

Chair of North Surrey Domestic Abuse Service

Our Charity

North Surrey Domestic Abuse Service (NSDAS) supports anyone affected by domestic abuse and their children living in the boroughs of Elmbridge, Spelthorne and Epsom and Ewell. We provide free, confidential and independent advice, skilled practical help and ongoing emotional support and information, regardless of sex, race, ability, gender, religion or income level.

Historically the service was provided as part of Citizens Advice Elmbridge (West). We have operated as an independent charity since April 2024 (charity number 1203855) and this is an exciting time to help shape the strategy and direction of the organisation.

The board currently comprises of nine Trustees. The current Chair is looking to step down by Christmas 2025 but will remain as a Trustee to provide continuity and support.

The Role

In addition to the general responsibilities of a trustee, duties of the chair include the following.

- Providing leadership to the organisation and the board, ensuring that everyone remains focused on the delivery of the organisation's charitable purposes to provide greater public benefit.
- Chairing and facilitating board meetings.
- Checking that decisions taken at meetings are implemented.
- Representing the organisation at functions and meetings. Acting as a spokesperson as appropriate.
- Bringing impartiality and objectivity to decision-making.

With the chief executive

- Planning the annual cycle of board meetings and other general meetings where required.
- Setting agendas for board meetings and other general meetings.
- Developing the board of trustees. This includes induction, training, appraisal and succession planning.
- Addressing conflict within the board and the organisation.
- Liaising with the chief executive to keep an overview of the organisation's affairs and providing support where required.
- Developing relationships with our partner organisations.
- Sitting on appointment and disciplinary panels and conducting exit interviews when required.

Person specification

The chair should have the following qualities.

- Leadership skills
- Experience of committee work and ideally experience of a Chair or Vice Chair position
- Tact and diplomacy
- Good communication and interpersonal skills
- Impartiality, fairness and the ability to respect confidences.
- We are a Women's Aid accredited charity meaning this role is open to female candidates only.

If you are interested in joining us as a chair, please email your CV to chair@nsdas.org.uk

NSDAS recognises that it is essential to provide equal opportunities to all without discrimination of any form including our staff, volunteers and service users. We work at all times to promote and deliver safe and inclusive services to all who experience domestic abuse. However, we also operate within Women's Aid guidelines and values; we recognise that domestic abuse is most frequently perpetrated against women by male perpetrators and for this reason we have committed to maintain a board made up primarily of female trustees.