



THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE

appointment of
chief executive





A message from the chair of trustees

The Evangelical Alliance is the largest and oldest body serving evangelical Christians in the UK. Since 1846, we've been uniting Christians and making their voices heard in the corridors of power. We've been equipping churches for mission; inspiring them to drive the spiritual, social and physical transformation of their communities.

In John 17 – the final prayer of Jesus – He prays: “I in them and you in me – so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you loved me.” We believe that the unity Jesus prayed for is reflected in the church coming together, setting aside denominational differences, and working together for the gospel.

This is an exciting time to join this organisation whose board I am so privileged to chair. We have done so much in the last 12 months but there is so much more to come: we have ambitious dreams.

As you peruse this pack and contemplate the kind of work it describes, you will need to be realistic about your own gifts and experience and the many practical considerations in running an alliance of diverse organisations, churches and individuals for the sake of the gospel in the 21st century. I hope, that as you read, you will find something stirring in your heart – let's call it a spark that can ignite a fire – which will enable you to see it as more than a job: a calling to dedicated service in God's work and worthy of the best possible servant leadership.

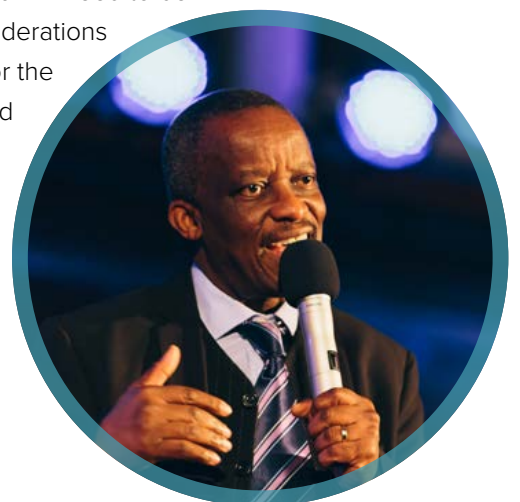
Thank you for taking the time to consider applying for this key role.

If this opportunity excites you, I hope you will be in touch.

Rev Dr Tani Omideyi

Chair of the board of trustees

Senior Minister, Temple of Praise, Liverpool





About the Evangelical Alliance

The Evangelical Alliance is made up of hundreds of organisations, thousands of churches and tens of thousands of individuals, joined together for the sake of the gospel. Representing our members since 1846, the Evangelical Alliance is the oldest and largest evangelical unity movement in the UK.

United in mission and voice, we exist to serve and strengthen the work of the church. Highlighting the significant opportunities and challenges facing the church today, we work together to resource Christians to be able to act upon their faith in Jesus, to speak up for the gospel in their areas of influence.

Working across the UK, with offices in London, Cardiff, Glasgow and Belfast, our members come together from across denominations, locations, age groups and ethnicities, all sharing a passion to know Jesus and make Him known.

Like the evangelicals who have gone before us – those who abolished the slave trade, those who reformed our justice system, those who championed education for all – we are dedicated to blessing those around us as we worship God with all that we have and all that we are.

Today it is evangelicals who are at the heart of debt counselling, street pastors, night shelters and food-banks. Today it is active evangelical faith that is making a profound difference throughout our communities for the sake of the gospel. We speak up on behalf of those who are maligned and marginalised, affirming freedoms and proclaiming the good news of Jesus in words and in action.

We connect people for a shared mission, whether it's nurturing a church culture that is increasingly confident in the gospel, getting involved in community action or lobbying government for a better society. We inform and inspire Christians about our society, what the church is doing and how they can get involved. We also represent evangelicals to the media, presenting God's truth with grace and telling good news stories about the differences Christians are making.

We believe the church is the key to long-lasting change in our country – and that by working closely with our amazing members, we can transform our communities with the good news of Jesus.

“With an astonishing breadth of support and a highly gifted staff team, the Evangelical Alliance is in a great position to impact the church and the nation, uniting the people of God in mission and being a voice for justice, righteousness, truth and love”

John Risbridger, Chair of Council,
Evangelical Alliance and
Team Leader, Above Bar
Church, Southampton

The Evangelical Alliance's vision and purpose

We love Jesus and we want everyone in the UK to be given an opportunity to know Him.

We love His church and we will do all we can to unite evangelicals, building confidence in the gospel and speaking as a trusted voice into society to see it changed for Him.

VISION

To make Jesus known by uniting the church in mission and voice.

MISSION

1. To unite evangelical churches, organisations and individual members.
2. To inspire and equip more churches, organisation and individuals to share their faith in Jesus.
3. To represent, resource and enhance the voice of evangelicals in the public square.

