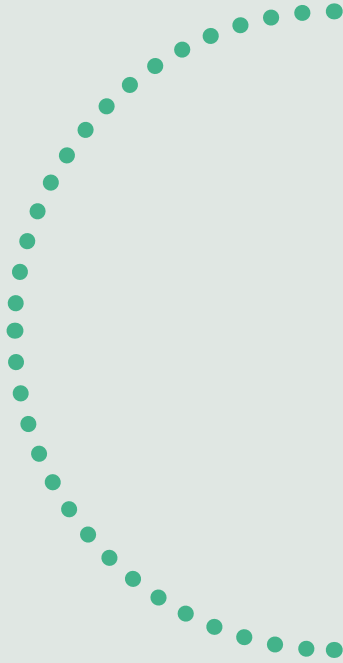
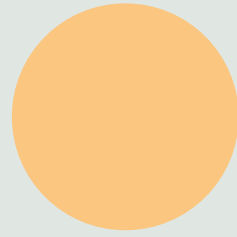


ISPSTM UK CHAIR

recruitment pack



Are you someone who can lead a small charitable organisation to achieve big goals?
Do you have outstanding leadership skills and the ability to motivate those around you?

Are you passionate about promoting social and psychological approaches to psychosis to diverse stakeholders?

note from Akiko Hart, current ISPS UK Chair

We're looking for a new Chair of Trustees who shares our values and can provide leadership and direction to help us grow our membership, and promote psychological and social approaches to what gets called psychosis. It's a really exciting time to join. The Committee is in a really good place, and there is a lot of energy and passion, with a brilliant mix of skills, networks and experience. Catherine, our Administrator, is central to all of this: working alongside her has been such a joy. As you'll know if you have experience of micro-charities, you need passion and enthusiasm, but this needs to be underpinned by respect and thoughtfulness, and held together by good governance and administration. I feel like this is what we have at ISPS UK, and it's a really solid foundation to build on.

I think this is a wonderful opportunity for someone who is values-driven, and who is interested in leading and growing a small charity with a unique position and mission in mental health. I've really enjoyed my time chairing ISPS UK. I'm really grateful for everything it has given me, especially the friendships which will continue beyond my time at ISPS.

If you have any questions about the role or the commitment, you can email me at akiko.hart@gmail.com.

Warm wishes



ISPS UK Chair

about us

ISPS UK is the UK network of the international organisation ISPS – the International Society for Psychological and Social Approaches to Psychosis.

We are a member organisation and draw together individuals who are interested in psychological and social understanding and approaches to psychosis. We provide a place where professionals, people with lived experience and carers/family members can share their ideas, hopes and struggles and can examine their differences in constructive dialogue and debate.

ISPS UK works to promote greater knowledge of the different psychological approaches to psychosis - psychodynamic, cognitive-behavioural, arts-based, family and holistic approaches – and their better integration with each other and with pharmaceutical approaches.

We are a UK registered CIO and were launched in 1997. The Board of Trustees meet four times a year and hold an annual AGM. We have no employees, and our administration is carried out by a freelance worker.

our values

We are an inclusive organisation interested in the human experience of psychosis and in humane responses to people affected. We aim to promote dialogue about, and understanding of, differing perspectives on the nature of psychosis. We work to increase awareness of, and access to, a diverse range of social, psychological and creative approaches to psychosis.

For a full description of our values, please visit our website at www.ispsuk.org.

ISPS



THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL
APPROACHES TO PSYCHOSIS

what we do

- Organise national and regional conferences and workshops on key issues
- Run webinars on key issues
- Support the development of local groups and special interest groups
- Promote good practice in psychological approaches to psychosis
- Link with ISPS networks in other countries

Together with ISPS International:

- Publish the highly respected scientific journal *Psychosis*
- Publish a series of books by leading practitioners
- Organise a biennial international conference

recent highlights

When COVID prevented us from running face to face conferences, we moved our events online and started a series of webinars. These have been very successful with attendees from around the world logging in.

In 2021, our webinars included *A New Mental Health Act? What needs to change*, *Fiction about Psychosis: impact, ethics, effects*, and *Jasper Gibson and Jacqui Dillon, In Conversation*. In January 2022, we ran a webinar on *Burnout in Mental Health Services: Abdullah Mia and Matthew Broome, in conversation*.

looking forward

It is an exciting time for ISPS UK. We are about to launch a new membership offer, in partnership with *Asylum Magazine*, where full members will receive both *Psychosis* journal and *Asylum Magazine* as part of their membership benefits. We have reviewed our membership offer and categories to better reflect our members' needs, and we are planning three webinars, an ongoing reflective space, and one in-person event in Bristol later this year.

our board

Our Board is currently chaired by Akiko Hart. Our talented and passionate trustees have a range of different experiences and skills. Some have lived experience of psychosis (either direct or as a family member/carer) and some have a range of experience and expertise, including from academia, psychiatry, therapy, community work, film making, policy and finance.

Akiko Hart, Chair. Akiko is CEO of the National Survivor User Network, and sits on the board of National Voices.

Steph Allan is a PhD student within the Psychosis Research Group and has personal experience of psychosis, voice hearing and hospitalisation.

Sara Alsaraf is a doctor, Psychiatry Trainee and Creative Arts Therapist.

Neil Caton has lived experience of psychosis and sits on various involvement groups.

Simon Downer is a psychiatrist working in the NHS.

Joanna Fleck is a solicitor with an MSc in psychology and is interested in the socio-political understanding of mental health and in challenging current approaches to psychosis in the justice system.

Eamonn Flynn is the Treasurer of ISPS UK. He has a long career in business, finance and management of arts charities and is a member of a carer's group in Haringey.

Jen Kilyon became involved in campaigning for more choice in mental health services when her son experienced psychosis. She has worked on many local and national projects and is on the ISPS International Executive Committee.

Jessica Pons is an integrative psychotherapist practicing within a critical mental health feminist/socio-political framework.

John Richardson is a filmmaker who specialises in creating films around the subject of mental health. He has lived experience of psychosis.

Angela Woods is a Professor of Medical Humanities and the Director of the Institute for Medical Humanities at Durham University. From 2012-2022 she co-directed 'