



Dear VSSN member

Opportunities for increased involvement with the Voluntary Sector Studies Network

Message sent on behalf of Angela Ellis Paine, Secretary of VSSN

Would you like to support the work of VSSN? Do you have ideas about how you'd like to see VSSN develop?

If so, **please consider nominating yourself for a place on either or both of:**

- **the VSSN Steering Group**
- **the Editorial Management Board** of Voluntary Sector Review, the journal produced by VSSN with Policy Press

VSSN is a volunteer-led organisation and its success relies very much on the commitment, time and energy of members of these two groups.

VSSN Steering Group

This year there are **three vacancies** on the Steering Group. The term of office is normally three years in the first instance, although this can vary. The maximum term allowed by the constitution is six consecutive years. Being a member of the Steering Group means also becoming a trustee of the VSSN.

Specific roles on the Steering Group are allocated by agreement after the election. Roles include Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and leading on, for example, membership and marketing, web services, day seminars and the annual conference.

What are we looking for in a member of the SG? Commitment to VSSN and its continued success is the most important quality, but this year we are also keen to encourage self-nominations from members with accounting, communications, website development or membership skills/experience.

Details of existing Steering Group members and their roles can be found at www.vssn.org.uk/about/people

VSR Editorial Management Board (EMB)

The role of the EMB is to:

- support the editorial team (currently Nick Acheson, Rob Macmillan and Bernard Harris)
- ensure that high editorial standards are maintained

- represent VSSN in working with the publisher, Policy Press
- ensure the journal is produced in accordance with the Publisher's Agreement

This year there are **two vacancies** for the VSR Editorial Management Board (EMB). The term of office is three years in the first instance, with an opportunity to stand for another three-year term.

Additional roles

If you would like to be more involved but don't want to join the Steering Group or Editorial Management Board, there are other voluntary roles which are equally valuable and help us develop our networks and activities. A number of VSSN members currently contribute in this way and we would welcome further interest.

We are currently looking for a volunteer to **moderate the VSSN email discussion list**. This is an important role but not an onerous one. It would only take a few minutes of your time each week and full training will be available if required. If you are interested in finding out more about this role please contact me at a.ellis@bham.ac.uk.

If you have any questions about the self-nomination process, please do not hesitate to contact me by email via execofficer@vssn.org.uk. We look forward to receiving your nomination forms soon.

Best wishes

Angela Ellis Paine, VSSN Secretary

Important information and how to nominate yourself – please read!

There are **two separate elections**, each by single transferable vote. One is for the VSSN Steering Group (trustees) and one for the Voluntary Sector Review Editorial Management Board. You may stand for both the VSSN Steering Group and the VSR Editorial Management Board but will need to complete separate nomination forms for each role.

It is a **self-nomination** process and you do not need to be nominated by someone else.

Nomination forms are attached.

All completed nomination forms **must be received by 21st October 2016** as an email attachment sent to execofficer@vssn.org.uk with a **signed copy** sent to Beth Longstaff, VSSN Office, 289 Abbeydale Road, Sheffield S7 1FJ - also to be received **by 21st October 2016**.

All VSSN members will be notified of the nominations received. If elections are necessary, details of an **online ballot** will be sent by email to all members a few days later.

Results of the election will then be announced at the VSSN Annual General Meeting, which will be held on 22nd November 2015 in Birmingham. At this point new VSSN Steering Group and VSR Editorial Management Board members will formally become active.

For your nomination to be considered you must have paid your VSSN membership fee for 2016-17 and had its receipt confirmed by the VSSN office before the election opens on 24th October 2016. If you pay online using Worldpay your membership can be confirmed the same day. If paying by cheque or bank transfer, please allow up to 5 working days for it to arrive at the VSSN office.

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