

Swanage Railway Company

Position: Trustee Director (Infrastructure Oversight) - Role Description

Role Overview

The Trustee for Infrastructure Oversight will play a strategic and advisory role in guiding Swanage Railway's approach to infrastructure maintenance, development, and resilience. This includes oversight of permanent way, buildings, bridges, signalling, and utilities. While not involved in daily maintenance, the Trustee will ensure robust governance and long-term planning in support of safety, operational performance, and heritage preservation.

Key Responsibilities

- Provide strategic oversight of Swanage Railway's infrastructure and asset management plans.
- Support long-term planning and prioritisation of investment in infrastructure projects.
- Advise on legal, regulatory, and technical requirements relevant to heritage railway infrastructure.
- Monitor infrastructure risk and support mitigation strategies across the estate.
- Liaise with relevant managers and volunteers to understand infrastructure needs and capacity.
- Promote alignment between infrastructure decisions and operational, safety, and commercial priorities.
- Encourage sustainability and resilience in infrastructure development.
- Support succession planning in engineering and maintenance-related volunteer roles.
- Champion the preservation and presentation of historic structures in line with heritage standards.

Person Specification

- Experience in civil engineering, asset management, facilities, or infrastructure planning.
- Understanding of heritage or rail infrastructure environments is desirable.
- Strategic thinking and experience of long-term capital planning.
- Strong awareness of safety, regulatory, and operational requirements.
- Ability to evaluate technical proposals and advise at board level.
- Commitment to heritage preservation and the values of Swanage Railway.

Working Conditions

- • This is a voluntary, non-executive Trustee role.
- • The Trustee will attend board meetings and contribute to infrastructure or estates-related sub-committees.
- • Occasional site visits are encouraged to assess conditions and understand project delivery.
- • Trustees are expected to engage proactively with strategy and governance.

This is a unique opportunity to help shape the future of Swanage Railway's infrastructure, ensuring it remains safe, operationally robust, and historically authentic. We welcome applicants with the insight, commitment, and enthusiasm to support the stewardship of our built environment.