

Sphere 17 Regional Youth Service – Chairperson Vacancy

Sphere 17 is a regional youth service for young people 10-24 years in the Dublin 17 and Dublin 5 area. We provide many different services to young people, based on their needs, presenting issues and interests from our youth centres in Bonnybrook, Darndale, Kilbarrack and Priorswood.

Sphere 17's vision is for a future where all young people are valued. We want to see a society where young people have a voice, where young people feel respected, and where they feel included, no matter what community they are from. We hope for a society where young people can get high quality support and have a real chance to be the best they can be.

Sphere 17 believes all young people can achieve great things; some may need some support to do that. Our mission is to support young people to be the best that they can be. We provide support in different ways, for different young people, as they need it. We do this through drop-ins, group work, one-to-one work, outreach and outings.

Our Core Values are -

- **Young Person Centred:** We are committed to being young person centred, where young people are the focus of the service.
- **Voluntary Participation:** We believe in voluntary participation as a core to our Youth Service provision; young people should always be using our service by choice.
- **Equality and Respect:** We promote the acceptance and understanding of others through all service activity and we hold that all people have unique value, rights, needs, beliefs and potential.
- **Development and Growth:** We believe that Sphere 17 is a place of on-going learning and opportunity for growth.
- **Safety and Support:** We promote a safe and supportive environment in all our service provision.

The well-established Board of Sphere 17 RYS currently possess a valuable mix of skills and experience, and the excellent governance practice which underpin the high-quality service provision is directly informed by the principles of public life (Selflessness, Integrity, Objectivity, Accountability, Openness, Honesty, Commitment, Leadership). There is an open, positive and welcoming culture throughout the organisation which has been key to our success.

The Board are now pleased to announce an exciting opportunity to fill the role of Chairperson from 2019, leading the Board as they guide the organisation through the years ahead. This voluntary role is an esteemed position in a highly regarded youth service, which will provide rewarding opportunities, not least in making a meaningful contribution to the lives of local young people.

Expressions of interest can be made to boardrecruitment@sphere17.ie

Expressions of interest will be assessed on the basis of how well candidate satisfy the following criteria:

- Management level experience in Not-for-Profit, Public and/or Private sector(s)
- A good knowledge of corporate governance, related regulations and requirements
- Experience of chairing Boards or Committees
- Capacity to provide strategic leadership, respond to a changing external environment, and support the Board in carrying out their duties and responsibilities
- The ability to provide appropriate support to the Regional Youth Service Manager and appreciate the distinction between Non-Executive and Executive responsibilities
- Excellent interpersonal and communications skills
- The capacity to chair meetings and facilitate consensus decisions
- Experience of negotiating with funders
- Commitment to the principles of public life and the role of Chairperson
- Close alignment with the Core Values of the organisation

The main role of the Chairperson of Sphere 17 Regional Youth Service (RYS), as outlined in the Sphere 17 RYS Board Handbook, is to Chair the Sphere 17 RYS Board of Directors who are responsible for the overall governance and legal obligations of Sphere 17 Regional Youth Service. The board ensures that the organisation is delivering youth services in line with agreed work plans, in accordance with the contractual arrangements of funders, and above all, which are consistent with the best interests of young people in the Dublin 17 and Dublin 5 region. The board facilitates the various structures and systems required to support the staff team achieve the organisations goals.

In particular, the duties and responsibilities of the Chairperson are to:

- Ensure the efficient conduct of the board and general meetings
- Ensure that members are given the opportunity to express views before decisions are taken
- Provide support for the Regional Youth Service Manager in a constructive relationship
- Ensure that the board holds management to account for the operation of Sphere 17 RYS
- Ensure that the board gives appropriate delegated responsibility to the chairperson, committees, regional youth service manager and others to enable the business of the organisation to be carried out effectively
- Ensure that the board receives professional advice as necessary
- Ensure that the organisation complies with its governance obligations including its commitments to upholding the principles of the Governance Code.
- Represent the organisation and act as a spokesperson where required
- Recruit new board members, plan for succession, and ensure board members receive appropriate support and development as required
- Manage the line between governance and management, and is the point of contact to whom board members report concerns / compliments
- Make essential or emergency decisions between board meetings
- Address any issues with board attendance/performance