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COURSE BROCHURE

Nonprofit Governance and Risk Leadership Training Course

17 – 21 May 2027
London

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Nonprofit Governance and Risk Leadership Training Course

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Nonprofit Governance and Risk Leadership is a 1-week training course for chief executives, trustees, board members and senior project leads of charities, foundations and associations, built around one work product: a trustee risk and delegation charter. Donors and the public now expect charitable boards to show who holds authority and how harm is prevented. The course is delivered by Jupiter Prime Training.

Why Nonprofit Governance and Risk Leadership Matters Now

Three pressures shape charitable boards today. Funders attach tighter conditions to grants and ask for evidence that restricted money reaches its intended purpose. Beneficiaries, volunteers and the wider public judge an organisation by how it protects vulnerable people and answers complaints. Volunteer trustees, meanwhile, carry legal duties while giving limited time, so their oversight depends on clear delegation to paid staff. Handled well, they keep donor trust; handled badly, they bring withdrawn funding and personal exposure for trustees.

Who Gains Most from Nonprofit Governance and Risk Leadership

- Trustees and board members responsible for direction and holding the chief executive to account
- Chief executives and directors who carry delegated authority
- Board chairs and treasurers who shape agendas and reserves
- Senior project and grant leads accountable to funders for restricted income
- Safeguarding leads and company secretaries who keep policies and registers current

A charity gains most when a trustee, its chief executive and a senior project lead attend together and draft one shared charter for their board.

Nonprofit Governance and Risk Leadership Capabilities

Participants separate board stewardship from executive operation and test charitable risks against the mission.

- Distinguish trustee duties from executive authority — the chief executive and board chair
- Assess funding concentration, restricted income and reserves exposure — the treasurer and finance committee
- Design a safeguarding escalation route — the safeguarding lead and trustees
- Weigh mission ambition against tolerable harm — the full board
- Build board reporting — funders and major donors
- Communicate a serious incident — trustees and the public

Key Nonprofit Governance and Risk Leadership Terms

- Trustee duty of prudence — the obligation to use charitable assets carefully and avoid undue exposure.
- Scheme of delegation — a board-approved list of decisions the board keeps and those it hands to committees or staff.
- Restricted fund — donated or granted money that may only be spent on the purpose the donor or funder specified.
- Reserves policy — the board's stated level of unrestricted funds held to cover shortfalls, closures or sudden demand.
- Safeguarding — the measures a charity takes to protect beneficiaries, staff and volunteers from abuse, exploitation and neglect.
- Serious incident report — a prompt account to the oversight body of significant harm or loss.

Nonprofit Governance and Risk Leadership Day by Day

Day 1: The Charitable Board and Its Mission

- Governing Document and Charitable Objects — Limits on What the Board May Fund
- Trustee Duties of Care and Prudence — Personal Exposure of Volunteer Board Members
- Stakeholder Map of Donors, Beneficiaries and Volunteers — Whose Interests Weigh Most
- Board Composition and Skills Matrix — Recruiting Trustees for Missing Expertise
- Conflict of Interest Register — Declaring Links With Suppliers and Grantees

Day 2: Delegation and Executive Accountability

- Scheme of Delegation — Decisions Reserved for the Board Versus Staff
- Committee Terms of Reference — Finance, Audit and Fundraising Committee Remits
- Chair and Chief Executive Partnership — Dividing Strategic and Operating Leadership
- Board Calendar and Agenda Planning — Giving Trustees Time for Risk Debate
- Chief Executive Appraisal — Linking Executive Objectives to Charitable Outcomes

Day 3: Funding and Financial Risk

- Income Concentration Analysis — Dependence on a Single Grant or Donor
- Restricted Fund Tracking — Showing Funders Money Reached Its Purpose
- Reserves Policy Setting — Months of Running Costs the Board Holds
- Gift Acceptance Rules — Refusing Donations That Harm Reputation or Mission
- Charitable Risk Appetite Statement — How Much Uncertainty Trustees Will Accept

Day 4: Safeguarding and Incident Leadership

- Safeguarding Policy and Designated Lead — Protecting Beneficiaries and Volunteers
- Escalation Thresholds and Reporting Routes — When Trustees Must Be Told
- Whistleblowing Channel Design — Letting Staff Raise Concerns Without Fear
- Serious Incident Response Plan — Notification, Investigation and Public Statement
- Volunteer and Partner Vetting — Checks Before Contact With Vulnerable People

Day 5: Practising the Trustee Risk and Delegation Charter

- Donor Impact Reporting — Board Accounts of Grant Spending and Results
- Charity Risk Register Review — Ranking Funding, Safeguarding and Delegation Exposures
- Board Scenario Exercise on a Funding Loss — Testing Reserves and Delegation
- Annual Board Effectiveness Review — Trustee Self-Assessment and Improvement Actions
- Trustee Risk and Delegation Charter — Final Draft for Board Approval

Applying Nonprofit Governance and Risk Leadership After the Course

- Lead a board session that compares the current scheme of delegation with actual decisions taken over the last quarter and records the gaps.
- Run an income concentration and reserves check with the treasurer and present the result alongside the charitable risk appetite statement.

Nonprofit Governance and Risk Leadership Questions FAQ

What is Nonprofit Governance and Risk Leadership and why does it matter now?

It is the way a charitable board directs its organisation, delegates authority and controls harm to people, money and mission. Funders and the public now expect visible proof of that oversight.

Which roles gain most from Nonprofit Governance and Risk Leadership?

Trustees, chairs, treasurers and chief executives gain most, together with senior project leads and safeguarding leads.

How does Nonprofit Governance and Risk Leadership differ from a corporate board course?

It focuses on charitable objects, volunteer trustees, restricted funds and safeguarding rather than shareholder returns. A corporate board course centres on investors and market disclosure instead.

What do you bring back from Nonprofit Governance and Risk Leadership?

You bring back a draft trustee risk and delegation charter ready for board approval. It sets out reserved decisions, risk thresholds and incident routes.

Nonprofit Governance and Risk Leadership: The Way Forward

The trustee risk and delegation charter gives the board a single reference for who decides what and which risks it will tolerate. Its first use is usually the next budget approval, where trustees and the chief executive test reserves and restricted income against it. Revisit the charter after the first serious incident or major grant change, when real events show which thresholds need adjusting.