



Mental Health Network Service User Board Representatives

Background

The Mental Health Network (MHN) of the NHS Confederation is the voice for NHS funded mental health and learning disability service providers in England.

We are a membership organisation representing providers from across the statutory, independent and third sectors in working with government, regulators, opinion formers, media and the wider NHS to promote excellence in mental health services and the importance of good mental health.

We help shape and challenge national policy and legislation affecting our members. We make sense of the broader political and policy environment, and provide members with up to date news and analysis. We also work to identify and spread good practice and innovation in the mental health sector.

The Network has 75 member organisations. This includes 92% of statutory providers (NHS foundation trusts and trusts) and a number of independent, third sector and not-for-profit organisations.

Our Board

The Mental Health Network is self-governing with our own board elected by members. [The board](#) sets our business plan and approves the Network budget.

The board consists of chief executive, chair, healthcare practitioner, independent sector, not-for-profit, service user and carer representatives from MHN member organisations.

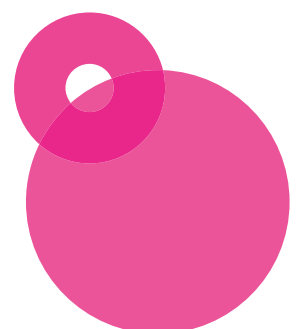
Board members are elected by MHN member organisations for a three year term of office. Board members may stand for a second three year term of office but sit for a maximum of six years.

Representing a constituent group on the Mental Health Network board is an opportunity to shape the work of the Network and become involved in shaping mental health policy and practice on a national level.

Representatives attend four board meetings per year and are also encouraged to attend key MHN events including member meetings, the MHN annual conference and the NHS Confederation's annual conference.

Service User representatives

The service user representative will sit on the MHN board to provide expert advice, reflect service user views and contribute to the work of the Network on policy and service development.



Service user representatives will sit on the MHN board on behalf of an MHN member organisation.

An allowance of £200 will be paid to attend each meeting, including preparation time, along with reasonable expenses.

We will also support representatives who require support from advocates.

To apply

To have a conversation about the position, what is involved, the commitment required, the Mental Health Network and our board, please contact Chloe Knight at chloe.knight@nhsconfed.org

To apply for a position, please complete the nomination form and return to the chief executive or nominated contact at your organisation.

Each MHN member organisation is eligible to put forward one nominee to each position. If more than one person seeks to be a member organisation's nominee, then the decision on who will be nominated will sit locally with that organisation.

As such, nominations for these positions will only be accepted when received via the chief executive or nominated contacts office.

To apply for a position, please complete the nomination form below and return to your chief executive or nominated contact.

Nominations from member organisations should be emailed to mentalhealthnetwork@nhsconfed.org by **17:00 Monday 28 June 2021**.

Further information

The current MHN Board will review all nominations once the submission period is closed and will vote internally to determine the interim Service User Representative.

New board members will join the board at the MHN's next board meeting, to be held virtually on 20 July 12-1:30pm.