

Women's Platform Committee and role of Committee members



The Committee is the governing body of Women's Platform and is legally responsible for the governance and finance of the organisation. The Committee also acts as the employer for staff, who currently include a Director, as operational lead for the organisation.

The Committee consists of up to 14 members, elected by full members at an AGM. The Committee elects officers internally, at the first meeting after the AGM. Any woman aged over 16 can be a Committee member, but must be nominated by a full member organisation. Committee members are elected in a personal capacity, based on their skills and expertise primarily in women's rights and gender equality issues.

The core functions of the Committee include:

- setting the strategic direction for the organisation
- monitoring progress of operational delivery
- providing guidance on operational delivery, as part of strategic direction
- ensuring good governance and compliance with company, charity and employment legislation
- ensuring financial sustainability and providing financial strategy, oversight and scrutiny

Role of Committee members

Committee members shape the organisation and create the conditions for a sustainable, resilient and successful organisation. The expertise of Committee members guides the strategic as well as operational direction of the organisation.

The key roles of Committee members are:

- Providing leadership and sharing expertise to guide strategic direction
- Ensuring oversight, scrutiny and effective management of the organisation
- Contributing to effective working of the Committee as a whole
- Supporting staff, as appropriate

Expectations of role

The Committee operates through full Committee meetings and sub groups, which currently include a standing finance sub group and ad hoc groups. Participation in sub groups is voluntary and ad hoc groups are set up on a time limited basis for specific initiatives.

Women's Platform recognises that Committee members are volunteers and the time commitment required is at most 2h per month.

Key expectations of Committee members are:

- Attending bimonthly Committee meetings, usually on a Thursday evening 5.30pm
- Reading Committee papers and preparing comments on plans as relevant
- Attending AGM
- On a voluntary basis, guiding development of projects in areas of their interest or expertise