

# SOUTHWARK

## ◆ CATHEDRAL ◆

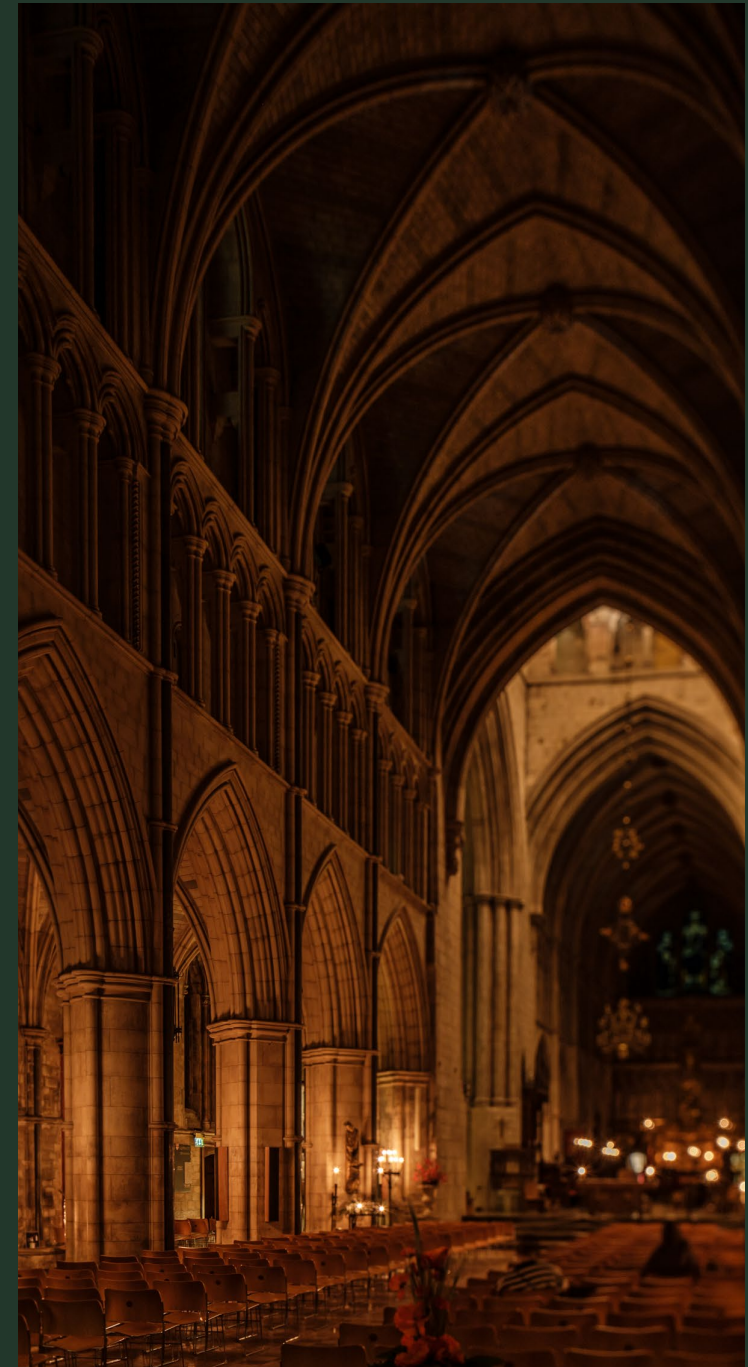
• Candidate Pack

# Appointment of Lay Member of Chapter and Charity Trustee

Saxton Bampfylde

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Reference VCABA



# Introduction

For over 1400 years Southwark Cathedral has stood as a place of Christian worship and service. Today it occupies a distinctive place on London's South Bank – surrounded by some of the city's most iconic cultural and commercial institutions, including the Tate Modern, Shakespeare's Globe and Borough Market.

As the mother church of the Diocese of Southwark, the Cathedral is both a spiritual home and civic beacon for communities and parishes in south London, Kent and Surrey. It is a place of worship and welcome, where faith meets daily life, hosting thousands of visitors (not least because of its proximity to Borough Market), community initiatives and cultural partnerships each year.

Guided by our mission 'to make space for love, with heart mind and soul', we seek to reflect God's love in a way that reaches beyond the Cathedral's walls: building relationships, inspiring creativity, encouraging learning, championing social justice and inclusivity and engaging with the life of our multi-ethnic diverse city.

The Cathedral Chapter (our governing body) is now seeking to appoint a new Lay Member, someone who can bring fresh perspectives, professional insight and the ability to help strengthen our external connections, partnerships and fundraising strategy.



# About the Chapter

Chapter is the body corporate of Southwark Cathedral and carries responsibility for its governance, strategic direction and financial stewardship. By Act of Parliament the Cathedral became a registered charity in 2022 and since then has operated with a renewed focus on impact, long term financial sustainability and growth.

