



# OVARIAN CANCER ACTION

**FUNDRAISING AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER**

Candidate information pack

## A message from the Chair of Fundraising and Communications Committee

Thank you for considering giving your time and skills to play a critical role in helping to transform survival rates for women with ovarian cancer.

Ovarian cancer survival rates are stubbornly low both in the UK and globally. The stark reality is that currently only one in three women live more than 10 years after an ovarian cancer diagnosis. Like so many other women's healthcare conditions not enough attention is paid to this disease. It is underfunded and that means that over 4000 women die in the UK every year. That is one woman dying every two hours in the UK alone, which is set to increase as the incidence of cancer rises.

The women who have or will be diagnosed with ovarian cancer drive our mission. Our role is to advocate for these women and to give them hope. More than that we all believe that patients are some of the most critical voices that need to be in present in the important conversations because they are incredibly well placed to drive and advocate for change and that is embedded into all our work, whether that be research, education, awareness or campaigning.

As the leading UK ovarian cancer research charity, we are laser focused on how we can accelerate progress in the next decade given the very poor survival rates and the main way to do that is to significantly increase investment into research and harness others to do the same. Breakthroughs to find more and better treatments and a test to screen for ovarian cancer are the leaps forward that will provide hope to the nearly 40,000 women in the UK living with ovarian cancer.

To do this we need to increase attention and funding for ovarian cancer and our work and that is where the Fundraising and Communications Committee play a vital role. As an independent member of this Committee, you'll play an active role in supporting a passionate team of change-makers striving to ensure at least half of women diagnosed with ovarian cancer live beyond ten years by 2032.

Bringing your skills and experience in network development; high-value relationship fundraising and strategic partnerships, you'll help shape the direction of Ovarian Cancer Action's fundraising and communications strategy for optimum impact by sharing your learning; contributing thinking and debate to rich and diverse conversations and supporting the executive team to consider choices and take strategically informed action.

Operating as an independent committee member of the Fundraising and Communications board committee, you'll have the opportunity to engage in creative problem solving and strategic debate; offer coaching and support to executive team members, advise on major income strategy, and where appropriate, open up networks and connections to advance progress to increase 10 year survival rates for women with ovarian cancer.

It's a rewarding opportunity, working alongside a talented and ambitious executive team who have proven, to be encouraged by high support and high challenge, to contribute to vitally needed progress on ovarian cancer and we welcome your application.

If you'd like to informally discuss the opportunity, including the requirements on your time and the impact you can have, please reach out to me directly at [angharadmck@gmail.com](mailto:angharadmck@gmail.com).

Angharad Mackenzie  
*Chair, Fundraising and Communications Committee,  
Ovarian Cancer Action and Board Member  
Director of Fundraising and PR, Comic Relief*

## About Ovarian Cancer Action

We're the UK's leading ovarian cancer research charity, working on early detection, prevention and treatments so that no woman dies of ovarian cancer.

### Who are we and what do we do?

Ovarian Cancer Action is a community of changemakers with one purpose: to give ovarian cancer the focus it needs to increase 10-year survival rates. And we know research is the solution.

We live and breathe this lifesaving, world-leading research. We fund more ovarian cancer research than any other UK gynaecological cancer charity. It's how we've driven some of the biggest breakthroughs of the last 19 years.

We're also the only charity at the heart of the global ovarian cancer research community and have been for four decades.

By connecting the world's leading scientists together, we're creating a powerful hub of experience, expertise and insight. So, we confidently fund research that takes us a step closer to our goal: that by 2032 half of women will live more than 10 years after diagnosis.

## Ovarian Cancer Action's Impact Strategy

From our research centre we've sparked life-changing discoveries across the globe. But there's much more to do. Our goal is to make sure by 2032 half of women live more than 10 years after diagnosis.

So, we're supercharging progress.

### We're innovating treatment.

New drugs. Personalised treatment. We're developing and trialling new approaches to cure and manage ovarian cancer. One of our teams is seeing if a successful breast cancer drug can be used to treat ovarian cancer.

### We're enabling early detection that saves lives.

When cancer is found early women have a much better chance of surviving for longer. We're making discoveries to make an ovarian cancer screening test a reality.

### We're making prevention a possibility.

We're discovering and sharing information on risk. So, every woman knows her options and can take control of her future.

### We're making care equal.

No woman should lose her life to ovarian cancer because of her age, her race or where she lives. We're driving change to make sure every woman has the best treatment possible. Our IMPROVE programme is levelling up the quality of care across UK.

### We're sharing the warning signs.

In 2009 we led the campaign for the Department of Health to recognise the four main symptoms of ovarian cancer - ending the myth that ovarian cancer is a silent killer.

## Fundraising and Committee Member role.

Ovarian Cancer Action is on a mission to transform survival rates for women with ovarian cancer, aiming for at least half of women diagnosed to live beyond ten years by 2032. The Fundraising and Communications Committee plays a crucial role in enabling and driving this mission forward by providing strategic oversight and tangible support to boost our income and elevate our profile.

The Committee also ensures that Ovarian Cancer Action is governed to the highest standards.

