**Advertisement – Chair**

**Newcastle Parks Trust – Chair**

**Location: Newcastle**

**Compensation: unremunerated, but expenses paid**

**Time commitment: approximately 1 day per week**

Newcastle’s parks and allotments are a crucial part of the City’s infrastructure, but austerity and the consequent ongoing budget restrictions mean that the quality of provision the Council can deliver for these vital green spaces is declining.

The Council is committed to securing a vibrant future for its parks as safe, well-maintained green spaces, where people of all ages and backgrounds can enjoy moments of tranquillity or join in activities that are open to all; destination venues, drawing in people from across the city and beyond.

To achieve this, the Council is creating a new independent charity: the Newcastle Parks Trust, which will unlock new sources of funding that can protect Newcastle’s parks and allotments for future generations; transform their contribution to communities; achieve expenditure efficiencies; ring-fence and recycle income purely for the benefit of the parks; and involve local people in shaping the future of their green spaces.

This model for public parks management is the first of its kind, and the successful candidate will be the charity’s first ever Chair. Their first task will be the appointment of the first Chief Executive, and forming an effective partnership with them. Together, the Chair and CEO will be national pathfinders, creating the strategy that defines the long-term future and success of Newcastle’s parks and in creating a template of best practice for the nation’s parks.

The successful candidate will:

* Have proven experience of leadership and operating successfully at Board and/or senior management level in at least one of the following areas:Business development, Finance, Legal, Land and property management, Fundraising, Visitor operations, Commercial operations/development, HR/People development, Heritage, Environment, Health and wellbeing
* Be a strategic thinker, with ability to identify and manage high level opportunities and risks
* Have the ability to commit the necessary time and support required
* Have the ability to identify stakeholders, manage critical relationships and develop strong networks
* Posess good communication and interpersonal skills, including tact and diplomacy, with the ability to use these skills to act as an ambassador for the charity

If you would like to receive an information pack for this role, with a role description and person specification as well as full details of how to apply, please send your CV to executive@harrishill.co.uk or call Jenny Hills at Harris Hill on 0207 820 7321.

**Closing date for applications: 9am on Monday 4th June 2018**