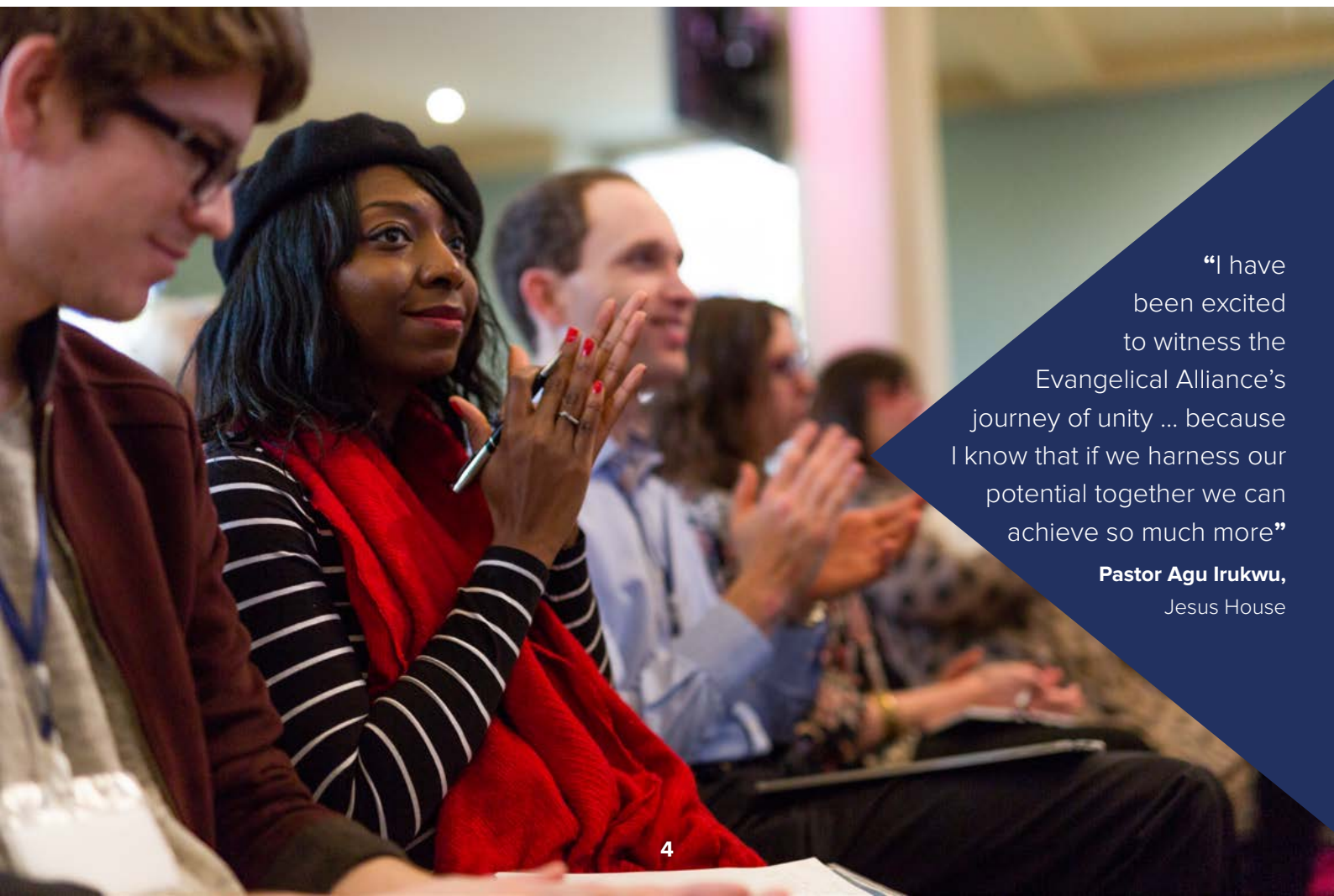
VALUES

Christ-like: We serve one another and our members sacrificially

Relational: We communicate, collaborate and celebrate

Trustworthy: We are a high trust and highly trusted organisation with a strong emphasis on truth.

Prayerful: We are an organisation which prays regularly and champions prayer.



“I have been excited to witness the Evangelical Alliance’s journey of unity ... because I know that if we harness our potential together we can achieve so much more”

Pastor Agu Irukwu,
Jesus House



“The Evangelical Alliance is like a bridge, helping us reach out from our own islands, giving us a path to tread, a journey to go on, to reach the mainland and join with our brothers and sisters in Christian unity”

Pastor Chrishanthi Sathiyaraj,
Bethany Church:
The Family You Need

Context of this appointment

The next three years offer the Evangelical Alliance, and our members, both phenomenal opportunities and profound challenges. All around us we see change. People are entering into a relationship with Jesus in numbers we have not seen in decades. We celebrate good news stories of church growth, Christian favour and God’s blessing from every part of our membership.

