

EEAST LGBT+ Network Chair

The EEAST LGBT+ Network Chair is a voluntary position that may be held by any Trust staff or volunteer.

Key relationships

Primarily to promoting an effective staff network that supports and gives voice to LGBT+ staff and volunteers within the East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust and should:

- Establish and maintain effective, new or current, working relationships with relevant personnel within the Trust
- Maintain an effective working relationship with the National Ambulance LGBT Network and their members
- Maintain an effective working relationship with the Director for Strategy and Sustainability, currently the Trust Sponsor of the Network
- Maintain effective working relationships with Equality, Diversity and Inclusion team
- Understand the role and function of Chairpersons;
- As required, establish relationships with exterior organisations that have LGBT+ staff and volunteer networks.

Key responsibilities

- Facilitating network meetings by preparing an agenda and guiding the members to come to consensus where appropriate
- Maintaining, reviewing, and updating the EEAST LGBT+ Network Facebook and Twitter accounts;
- Being first point of contact for prospective members and for staff and volunteer queries
- Working with the Vice Chair and other committee members to ensure Trust staff are well informed about the network's activities and successes via NTK
- Reviewing and updating the Terms of Reference as indicated in collaboration with EDI steering team
- Ensuring that all actions, activities and expenditure meet with the network's ToR, Work Force Equality legislation and reflect current Trust policy (where appropriate);
- Promote activity within the network to all staff and volunteers
- Liaising with Union LGBT representatives
- Attending or delegating attendance at meetings where the network has an interest in representing its views in relation to meeting its ambitions.

Person specification

The EEAST LGBT+ Network Chair will have a commitment to the aims and ethos of the network with an active desire to bring about positive improvements to LGBT+ staff and volunteers within the Trust.

Essential

The post-holder will:

- Be a capable and energetic communicator who is able to engage with staff at all levels and will want to expand and improve on the work of their predecessor
- Be able to manage and balance their professional, personal and voluntary responsibilities.
- Remember that they will be representing LGBT+ staff and volunteers and the wider Trust, at many levels and within many different contexts, and to act appropriately.

Message from outgoing Chair:

A little over a year ago we started to seriously increase our efforts to engage with staff by creating an LGBT+ staff network Facebook page and organising attendance at several Pride events across our region.

At our first official meeting, I was surprised to discover that there had been staff working to promote LGBT+ equality and representing the Trust for several years already. I was also surprised to witness the strength of support from the Trust once we had started to deliver and promote a sustainable staff network. It has certainly been hard work but every effort I have put into this process has been supported by equally hard-working people keen to see us succeed.

We have had support from the Trust Chair, the Deputy Chief Executive, Trust Board Directors, the Communications team, Human Resources, the Community Engagement team, I.T and the Equality, Diversity and Inclusive team. You will get to develop relationships with people from all these teams within the Trust and be given the opportunity to affect real change for the wider Trust and in particular your LGBT+ colleagues and service users.

This will, I hope, challenge you and lead to tangible opportunities as a professional as well as real friendships from the wide spectrum of people that you will have the pleasure to meet along the way.

You will have the full support of the members that already make the effort to attend meetings and I will help in any way I can to assist with an easy transition into this rewarding and interesting role.

I feel that I have achieved a lot in the last couple of years but recognise that there will be someone better suited to take this growing network to the next step and I look forward to meeting you and wishing you the best of luck in doing so.

Benjamin Mudd