



## Information for Prospective Chair and Vice Chair

### Who we are

The SUN network is an independent community interest company that is steered by its members. Our vision is that mental health, drug and alcohol services in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are the best they can be for the people who need them.

To achieve our vision, we work alongside people to get their voice heard and respected, and to maximise the influence of their expertise and experience.

We work honestly and positively with people who need services and with those who provide them, making spaces for them to listen fairly and share views equally. We see each person's experience as individual and important. We celebrate the value of community involvement in decision making so that services become the best they can be.

### About Recent Changes

We knew that we wanted to be fully independent and so since November we have consulted widely and reviewed our options.

As a result, we are delighted to say we have become Community Interest Company since January 2018.

We took the chance to think and consult carefully about our overall aims and our business objectives for 2018 to 2021. We are now ready, with a vote of confidence from our commissioners who have been closely involved throughout our review, to create a Board which will ensure we achieve our aims.

### What we do

The SUN network achieves its objectives by:

- ✘ Bringing together people and organisations and groups connected with mental health, drug or alcohol support into a **network**, which shares experiences and knowledge;
- ✘ **Listening** to and recording the views of people who have had experience of mental health, drug or alcohol services;

- ✘ Amplifying and **sharing the views** of people who have had experience of mental health, drug or alcohol services. This would include using regular reports to the people who make decisions about services to influence their priorities;
- ✘ Supporting people who have used mental health, drug and alcohol to **represent** themselves in decision-making spaces;
- ✘ **Evaluating** services and offering guidance and support to commissioners and service providers to help them make services better;
- ✘ **Championing** and celebrating good service user involvement through training and campaign.

## Chair and Vice Chair Roles

We are now recruiting to these two senior roles as we build our new body of Directors.

The chair will lead the organisation, working closely with the manager, three staff and members. The chair will be closely supported by the vice chair, who will bring skills that complement those of the chair so that the Directors as a group have maximum effectiveness. The vice chair may be asked to lead on specific aspects of the business, such as publicity or income generation.

As chair or vice chair you can expect:

- A small salary to reflect the importance of the roles (£3 000 p.a. for the chair, £2 000 p.a. for the vice chair)
- Reasonable expenses
- The offer of training and support in your role
- To be insured and have liability limited to minimise your exposure to liability in the role
- To have fun, role satisfaction and to be part of an important service to our community

## How To Apply

If you are interested in joining us here's what to do:

- Send to [lois.sidney@sunnetwork.org.uk](mailto:lois.sidney@sunnetwork.org.uk) a CV or similar written document about yourself saying why you would like to apply and what you feel you could bring to the role.
- Contact Lois SUN Network manager on the above email address or via 07712358172 for an informal chat if you wish
- State in your application which of the two posts you are applying for. (or both)

We look forward to hearing from you.