

Independent Chair of the WaterSafe Installers' Scheme Limited

WaterSafe provides an online UK register of qualified Approved Contractors. Its aim is to help consumers find a local qualified installer to help keep water supplies safe and healthy in homes and businesses.

WaterSafe is an umbrella organisation that provides two key functions (1) a centralised search of all UK Approved Contractors from six different schemes (2) a single 'WaterSafe' brand that is easier to promote to consumers. The six scheme operators are run by water companies or trade/professional associations and they are responsible for recruitment, complaints and audits of their Approved Contractor members.

The company has one part time Chair and no other employees and is administered on behalf of its board by Water Regs UK. It has a budget of around £124k per annum and is currently funded by Water Regs UK, from reserves that came from water company subscriptions and profits from the WRAS approval scheme.

WaterSafe is a private company limited by guarantee. It was incorporated on 3rd July 2012. Members or subscribers of the company are the organisations running the six approved contractors' scheme in the UK, plus the Worshipful Company of Plumbers and Water UK. (These are classed as guarantors although their liability is limited to £1)

The role

The Chair provides inclusive leadership to the Board of Directors to ensure that the Board sets and implements the company's direction and strategy. The ideal candidate will operate at a strategic level and have at least 10 years' experience at Board level.

The Chair will also support, and, where appropriate, challenge the directors and ensure that the Board functions as a unit and works closely with the operational teams to achieve agreed objectives. They will act as an ambassador and the public face of the organisation in partnership with directors.

The Board provides independent oversight and constructive challenge to operational teams and suppliers, with scrutiny and support in equal measure.

The time commitment is at least 8 days per annum to attend quarterly board meetings, sub-committees and to represent the organisation. Board meetings will be held 75% remotely and 25% in person.

The role is remunerated at £2,900 per annum

Key responsibilities:

- **Business and strategic planning.** Provides leadership to the Board of Directors to ensure that the board sets and implements the company's direction and strategy and board provides a clear strategic direction
- **Board meetings:** The Chair conducts board meetings, sets the agenda, and ensures that all directors are involved. The Chair sets the tone for the company's culture fosters an open and inclusive discussion environment
- **Board composition and development:** leading role in determining the composition and structure of the Board and engages the Board in assessing and improving its performance. The Chair reviews the development and induction of directors.

- **Stakeholder engagement.** Developing, building and growing the influence of the organisation. Help connect the business and board with networks of potentially useful people and organisations.
- **Monitoring the performance** of Approved Contractors Schemes, PR team and administrative team, especially with regard to the progress made towards achieving the determined company strategy and objectives
- **Supporting operational teams**, by bringing a different perspective, suggesting alternative options and connecting them with external resources
- **Risk** Satisfy themselves on the integrity of financial information and that financial controls and systems of risk management are robust and defensible.

Competences:

- **Strategy/policy formulation.** Understanding of strategic issues for WaterSafe and options available to the board
- **Stakeholder engagement.** Building constructive relationships outside the organisation and representing the board
- **Good governance.** This includes financial controls and rules for Approved Contractors Schemes
- **Collaborative working.** Teamwork, support for colleagues and participation in sub-committees
- **Constructive challenge.** Prepared to challenge proposals and different views in a way that adds value and stimulates development

Directors Appointments

Founding member of WaterSafe and have a right to appoint a director on its board. The founding members registered at incorporation were:

- The Water Industry Approved Plumber Scheme (trading name and part of Water Regs UK)
- Water Regs UK Limited (company registration number 06663930)
- The Worshipful Company of Plumbers (Incorporated by Royal Charter)
- Water UK (company registration number 03539600)
- Chartered Institute of Plumbing and Heating Engineering (company registration number RC000822 and incorporated by Royal Charter)
- Association of Plumbing and Heating Contractors Limited (company registration number 05302003)
- SNIPEF Management Ltd (company registration number SC056633)
- AWG Group Limited (company registration number 02366618)
- Severn Trent Water Limited (company registration number 02366686)

The Board has the authority to appoint additional directors, including the independent Chair.

Insurance

WaterSafe has Directors and Officers Liability Insurance with a limit of indemnity of £2 million for any one claim. A copy of cover is available on request.