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MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

Equal Opportunities

Introduction

Buddy_Cups North East:

ACCEPTS that in society certain groups or individuals are denied equality on the grounds of race, gender, marital status, caring responsibilities, disability, gender re-assignment, age, social class, sexual orientation and religion/belief or any other factor irrelevant to the purpose in view.

WELCOMES the statutory requirements laid down in:

- ✓ the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.
- ✓ the Sex Discrimination Act 1975.
- ✓ the Race Relations Act 1976 and the Race Relations Amendment Act Feb 2000.
- ✓ the NHS Community Care Act 1990.
- ✓ the Disability Discrimination Act 1995.
- ✓ the Asylum & Immigration Act 1996.
- ✓ the Human Rights Act Nov 1998.
- ✓ the Employment (Religion or Belief) and (Sexual Orientation) Regulations 2003.

RECOGNISES that it has moral and social responsibilities that go beyond the provisions of the above-mentioned Acts and Regulations, and that it should support and contribute to the wider process of change through all aspects of its work and practices in order to end discrimination and promote equality and diversity.

IS COMMITTED to taking positive steps to ensure that:

- ✓ all people are treated with dignity and respect, valuing the diversity of all.
- ✓ equality of opportunity and diversity is promoted.
- ✓ services are accessible, appropriate, and delivered fairly to all.
- ✓ the mix of its volunteers and management committees reflects, as far as possible, the broad mix of the population of its local community.
- ✓ traditionally disadvantaged sections of the community are encouraged to take part in policy decisions about, and the management of the services provided.

Policy

This policy applies to all Trustees, volunteers, management committee members, users, and the general public.

Commitment

Equality and diversity are central to the work of Buddy_Cups North East.

Buddy_Cups North East will treat all people with dignity and respect, valuing the diversity of all. It will promote equality of opportunity and diversity. It will eliminate all forms of discrimination on grounds of race, gender, marital status, caring responsibilities, disability, gender re-assignment, age, social class, sexual orientation, religion/ belief, irrelevant offending background, or any other factor irrelevant to the purpose in view.



It will tackle social exclusion, inequality, discrimination, and disadvantage.

For this policy to be successful, it is essential that everyone is committed to and involved in its delivery. Buddy_Cups North East's goal is to work towards a just society free from discrimination, harassment, and prejudice. Buddy_Cups North East aims to embed this in all its policies, procedures, day-to-day practices, and external relationships.

Aims

Buddy_Cups North East aims to:

- ✓ Provide services that are accessible according to need.
- ✓ Promote equality of opportunity and diversity in volunteering and development.
- ✓ Create effective partnerships with all parts of our community.

Objectives

Buddy_Cups North East's aim is to realise its standards by:

- ✓ Sustaining, regularly evaluating and continually improving its services to ensure equality and diversity principles and best practice are embedded in our performance to meet the needs of individuals and groups.
- ✓ Collaborating with the community to provide accessible and relevant service provision that responds to service users' needs.
- ✓ Ensuring volunteers and trustees are representative of the community served and the policies are fair and robust.
- ✓ Responding to volunteer's needs and encouraging their development to increase their contribution to effective service delivery.
- ✓ Recognising and valuing the differences and individual contribution that all people make to Buddy_Cups North East.
- ✓ Challenging discrimination.
- ✓ Providing fair resource allocation.
- ✓ Being accountable.

Why have this policy?

Buddy_Cups North East recognises, respects and values diversity in its Trustees, volunteers, and service users.

Buddy_Cups North East has this policy because it is a people-led organisation that must always ensure it meets the needs of the community through fair and proper development of the people who volunteer for Buddy_Cups North East.

PROCEDURES

Responsibility for Implementation

This policy covers the behaviour of all Trustees and volunteers in Buddy_Cups North East along with anyone using the services and sets out the way they can expect to be treated in turn by Buddy_Cups



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North East. The overall responsibility for ensuring adherence to and implementation of this policy lies with the Trustees.

Method of Implementation

Buddy_Cups North East intends to implement this policy by:

Ensuring that Trustees, volunteers and users are made aware, understand, agree with, and are willing to implement, this policy. All volunteers will be given access to a copy of this policy.

Actively encouraging Trustees and volunteers to take part in anti-discriminatory training and making time and resources available for such training.

Monitoring the services, publicity and events provided by Buddy_Cups North East, to ensure that they are accessible to all sections of the population and do not discriminate and taking active steps to ensure that participation is representative.

Monitoring and Reviewing

Buddy_Cups North East has declared its commitment to establishing, developing, implementing, and reviewing a policy of equality of opportunity. Effective record keeping and monitoring, and acting on information gathered, are essential in order to measure effectiveness and plan progress. The Trustees will review the policy annually.

Change Record

Date of Change:	Changed By:	Comments:
07 May 2021	Trustees	Policy approved by the Trustees
05 May 2022	Trustees	Policy approved by the Trustees
24 June 2024	MHH	Policy updated with new name and charity registration number