As a committee member, you will leverage your expertise in high-value fundraising to help advise, guide and support the charity's strategy, particularly in engaging High Net Worth Individuals and major income streams.

You'll work closely with the Chair of the Committee, Director of Fundraising, the high-value fundraising team, and other committee members, offering constructive challenge, expertise and insight to help inform and direct the charity's fundraising and communications strategy, particularly in the area of major income streams.

We are looking for someone who...

- Can act as a 'critical friend' to the Fundraising and Communications Committee.
- Is able to provide oversight and specifically in the practice of major income fundraising.
- Has a successful track record in giving strategic oversight and delivery of high value income streams.
- May be working in an advisory or consultancy role currently.
- Support the charity to build its wider network of high-net-worth individuals and grant giving organisations.

## Role description and person specification

Reports to	Committee Chair (a designated board trustee)
Other Committee members	Chair (trustee), CEO, Director of Fundraising, Head of Brand and Marketing, Head of Digital
Location	Remote with occasional travel to London for in- person meetings
Time commitment	Four committee meetings per year. Members are also expected to have regular meetings up to once-a-month with the Committee Chair and the Director of Fundraising, to have some direct contact with the high value fundraising team and to represent the charity at various events and meetings with key stakeholders. These will be a mix of remote and in-person.
Remuneration	Voluntary. Travel expenses may be claimed.



**Primary impact of the role.** Ovarian Cancer Action is looking for a new member of the Fundraising and Communication Committee. The Committee plays an essential role to oversee and help enable our ambition to grow our income and profile by providing strategic advice and oversight. The Committee also leverages their influence and resources as appropriate to support our success.

The Committee supports and constructively challenges the Chief Executive, Director of Fundraising, Head of Brand and Marketing and Head of Digital to achieve our agreed objectives.

The Committee also plays a key role in the governance of the charity, ensuring that Ovarian Cancer Action is governed to the highest possible standard.

**Principal responsibilities.** We are seeking a committee member with expertise in high value fundraising, who can:

- Regularly attend committee meetings up to four times per year
- Support the committee by offering constructive challenge and expertise
- Commit and champion Ovarian Cancer Action's mission to help support and influence the charity with building its wider network of high net worth individuals
- Keep informed of the issues facing Ovarian Cancer Action, and how it relates to the committee's work
- Help the committee to review and monitor its own effectiveness
- Work as a 'critical friend' with respect to all matters within the remit of the committee
- Regularly meet with the Director of Fundraising and high value fundraising team to support with the charity's high value strategy and direction
- Provide oversight on a range of issues; specifically in the practice of major income fundraising.

## Experience

- A successful track record as a senior fundraiser with high value income streams including High Net Worth Individuals (HNWI) and Trusts and Foundations, operating at a strategic as well as operational level
- Experience in navigating and finding solutions to the challenges facing UK charities in maximising major income streams and donor cultivation

**Knowledge and skills.** Independent committee members should have some, but not necessarily all, of the following:

- Knowledge of and experience, whether lived or acquired, in driving major income streams
- Excellent networking, influencing and communication skills
- A broad range of contacts related to income, across key opinion formers, and donors.

## Personal qualities

- Effective communication and interpersonal skills – ability to work as a member of a team in a constructive and productive manner
- A commitment to Ovarian Cancer Action's mission
- Commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity and Belonging.

**Length of appointment.** Independent committee members are appointed for a term of three years. This can be extended for two further three-year periods, up to a maximum of nine years from date of appointment.

## Our commitment to equality, diversity, and inclusion

We are committed to actively promoting equality, diversity and inclusivity and welcome enquiries and applications from underrepresented groups, including minoritised communities and applicants with disabilities. At Ovarian Cancer Action, we firmly believe that embracing diversity, promoting equality, and fostering inclusivity are not just buzzwords but essential values that drive our success. We understand that a diverse workforce brings together unique perspectives, experiences, and talents, which ultimately fuels innovation and enhances our ability to better serve the communities we serve and work with.

**How to apply.** If you are inspired to support Ovarian Cancer Action's mission and vision in this way, we'd love for you to apply with the following:

- Tell us why you think this position is for you and what has inspired you to apply. Naturally, we'd love to hear about your experience, your highlights, what you've learnt in your fundraising career and where you believe you can bring value to Fundraising and Communications Committee. (Ideally no more than a page).
- Your latest CV, highlighting relevant experience.

The deadline for applications is 10.00 am Monday 11 November 2024. Please submit your applications to [jobs@ovarian.org.uk](mailto:jobs@ovarian.org.uk).

Don't meet every single requirement?

Studies have shown that women and people of colour are less likely to apply to jobs unless they meet every single qualification. We are dedicated to building a diverse, inclusive, and authentic workplace, so if you're excited about this role but your past experience doesn't align perfectly with every qualification in the role description, we encourage you to apply anyway. You may be just the right candidate for this or other roles that we have.

## Interview dates

First virtual interviews will take place in the week commencing 25 November. For those progressing further, second in-person interviews will take place at the London office of Ovarian Cancer Action in the week commencing 2 December.