



Membership of George House Trust

Definition

Becoming a member of George House Trust is a way of getting more involved in the strategic development of the organisation.

As a member, you are entitled to:

1. Attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM)
2. Vote at the AGM or any other member's only meetings on decisions affecting the strategic development of the charity
3. Nominate yourself or others to become a Trustee

Examples of decisions that require a vote by members include: any change in the charity name, changes to the main charitable aims, and the annual election of trustees.

If you are interested in becoming a member please ensure you read and understand the following statements regarding eligibility, responsibilities and the application process.

If you require any further clarification please contact us on 0161 274 4499.



Membership at George House Trust

1. Membership is open to all George House Trust service users, over the age of 18.

This includes carers and affected friends/family.

You may have received services recently or some months/years previously.

You may be a regular or infrequent user of services.

A service includes the Insight newsletter and fortnightly email updates.

2. Membership is open to all current volunteers.

Volunteers are removed from the current volunteers list if we have tried repeatedly to contact you regarding volunteering but have obtained no response, or if you have informed us you are currently not able to volunteer.

3. The Trustees have the right to turn down an application for membership if it is considered the person is not in agreement with the central aim of George House Trust:

To promote the best quality of life for people living with or affected by HIV in the North West.

New applications for membership will be required to confirm they are in agreement with the above aim and to answer the question "What do you value about George House Trust?"

4. It is a requirement of membership to attend the Annual General Meeting and any members meetings held during the year.

Membership will be withdrawn if no apologies are received.

Members have the opportunity to vote by post on any voting decisions if unable to attend.

Members have the opportunity to propose a motion at the AGM.

5. A person remains a member until they ask to be withdrawn, or they fail to send apologies as outlined in item 4 above.

6. The trustees reserve the right to withdraw membership at anytime should the member be deemed to be acting in a way which compromises the best interests of the organisation.

7. As an organisation we aim to maintain a membership of approximately 100 members.

8. As an organisation we aim to maintain a membership that is representative of our service user population (sexuality, ethnicity, gender).

9. At minimum, two-thirds of our membership will be service users.

10. Trustees are elected from the membership on an annual basis at the Annual General Meeting.

11. Membership is free.



Membership at George House Trust

Application Process

1. Volunteers and service users that meet the membership criteria can apply to become a member at any time.

Forms are available on request from the office or available on our website www.gh.org.uk.

2. New members will be selected annually, at random, from all applications received by the 31st July.

If the Trustees have identified an imbalance in the current membership, the selection will be made from the relevant pool of applications so as to address the imbalance.

For example, if there are fewer female members compared to the number of female service users, the selection will only be made from applications received from women until the imbalance is addressed.

Any remaining membership spaces will be selected from total pool of all membership applications.

3. All new members will be written to by the 20th August confirming their membership.

They will also be given details of the forthcoming Annual General Meeting and information on Trustee nominations.

4. The number of available membership spaces will be dependant on how many people have stepped down from membership during the year.

5. If we are oversubscribed, anyone not selected for membership will be eligible to reapply in the following year.