering
- ✓ expand our fundraising capability

Trustees

The Chair and Trustees are collectively responsible for everything the charity does. This includes effective and efficient administration of Camrose and setting strategic direction and overall policy. Aligning all actions with its mission, success in achieving its strategic objectives and financial stability.

Duties of Trustees
✓ Ensure Camrose is carrying out its purposes for the public benefit ✓ Comply with our governing document and the law ✓ Act in the best interests of Camrose ✓ Manage resources responsibly ✓ Act with reasonable care and skill ✓ Ensure the charity is accountable ✓ Contribute to the development of the charity and its services
Details of the trustees role and responsibilities can be found here [*www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3*](www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3)

What do you get in return?

- ✓ A fulfilling and rewarding role
- ✓ The opportunity to contribute and make a difference to your local community
- ✓ Development and growth opportunities
- ✓ To meet new people from diverse backgrounds
- ✓ Reasonable out of pocket expenses

A word from a former Trustee:
'For me the best thing about being a Trustee is meeting new people and learning about a new sector! I have never been involved with homelessness in any way before, nor had any experience working for a charity but it's been a brilliant way to learn, as well as bring my own skills and experience to the table. Everyone is lovely and it's fantastic to be involved in something worthwhile that compliments my day job and home life. I would recommend it to anyone'

S Baker

How to apply

Camrose values diversity promotes equality and encourages applications from people of all backgrounds. We particularly welcome applications from people with lived experience of homelessness or social exclusion.

Although our services are offered within church-owned properties, individuals with connections to a variety of faiths or none at all work for, volunteer at, and use the services of Camrose.

Please send us a copy of your CV and a covering letter to saffron.cordery@yahoo.com, answering which answering the following questions:

- Why do you want to be a trustee for Camrose?
- What can you offer?
- What do you hope to gain?

If you'd like to talk with the chair of trustees, Saffron Cordery, please contact her at saffron.cordery@thecamrosecentre.org to arrange an appointment. You may also like to arrange a visit to the Centre or an opportunity to meet the current team.

We look forward to hearing from you!