

The Alan Turing Institute



Appointment of Non-Executive Director and Trustee (2)

The Alan Turing Institute

The Alan Turing Institute is the UK's National Institute for data science and artificial intelligence. Founded in 2015 and headquartered at the British Library in London, it works with partners across government, universities, research organisations and industry to develop trusted, reliable AI that maintains sovereign capability to strengthen UK national resilience across defence, national security, climate, and the protection of critical national infrastructure. The Institute delivers frontier research alongside prototyping and engineering to advance how trusted, reliable AI is designed, evaluated and deployed.

Over the past year the Institute has undergone a significant strategic transformation. Following an independent review, it has moved from a broad portfolio of over 100 projects to a focused programme targeting areas of distinctive national value. New leadership has been established, with Chief Executive Dr George Williamson CMG joining to lead the next phase. The Board will continue to play a central role in consolidating that transformation, building stakeholder confidence, aligning the Institute's renewed direction with government and funders, and establishing the governance foundations for the next decade of impact.

Further information about the Turing can be found [here](#).



Role Purpose

We are pleased to be recruiting for two new Non-Executive Directors and Trustees to enhance our Board.

The role of the Non-Executive Directors and Trustees is to support the Institute by providing leadership through setting strategy, good governance, risk management and ensuring the Institute operates within its company responsibilities and charitable objects.

The Non-Executive Directors and Trustees will provide guidance, support and constructive challenge to the Institute Chief Executive Officer and the Executive Leadership Team, and will serve as excellent ambassadors, advocates and influencers for the Institute both as a national Institute and on the global stage.

Non-Executive Directors and Trustees are expected to be available to be a member of and/or chair one of the Institute's sub-committees, namely; Audit & Risk; Nominations & Governance; or Remuneration, EDI & People. Non-Executive Directors and Trustees may also be asked to step-up to hold the position of Deputy Chair.

Non-Executive Directors and Trustees are required at all times to act in the best interests of the Company and the Charity when carrying out their duties.



What We Are Looking For

The Alan Turing Institute is seeking to appoint two new Non-Executive Directors and Trustees. You will share our vision for the UK to become one of the best places in the world to undertake research in data science and AI and for that research to be translated into real-world applications.

We are committed to building a diverse community and want our board to reflect the broadest spectrum of backgrounds.

We are particularly interested in candidates who have relevant experience of one or more of the following areas:

- Significant experience leading strategic HR and people functions within complex organisations.
- Senior Defence, Security and National Resilience expertise.

In addition to the above it is desirable that candidates have recent non-executive, senior leadership and/or executive level experience in commercial, academic, research and/or government sectors.

If you feel you have the relevant experience, we would like to hear from you.





Role Specification

The Non-Executive Directors and Trustees' duties will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Establishing clear objectives to deliver the agreed plans and strategy to meet the national Institute's objects in accordance with short, medium, and long-term plans and regularly reviewing performance against those objectives.
- Contributing to constructive debate regarding the strategic development of the national Institute and any other material and significant issues facing the Turing.
- Attending Board and relevant sub-committee meetings (including chairing responsibilities) and contributing effectively by listening, asking relevant questions, challenging appropriately, and taking considered decisions.
- Providing advocacy for, and represent, the Turing at a national, international or local level as appropriate.
- Maintaining the fiduciary duty vested in the position, undertaking such duties in a way that adds to public confidence and trust in the national Institute.
- Ensuring that the national Institute complies with its governing documents, charity law and any other applicable legislation and regulations including safeguarding and data protection where applicable.
- Acting in accordance with the Charity Governance Code, the Institute's values, code of conduct, and any relevant corporate policies.
- Maintaining constructive working relationships with other board and committee members, the CEO, Executive Leadership Team, and the General Counsel (Company Secretary), providing challenge and support as appropriate.
- Maintaining the Non-Executive Directors and Trustees' commitment to board diversity, renewal, and succession management in line with the national Institute's governing documents and/or current good practice.
- Maintaining confidentiality about all aspects of the national Institute's' business, bearing in mind the overriding legal obligations placed upon trustees and company directors.



Personal Profile

Qualifications, knowledge and experience

The successful candidate will ideally bring all or most of the following qualities:

- Recent non-executive, senior leadership and/or executive level experience in commercial, academic, research and/or government sectors. Experience in the defence, national security, environment, and/or national resilience related sectors is desirable.
- The capacity for visioning and strategic thinking and the skills necessary to challenge and support the organisational leadership to deliver on agreed strategy and objectives.
- A willingness to engage with external stakeholders as an ambassador and advocate to advance the objectives of the Institute. This will include a demonstrable ability to build and develop relationships across academia, commercial, public and third sectors, and working with a diverse set of stakeholders;
- Excellent interpersonal skills.
- The energy, skills, and experience to raise the Institute's profile both nationally and internationally as the UK's national Institute for data science and AI.
- A clear commitment to setting the tone for Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion throughout the Institute and more widely as the national body for data science and AI.
- The ability to work in a collaborative board environment with strong working relationships and where challenge and scrutiny are welcomed.
- Knowledge of charity and company law and charity regulation ensuring the safeguarding of the reputation and values of the Institute and adherence to its charitable objects.
- A good understanding of financial and commercial considerations.
- A high-level personal network and a willingness to use your professional contacts to support the Institute in delivering its vision.

Terms of Appointment

The Board currently meets up to seven times a year, which includes up to two away days and five board meetings. Involvement in sub-committees of the Board, including chairing responsibilities will be required. It is expected that the time commitment for the role will be approximately twenty days per annum.

Non-Executive Directors and Trustees may be appointed by the Board on a three-year term with the option for a further term. These roles are voluntary and unremunerated although reasonable expenses will be reimbursed in accordance with internal policies.

Please note that role descriptions cannot be exhaustive, and the post-holder may be required to undertake other duties, which are broadly in line with the above key responsibilities. This job description is written at a specific time and is subject to changes as the demands of the Institute and the role develop.



Our Values

The Alan Turing Institute is committed to equality, diversity and inclusion and to eliminating discrimination. All Turing people are expected to embrace, follow and promote our EDI Principles and Our Values.

Our values



Trust

We create an environment where we have trust and can be trusted



Inclusivity

We expect our Turing community to contribute to a culture that is inclusive and free of barriers



Respect

We all have different roles, priorities and challenges but our shared purpose is the same



Leadership

Leadership is everyone's business; Turing leaders set the right tone and lead by example



Transparency

Everyone should understand the how and the why of our decisions and actions



Integrity

We are all ambassadors for the Turing's mission of changing the world for the better

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The Alan Turing Institute is committed to creating an environment where diversity is valued and everyone is treated fairly. We value diversity of background, experience, and perspective, and are proud to be an inclusive employer. We warmly encourage applications from all backgrounds, particularly from groups currently under-represented in our sector. If you feel passionate about this role but don't meet every single requirement, please apply — we recognise that great candidates may bring strengths beyond the criteria listed.

We are committed to building a diverse community and would like our Board to reflect this. We therefore welcome applications from the broadest spectrum of backgrounds.

Application Process

The Alan Turing Institute has engaged **McLean Partnership** to support these appointments.

Completed applications should be submitted via email to ATI@mcleanpartnership.com by 12 noon on **Monday 28th September 2026** and should comprise a CV and a covering letter outlining your interest and motivation for the role, as well as highlighting your relevant skills and experience.

We are committed to making sure our recruitment process is accessible and inclusive. This includes making reasonable adjustments for candidates who have a disability or long-term condition. Please contact us at adjustments@turing.ac.uk to find out how we can assist you.



The Alan Turing Institute



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