The charitable objects of Chapter are:

1. To advance the Christian religion in accordance with the faith and practice of the Church of England, in particular by furthering the mission of the Church of England.
2. To care for and conserve the fabric and structure of the Cathedral church building.
3. To advance any other charitable purposes which are ancillary to the objects referred to above.



# The Role

As a lay Member of Chapter, you will serve as both trustee and a strategic ambassador, supporting the Cathedral's mission through effective governance, scrutiny of key decisions, financial oversight, and the cultivation of external partnerships and resources. You will play an active role in helping Chapter be outward facing, exploring opportunities for income generation, philanthropy and collaboration. This will include guiding the Cathedral's fundraising strategy, helping identify and engage potential supporters, and acting as a bridge to networks across sectors such as business, other charities, culture, education and social impact.

Your insight and advocacy will help ensure that Southwark Cathedral remains not only a place of worship but also a centre of community life, rooted in faith championing diversity and inclusion.

## Practicalities

This role is not remunerated but reasonable expenses will be paid. The time commitment is envisaged to be up to two days per month, including preparation time. The Chapter meets between 9-10 times annually and most members also sit on a committee.

## Key responsibilities

- Fulfil the statutory duties of a charity trustee, ensuring compliance with all relevant legislation, regulation and good governance practice.
- Contribute actively to Chapter's role in setting strategic direction, defining goals and monitoring performance against them.
- Champion external engagement – helping to build and nurture relationships with individuals, trusts, foundations, companies and community partners.
- Support fundraising efforts – working with the Dean and senior staff to shape a compelling case for support and broaden the Cathedral's philanthropic networks.
- Promote the Cathedral's work as a civic, cultural, learning and spiritual institution within London and the wider diocese.
- Uphold the Cathedral's values, safeguarding culture and commitment to inclusion, ensuring these are at the heart of all decision making.
- Oversee the effective use of resources, the management of risk, helping to ensure long term financial stability and stewardship of the Cathedral's assets.
- Act as a visible external advocate and ambassador for the Cathedral's mission and programmes.

# Person Specification

We are seeking a candidate who combines professional insight, good judgement and a genuine enthusiasm for the Cathedral's mission. You will bring an external perspective that helps the Chapter think expansively about its role in the wider world – strengthening connections with external stakeholders. As a trusted adviser and advocate, you will help shape the Cathedral's strategy for growth, sustainability, and public engagement, while contributing to its life as a place of Christian worship and service.

## Knowledge and experience

- Strong networks in philanthropic, corporate, or cultural spheres – and a willingness to use those connections to help advance the Cathedral's mission.
- Experience in fundraising, partnership development or income generation, ideally within the charity, heritage or cultural sectors.
- Strategic insight gained from board or senior leadership roles in complex organisations.
- Understanding of governance, charity regulation and the duties of a charity trustee.
- Appreciation of the Cathedral's role as both a place

- of faith and a public institution
- serving the wider community.
- Understanding of the challenges facing churches and charities in a rapidly changing social and economic environment.

## Personal attributes

- Collaborative, thoughtful, able to work well within a team and to offer constructive challenge
- Confident in engaging with stakeholders across different sectors and faith backgrounds.
- Committed to diversity, inclusion and safeguarding.
- An ambassadorial mindset – comfortable representing the Cathedral externally and helping to open new doors.
- Emotionally intelligent, with strong communication and relationship-building skills.
- A reflective and practising Christian; an active communicant.





This is an opportunity to play a pivotal role in shaping the future of one of London's most historically significant and outward-facing Cathedrals. You will help to bridge faith and civic life, connecting the Cathedral's ancient history and mission with the realities of modern London through creativity, collaboration and stewardship. Your contribution will help ensure that Southwark Cathedral continues to be not only a focused place of worship and heritage but also a living force for good in the city – inclusive, outward focussed, welcoming and financially sustainable for generations to come."



# How to apply

Saxton Bampfylde Ltd is acting as an employment agency advisor to Southwark Cathedral on this appointment.

Candidates should apply for this role through our website at [roles.saxbam.com](https://roles.saxbam.com) using code **VCABA**.

Click on the 'apply' button and follow the instructions to upload a CV and cover letter and complete the online equal opportunities monitoring\* form.

The closing date for applications is noon on **Wednesday 3 June 2026** at noon.

\* The equal opportunities monitoring online form will not be shared with anyone involved in assessing your application. Please complete as part of the application process.

## **GDPR personal data notice**

According to GDPR guidelines, we are only able to process your Sensitive Personal Data (racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, trade union membership, genetic data, biometric data, health, sex life, or sexual orientation) with your express consent. You will be asked to complete a consent form when you apply and please do not include any Sensitive Personal Data within your CV (although this can be included in your covering letter if you wish to do so), remembering also not to include contact details for referees without their prior agreement.

- [Read our guide to writing cover letters](#)