

Request for information under the Freedom of Information Act – 2022.096
Released – 26 July 2022

Thank you for your email received 8 July 2022 requesting information regarding staff networks.

Please find detailed below a summary of your request, together with our response.

Summary of your original request:
Please provide me with the following information:

- ***A list of all the staff networks at the trust***

Our networks are:

- Black, Asian and Minority Ethnicity Network
- Menopause Network
- Disability and Carers Network
- LGBTQ+ network
- Armed Forces Community Network (new and first network meeting takes place Tuesday)
- About to commence a Neurodiversity Network

- ***Whether each network receives funding from the trust and, if so, how much (please express annually for the last three financial years)***

Each network has a small recurrent budget of £2000 for things like marketing materials – this was in place from the beginning the networks were set up.

- ***How much FTE equivalent staff time each network is entitled to. For example, a staff network may have a chair who's entitled to spend 10% of their working hours devoted to the network (please express annually for the last three financial years)***

Up until fairly recently (May 2022) staff networks were only afforded a nominal 5 hours per month for the members of their leadership team to support network activity. This was not budgeted or backfilled. From May 2022 Executives approved x2 days per month for up to x3 members of each network leadership team, which would be budgeted at mid-point of a B5 and would allow for managers to backfill colleagues, or to allow networks to look at administrative support for example.

Chair John Goulston Chief Executive Mairead McCormick

Trust HQ The Oast, Unit D, Hermitage Court, Hermitage Lane, Barming, near Maidstone, Kent ME16 9NT

- ***A list of events that each network has held in this financial year so far (April to the present day), including the title of the event, information on any guest speakers and the time of the event***

Black, Asian and Minority Ethnicity Network

The network has not had any event that involved inviting external guests but has had internal meetings

Menopause Network

21 April 2022, 1pm – 2pm – Network meeting, no guest speaker

12 May 2022, 1pm – 2pm - KCHFT's Expert Patient Programme Lead shared thoughts on friends and family support and developing good communication for women in the peri-menopause and menopause.

12 July 2022, 3pm – 4pm - KCHFT Specialist Dietician, presentation on diet and the menopause

Disability and Carers Network

No events held to date

LGBTQ+ network

Canterbury Pride - 11 June 2022, 12:00

Armed Forces Community Network

This is a new network and the first network meeting takes place Tuesday