But we face political, economic and cultural challenges; Brexit, the future of our political union, and the UK’s international relationships all compound a sense of flux and shift. We are also facing increasing opposition to biblical orthodoxy from politicians, the media and cultural influencers, who seek to weaken our voice and reach. But no matter what changes or challenges we encounter, we know that God is faithful.

The current crisis of leadership in our society, lack of vision for a common good and hope deficit present an opportunity for evangelical Christians. Now is the time for the church to tell an alternative story, one that is infused with hope. We believe that things can be better. We embrace a vision of society that is grounded in Christian values, providing the roots for the fruits of love, truth and justice which can transform society and benefit all.

We seek a chief executive who will inspire, unite and encourage the church to give voice to that vision. S/he will envision Christians to have confidence in the gospel and will provide the inspirational leadership that enables the Evangelical Alliance to continue being a trusted voice to government, media and society.

The core areas of our current strategic plan (2018-2022)

We build confidence in the gospel

We love Jesus and want people to encounter Him. We champion our freedom to follow Jesus and make Him known in our communities and throughout society, because we know that Jesus can, and does transform lives.

Our work through initiatives like the Great Commission, Missional Link Wales and Talking Jesus fuel our faith and our passion, because every week we hear stories of people's lives being changed through the power of the gospel. We want to share those stories as far and as wide as possible. We know that testimonies from successful missional activities encourage and embolden the church to share Jesus more freely and readily.

We see a vibrant church

We are an alliance made up of many different streams of church expression and situations, all sharing the same love for Jesus and love for our neighbour.

We passionately want to see healthy churches thrive and people flourish. We want to be able to listen and learn from each other, to spark conversations and grow in our ability to navigate the immense opportunities and profound challenges facing the church today.

As such, we are committed to helping identify and shape the theological and practical resources needed by the UK church. We are a devolved alliance, committed to resourcing national teams in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Whenever possible we work in partnership with others, to make Jesus known in our towns, cities and places.

We are a trusted voice

We are a respected source of political insight and expertise in the media, to government and for our members. The Evangelical Alliance has been a trusted and influential Christian voice to those in power since 1945. We have a long history of advocating for freedom and justice in the UK and as a founding member of the World Evangelical Alliance, around the world.

As a membership organisation it is vital that we faithfully represent our constituency, listen to the concerns and challenges facing Christians today and anticipate those on the political horizon. We encourage and support evangelicals to speak hope and live differently in public life.

Our public policy team is well placed to work across the nations of the UK, along with our member organisations, advising on key policy developments and religious liberty issues, offering insight and commentary to politicians, governments and the media, and raising awareness with Christians as to what is being discussed and implemented by our governments.

“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you”

John 17: 20-21





Organisational governance and structure

The council of the Evangelical Alliance is intended to be representative of the evangelical community in the UK, drawing together evangelical leaders to provide guidance to the Evangelical Alliance on its overall direction, and to ensure that its public representation of evangelical interests is consistent and credible. Currently comprising around 65 members, it meets twice a year.

The Evangelical Alliance board of trustees is made up of approximately 12 people who are elected by the council. The board meets four times a year to discuss the vision and direction of the Evangelical Alliance and ensure that the affairs of the Evangelical Alliance are conducted properly.

The chief executive of the Evangelical Alliance works alongside the UK directors and national directors for Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales in leading a staff team of 40 and deploying its £2.5m annual budget.

Role description

The role of the chief executive is to lead the Evangelical Alliance in fulfilment, and appropriate development, of its vision, mission, purpose and strategy.

The role is responsible to the board of trustees through its chair, currently Rev Dr Tani Omideyi. The chief executive is responsible for the oversight and line management of directors and staff, which currently include a director of mission, director of communications and membership, director of advocacy, director of finance and operations as well as the directors of each of the three Celtic nations – Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Also reporting to the chief executive is a personal assistant.

Purpose of the role

As the primary public face of the Evangelical Alliance, the role of the chief executive is to:

- Be an external face and a clear voice of the Evangelical Alliance relating to many different constituencies nationally, including the church, government, media and society, and to combine relational and diplomatic skills as an effective and respected advocate for the gospel and evangelical church in the UK.
- Provide inspirational leadership to the organisation in fulfilling its vision to represent, catalyse and unite the evangelical community to fulfil its transformative role in society.
- Lead the Evangelical Alliance in the ongoing articulation and delivery of its vision:
 - Through the implementation of its current strategic plan,
 - By exercising responsibility for its day-to-day management through the leadership team,
 - By ensuring its viability, sustainability and growth.

Key responsibilities

External representation

The new chief executive will have a significant ambassadorial role, championing the perspective of the evangelical community in the public square. The Evangelical Alliance represents a diverse array of member churches, organisations and individuals that cuts across church streams and ethnicities. In this context, the chief executive will promote cooperation, unity and dialogue across this constituency and, with reliance on God, will catalyse the work of the evangelical community in the UK to transform society, shape culture and make Jesus known. S/he will inspire others to become members and mobilise the Evangelical Alliance into having a prophetic voice that casts a vision of what a society transformed by and for the kingdom can look like.

