

# Application pack for Grants Committee members

## Justice Together Initiative

*Thank you for your interest in this role. This pack includes:*

- a) background to the Justice Together Initiative;*
- b) role overview;*
- c) main responsibilities;*
- d) person specification;*
- e) terms and conditions and how to apply.*

**A Background: Justice Together** will launch in 2020 aiming to ensure that people who use the UK immigration system can access justice and thrive. The Initiative will invest in quality, free legal advice and national policy advocacy to support the lawful and fair functioning of immigration, nationality and asylum processes.

Over the next five years, more than £9 million of new funding has been committed by founding funders including Paul Hamlyn Foundation, AB Charitable Trust, Barrow Cadbury Trust, Comic Relief, Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, Oak Foundation, Unbound Philanthropy, and Trust for London, with others likely to join. Justice Together is hosted by Justice Collaborations, a registered charity and wholly owned subsidiary of The Legal Education Foundation.

Justice Together responds to the challenges faced by the legal advice sector, and evidence that people in communities around the UK are struggling to access justice. It will help people access legal advice and representation, strengthen sector organisations over the long term, and coordinate to achieve wider improvements so that advice is accessible, effective and sustainably resourced. As well as offering funding, the Initiative will support partners to improve the power and influence of people who use the system.

Work to date has been informed by research and mapping commissioned by Paul Hamlyn Foundation which investigates the level of unmet need across the UK, the constraints of existing infrastructure and funding, and considerations in how these issues might be addressed through a funder collaboration. Justice Together Initiative aims to build on current funding commitments so that it can operate for a decade, as funders recognise that a long-term approach is essential to securing change.

All the funders involved recognise that this Initiative cannot meet the need created by the removal of public funding. However, trusts and foundations provide vital independent resource for legal advice and representation on immigration, nationality and asylum law. The Initiative is rooted in the belief that a better coordinated and more strategic approach is needed to help address these systemic challenges in partnership with the non-profit sector.

**B Role overview – Grants Committee member:** We are looking for two exceptional people to join the newly established grants committee for Justice Together. This is an exciting opportunity to ensure that the grant-making contributes to the overall aims of the initiative and that funding delivers appropriate levels of support to organisations. The grants committee is comprised of members of the Justice Collaborations board plus three directly appointed members. It will meet three to four times a year to review grant applications, make recommendations to the full board, or approve the grant in line with delegated powers.

We are actively seeking members whose expertise and skill is combined with lived experience of the issues facing people in the immigration, asylum or nationality system, including a deep understanding of the structural barriers that prevent equal treatment and undermine access to justice in communities. We are keen to hear from people who place their personal experience in a wider context, and have used these experiences alongside their other skills and experiences to effect social change. We are keen to hear from people who have worked with and for communities impacted by immigration issues, whether in a paid or voluntary capacity. We value and recognise the powerful insight that lived experience will bring to this committee. However, we respect that people's identity is not defined by their experiences of immigration control and do not expect people to describe their lived experience at any stage during this process or during their work on the committee.

The successful appointees will have a passion for defending legal rights, and the values of equality and justice, and will be able to demonstrate personal style that fosters collaboration, inclusivity and trust.

Justice Collaborations is a new charitable company, a wholly owned subsidiary of The Legal Education Foundation. Its purpose is to support grant-makers to work more effectively together to promote people's understanding of the law, and to tackle poverty and discrimination. This initiative is the first to be hosted by Justice Collaborations.

#### **C Main responsibilities:**

- Preparation and reading of paperwork on applications, committee papers and updates on field developments – up to 30 per meeting.
- Attendance at 3-4 Grants Committee meetings per year, in London or by video conference.
- Ad hoc response to email requests for grant approvals outside the meeting cycle.
- Advice to staff and Governors on grant-making good practice and relevant developments in the immigration, asylum, nationality, and advice fields.
- Working alongside Governors to review and advise on delivery of the Justice Together strategy.

***Meetings take place during normal work hours so you will need to be able to attend during the day and arrange leave from your other role(s) as needed.***

#### **D Person Specification**

- Commitment to the aims and values of Justice Together.
- Experience of a previous governance role, for example as a trustee (desirable not essential).
- Knowledge of current immigration and nationality policy context in the UK and its impact on people, communities and on access to justice.
- Personal experience of the challenges created by the UK immigration system.
- Knowledge of the strengths and challenges of the UK social welfare advice sector, organisations and staff, particularly outside of London.
- Commitment to the values of equality and human rights, and a passion for social change.
- Ability to build positive and effective interpersonal relationships with people of all backgrounds.
- Ability to read and understand large amounts of written information to support decision-making.

- Ability to share knowledge sensitively and persuasively with fellow committee members.

**E Terms and conditions:** A fixed fee of £8,000 per annum (including VAT where applicable) will be paid for this role. This may be paid directly to external members of the committee or to their employers to cover time away from work, as preferred. Justice Collaborations will also cover reasonable expenses including travel to meetings.

The appointments would be for three years in the first instance, with the possibility of renewal.

**F How to apply:** To apply for this post, please email your CV and the completed application form to [vacancies@thelef.org](mailto:vacancies@thelef.org) marked JUSTICE COLLABORATIONS GRANTS COMMITTEE.

We would also be grateful if you could complete the diversity form. This is to monitor that we are fulfilling our commitment to be an equal opportunities employer. It will not form any part of our decision-making in relation to shortlisting or appointment.

The deadline for applications is **9am on Monday 20th July**.

We will interview shortlisted candidates by Zoom. We are holding **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> and Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August** for interviews but can be flexible about timing, as we realise people may be away or have caring responsibilities.

Applicants must have the right to work in the UK.

To arrange a confidential discussion of this opportunity, please email [vacancies@thelef.org](mailto:vacancies@thelef.org)