Manchester Digital

Board Director Prospectus

Digital Growth. For Good

Community and Collaboration * People and Skills * Influence and Engagement

A letter from the chair

Thank you for considering becoming a board director at Manchester Digital, the largest digital & technology network in the North of England.

As the Chair of Manchester Digital, I am proud of the work that we undertake in contributing to important issues such as diversity, equality, and social mobility. We believe that everyone should have access to opportunities within the technology industry, and we work to promote this through our various initiatives, such as Digital Her that seeks to address the gender imbalance in the industry.

Manchester Digital also plays an essential role in fostering the growth and development of the region's technology industry, which has witnessed significant growth in the last few years. We believe that by harnessing the power and prosperity that the tech industry has, we can make bring positive benefits to our wider communities and play a significant role in the levelling up agenda.

Our organisation also serves as a platform for industry experts to share their knowledge and expertise, providing valuable insights to businesses across the region. Board directors are responsible for shaping and influencing the strategic direction of our organisation, helping us to deliver value to our members and contribute to the wider technology community.

New directors will need to bring with them a passion for the industry and a firm belief that by working together we can effect positive change. They will be a committed, active, advocate for Manchester Digital believing that culture of all forms is something everyone should be able to enjoy. If you have any questions about joining the board, please do get in touch.

Yours sincerely,
Alison Ross, Chair, Manchester Digital

An introduction

Manchester Digital is the trade body for digital and tech businesses and the largest in the North with over 500 members. We focus on 3 core pillars of activity that we believe will advance the growth of the sector and champion the businesses that support positive employment practices and ethical ways of doing business. We are the platform where the industry comes together and collaborates to make the region better for everyone, so the prosperity generated by our industry is felt right across the region.

Digital Growth. For Good

Community and Collaboration

Supporting and identifying collaboration opportunities, facilitating networking. Mentoring and sharing best practice in order to grow and nurture a responsible and thriving community.

Influence and Engagement

Representing the sector by being the visible and authoritative voice of the regional tech industry.

People and Skills

Ensuring that the region has access to a diverse, high quality workforce equipped with the right skills. We create interventions that have social mobility at their core and create opportunities for people from a wide range of backgrounds.

Everything we do is informed by our members and the wider tech community.

The role

The opportunitity

This is an opportunity for ambitious individuals to join an exceptional board, focused on supporting the growth of the digital industry within Greater Manchester. Manchester Digital is seeking Board members who are passionate about the region's ecosystem and making it a world-leading cluster.

Purpose of post

To contribute actively to the Board of Directors, providing strategic direction to Manchester Digital, setting overall policy, defining goals, setting targets and evaluating performance against targets.

Key responsibilities

- To uphold the values and constitution of Manchester Digital.
- To be responsible for the ongoing management of the managing director.
- To ensure that Manchester Digital complies with its Articles of Association, company law, and any other relevant legislation or regulations.
- To ensure that Manchester Digital pursues its objectives as defined in the Articles of Association.
- To ensure accountability to members for the organisation's performance.
- To exemplify the values of the organisation by:
    - Attending regularly and being actively involved in decision-making
    - Acting as an advocate for Manchester Digital by forging and maintaining links outside the organization
    - Engaging willingly and actively with Manchester Digital's programs, employees, and stakeholders.
    - Directors are required to understand and embrace the principles of good governance, including the principles of integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty, and leadership.

Person specification

The successful candidate will be a dynamic and communicative leader, capable of winning trust, and will bring:

- Excellent communication skills and willingness to work effectively as part of a team.
- An understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities, and liabilities of being a director.
- The ability to contribute to future policy and strategy developments with independence of thought.
- A commitment to Manchester Digital and its objectives.

Candidates will be able to demonstrate knowledge or experience of the digital and technology sector and in one or more of the following areas:

- Product Development
- Marketing and communications
- Education
- Finance

Terms of appointment

Time commitment

- 6 board meetings a year of approx 3 hours, of those, up to 2 meetings may be extended to incorporate strategy setting sessions.
- Additional time to study papers prior to board meetings
- Attendance and chairing of relevant Manchester Digital events

Duration of appointment

Board appointments are proposed every 2 years to the membership at a General Meeting for ratification. Appointments can be extended beyond the 2 years should a candidate wish to remain in post and if the Nominations Committee are happy to support the reappointment.

Remuneration

All board posts are voluntary and not remunerated.

Diversity and inclusion

We are committed to creating an inclusive board by reflecting and representing the diversity of the Greater Manchester region. We want to attract the broadest range of talented people to join the board.

We particularly encourage applications from under-represented groups including women, Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic candidates as well as those who are disabled, deaf and neurodivergent or have long-term health conditions.

How to apply

Please apply by submitting a covering letter which outlines your suitability to be a board director at Manchester Digital and any information relevant to your application to info@manchesterdigital.com.

Please note that your organisation MUST be a member of Manchester Digital in order to be considered.

If you wish to discuss your suitability for the role then please contact katie@manchesterdigital.com to arrange an informal chat.

Applications for board directors will close on 21st April 2023.

Interviews will likely take place between 4th and 18th May 2023.
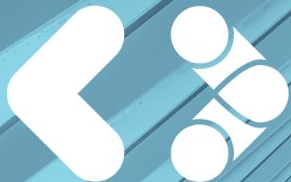
Manchester Digital

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