Visionary and strategic leadership

The new chief executive will have responsibility to lead, develop and inspire a talented staff team to deliver the Evangelical Alliance's strategic plan (2018-2022). This will also involve having a vision of the future in a complex and changing social and political environment and shaping organisational strategy accordingly, whilst keeping membership and employee engagement at the highest levels.

The chief executive will work with the leadership team and the board of trustees to discern the future direction for the Evangelical Alliance, identifying and securing new partnerships and funding. S/he will take the ultimate responsibility in ensuring the sound management of the Evangelical Alliance, whilst partnering with the chairs of the board and council to establish sound governance arrangements and the highest levels of accountability and transparency.

The new chief executive will continue to cultivate and embody an environment of collaboration and innovation while being gracious and faithful, living out the values at the heart of the Evangelical Alliance.

Spiritual leadership

The chief executive will be responsible for providing spiritual leadership and oversight at the Evangelical Alliance. S/he will inspire the Evangelical Alliance and the wider membership and lead reflections for small and large audiences.

The chief executive will be on a continuous journey with solid biblical understanding, allowing her/himself to be refined by searching the presence of Jesus and drawing on their own deep confidence in His unchanging love and faithfulness. S/he will demonstrate a lifestyle in which prayer and listening to God comes first and from which their leadership springs.



Person specification

The new chief executive will be a mature Christian who puts prayer first with a kingdom of God mindset and a strong record of external representation, inspiring others and implementing strategy.

Experience

- Extensive senior leadership experience, including strong experience in representing a national organisation to the media, policymakers and opinion shapers and implementing strategy in an organisation of comparable complexity.
- A proven track record of building high-performing teams, with a management style that gets the best of others through empowering and accountability.
- Rich experience of working with boards with a good understanding of the role of the chief executive in ensuring effective governance.
- Working and building relationships in a cross-cultural and pan-denominational context.

Skills and abilities

- Proven and inspirational leadership skills with intellectual acuity, spiritual insight, combined with energy, drive and creativity.
- An effective decisionmaker with the confidence to innovate and implement fresh solutions.
- A clear and effective communicator able to inspire vision and faith internally and externally at the highest levels.
- A confident networker with strong influencing abilities, emotional intelligence and spiritual empathy, highly skilled at building relationships and rapport with evangelicals and others of different traditions, cultures and sectoral backgrounds.
- Excellent financial acumen with the ability to balance short and long-term priorities and identify and manage both opportunities and risks.





Knowledge and understanding

- A strong appreciation of, and sensitivity to, the differing cultural, ethnic and church contexts in which the Evangelical Alliance works.
- Extensive knowledge of the evangelical church in the UK.
- Committed to the mission, aims, values and ethos of the Evangelical Alliance.

Disposition

- A devoted and courageous follower of Jesus, having personal humility, prophetic insight and a personal assurance of God's goodness and faithfulness.
- Spiritually mature, theologically literate, with strong personal discipleship practices and accountable relationships within a church community.
- Demonstrates humble self-confidence, excellent listening skills and capacity to relate to people at all levels.
- A strong desire for unity across all expressions of evangelicalism in the UK.
- Willingness to travel domestically and to undertake weekend commitments.

Qualifications

- Relevant degree level education.

This post is subject to an occupational requirement that the post holder is a committed evangelical Christian under Part 1 of Schedule 9 to the Equality Act 2010.

Terms and application process

This is a full-time, permanent role. Willingness to relocate to London is not a precondition for this role although being able to commit to working out of the London office on a regular basis is.

The salary will be circa £70,000 dependent on experience and location plus a range of other benefits.

How to apply

The Evangelical Alliance is working with Macaulay Search to make this important appointment. Interested candidates should email their application to mark.powys-smith@macaulaysearch.com

Your application should comprise:

- A covering letter of not more than one or two pages outlining your motivation and relevant experience for the role. Please do include reference to your Christian faith and motivation in applying.
- A full CV, including responsibilities held and relevant achievements.
- Daytime, evening and/or mobile telephone numbers (to be used with discretion).

The deadline for applications is 5pm (BST) on Thursday, 6 June 2019.

All applicants must be committed to the basis of faith, and ethos statement of the Evangelical Alliance.

Successful candidates will be invited to a first interview on either Monday, 24 June or Tuesday, 25 June. A smaller number of candidates will be invited to final interviews during the week of 8 July in London.

Thank you for taking the time to prayerfully consider this opportunity and to learn more about the work of the Evangelical Alliance.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with Macaulay Search using the above email address should you have any questions regarding this role or appointment process.

