

FLATPACK PROJECTS

TRUSTEE RECRUITMENT PACK



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ABOUT FLATPACK

Flatpack is a mobile arts organisation with a passion for bringing people together and developing new ideas. We love film in all shapes and sizes, particularly when it bumps up against other art forms, and we get a kick out of transforming spaces to create unforgettable events. Every May, you can find us taking over venues across Birmingham with the 'magnificently eclectic' Flatpack Festival. Throughout the year we deliver a rich lineup of screenings and events including family film workshops, cinema under the stars and community archive projects.

Flatpack's roots go back to the early 2000s with a monthly mixed-media night called 7 Inch Cinema at the Rainbow pub in Digbeth. The first Flatpack Festival emerged from these popular events, taking place over a weekend in early 2006. Since then, the festival has grown significantly, becoming a key part of the city's cultural scene and gaining recognition from audiences and critics worldwide. The programme stirs together screenings, performances, walks and installations, showcasing a diverse range of international talent with a focus on the playful and the unexpected. The event marks its twentieth edition in May 2026.

Flatpack is part of Arts Council England's National Portfolio and a lead partner in Film Hub Midlands, a BFI Film Audience Network initiative designed to foster a thriving film culture across the region. We are committed to supporting artists and developing new work for the festival and beyond, with a particular focus on live cinema and audiovisual performance. Our Colour Box family programme engages thousands of children each year with a drive to encourage and inspire active 'viewers and doers.' In total our work reaches over 20,000 people annually.

[You can find out more about our current activity on the Flatpack website.](#)



Flatpack Festival 2025
Credit Katja Ogrin

OUR GOALS & AMBITIONS

Our Strategic Goals

- Flatpack Festival is recognised as the UK's most creative moving image festival, and an important driver for cultural tourism in the West Midlands;
- Flatpack expands its Colour Box family offer, leading to a twofold increase in the number of under-11s across the city region who are able to engage with creative film events and workshops by 2028;
- Flatpack nurtures talent and illuminates underrepresented voices;
- Flatpack is the strategic lead for the independent film exhibition sector in the West Midlands;
- Flatpack cultivates a thriving and equitable environment for employees, underpinned by a sustainable financial foundation and robust governance;
- Flatpack works with stakeholders and partners to develop a new venue which acts as a focal point for film culture in the region

Our Ambitions

This is an exciting time to join Flatpack as a trustee. You will play a key role in defining and shaping our ambitious plans for the next four years, which include:

- Celebrating our 20th festival in 2026;
- Expanding our offer for families and young people;
- Advocating for a new independent venue which will act as a focal point for the region's film sector;
- Working with partners to seed and sustain film exhibition activity in underserved parts of the region



Colour Box
Credit Katja Ogrin

FLATPACK TRUSTEES AND WHO WE ARE LOOKING FOR

Flatpack's trustees include individuals with expertise in film, fundraising, and education. They collaborate with our small management team. This team handles programming and delivering our festival. They also engage with communities across the West Midlands.

We want to bring in fresh ideas to shape our organisation's future. We're especially focused on attracting people who represent the diverse audiences in our region.

We value different perspectives, backgrounds, and experiences in our organisation. We believe this makes our work and environment more inclusive and dynamic.

We promise an interview to anyone who meets the requirements for this role and comes from an underrepresented background in the cultural sector. (See "How to Apply" below for more information.)

We would love to hear from candidates who can share insights in one or more of these areas:

- Cultural Leadership;
- PR & Marketing;
- Property and venue development.
- Legal;
- Arts activities for children and young people.



**Flatpack Local
Credit Sharonjit Sutton**

ROLE DESCRIPTION

As well as sharing insights, trustees need to ensure Flatpack runs well. It is not necessary to have previous experience as a trustee or in running an organisation to apply. We value your life and career experiences. We will offer support for those new to being a trustee.

Duties and responsibilities

- Support and provide advice on Flatpack CIO's purpose, vision, goals, and activities.
- Oversee Flatpack CIO's financial plans and budgets, and check progress.
- Ensure that we identify, track, and control key risks.
- Review and approve Flatpack CIO's financial statements.
- Review and provide feedback on reporting documents for funders.
- Keep abreast of changes in Flatpack CIO's operating environment.
- Attend Board meetings with thorough preparation to contribute to discussions.
- Promote our goals, values, and reputation by using your skills, knowledge, and connections.

The board meets four times a year, twice in Birmingham and twice online. Trustees also meet once a year with the full Flatpack team for a planning day.

We expect trustees to dedicate half a day a month to support the organisation.

Trustees don't get paid for their time, but they can have reasonable expenses reimbursed. This includes costs for access needs and travel to Flatpack events.



Flatpack Outdoors
Credit Katja Ogrin

HOW TO APPLY

To apply please fill out the application form and the equal opportunities form.

[Application Form](#)

[Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form](#)

Application closing date: 9 am on Monday 28 July

First stage of online interviews: Wednesday 13 August

The application form has three short questions. These questions help us learn about your experiences and skills. You can respond to these questions in writing or through film/audio.

We will invite successful applicants to a 30-minute online interview. We will share questions in advance.

After a successful interview, applicants will attend a trustee meeting. They will observe and confirm their acceptance of the position.

For questions about the role or how to apply, email Abbe Elliston at abbe@flatpackfestival.org.uk. These conversations will not form part of the assessment process.

INCLUSIVE RECRUITMENT

We value different perspectives, backgrounds, and experiences in our organisation. We believe this makes our work and environment more inclusive and dynamic.

We promise an interview to anyone who meets the criteria for this role and comes from an underrepresented background in the culture sector. This includes but isn't limited to:

- Individuals from communities affected by racism.
- Those who had free school meals.
- D/deaf or disabled people.
- Neurodivergent individuals.
- Those who identify as a different gender from that at birth.
- People facing barriers due to mental health.
- People who have experienced social situations such as domestic violence, homelessness or incarceration.

If you would like us to consider this in your application, please check the box on the application form.