**Research Trustee Person Specification**

**Essential**

* Experience of operating at a senior level in a social science research environment
* Experience of designing, conducting and analysing research using a range of designs and methods; and ensuring that conclusions and recommendations rest on a robust evidence base.
* Good understanding of data protection legislation and research ethics in clinical and social research.
* Commitment to the aims of the Thalidomide Trust and an understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of a charity trustee.
* Commitment to safeguard the reputation and values of the Trust and ensure resources are used wisely and in the best interests of all beneficiaries.
* Team player with a collaborative approach and experience of effective partnership working with service users.
* Ability to make sound independent judgments and decisions in the best interests of all beneficiaries
* Able to demonstrate integrity, strategic vision, accountability and a willingness to speak their mind, alongside a caring, empathetic and non-judgemental attitude
* Good understanding of equity, safeguarding, empowerment and inclusion
* Willingness and ability to devote the necessary time and effort to the Trust – specifically be available to attend three full day board meetings and at least two half-day Committee meetings each year.

**Desirable**

* Experience of commissioning and/or reviewing research projects
* Experience of chairing meetings
* A good understanding of and interest in the current and future health and social care policy agenda
* Good understanding of the needs of people with disabilities and the issues affecting them, particularly as they age
* Experience of operating at a senior level in a data role within a health, social care or academic environment with well- developed networks
* Strong IT skills and an understanding of current technology as it applies to health and social care and to organisation management.