

September 2020

## GM Freeze is looking for a new treasurer Can you help?



[GM Freeze](#) is the UK umbrella campaign on the use of genetic modification in food and farming. Our member organisations encompass a wide range of perspectives, but all agree that GMOs are not the way to create a responsible, fair and sustainable food system. We are looking for a new Treasurer, who will serve as a member of the volunteer Management Committee.

GM Freeze employs a small staff team which manages the day to day finances, so the Treasurer's role is to oversee financial good practice and take a particular interest in governance. You do not need to be an accountant or have huge amounts of time to spare but you do need to be confident reading financial spreadsheets and reviewing accounts. You also need to feel comfortable calling staff members to account in line with our expenditure procedure. You will need to attend Management Committee meetings around six times a year. These currently take place via Zoom during the working week, but there is some flexibility to respond to individual schedules.

The future of GM Freeze is uncertain. We lost our previously consistent core grant funding in 2018 and were planning to close the organisation this summer. However, when we launched an appeal to raise £4,000 to help us close well, we quickly received over £30,000 in donations and small grants. As a result, we are still fully operational but have not yet solved our long-term funding difficulties. We are reviewing options for the future and the new Treasurer will join the board early in 2021 to help put a programme of change into action. It is possible that we will decide to close GM Freeze but if so, we will work hard to do so in a way that respects the wishes of our members and supporters while creating a useful legacy for everyone who shares our aims and values. The new Treasurer will have a key role to play, whatever happens.

GM Freeze believes that diversity brings strength and resilience to any organisation, but we also recognise that we have not done enough to create an inclusive organisation or increase the range of voices and opinions on our board. We are particularly keen to hear from people of colour, disabled people and men who would like to join us. If you are interested but would not normally put yourself forward for this kind of role, please do get in touch.

You can find out more about GM Freeze on our website [www.gmfreeze.org](http://www.gmfreeze.org)

Our Annual Report and Accounts and our Articles of Association are available on our website at [www.gmfreeze.org/AGM](http://www.gmfreeze.org/AGM). Updated financial information can be shared with serious candidates after an initial discussion.

GM Freeze is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee. Management Committee members have the responsibilities of a company director so if you are [disqualified from being a company director](#) then, unfortunately, you cannot become our new treasurer.

**If you are interested in becoming the new GM Freeze Treasurer, please contact Honor Eldridge, GM Freeze Chair on [honor.eldridge@plantlife.org.uk](mailto:honor.eldridge@plantlife.org.uk) to arrange an informal discussion.**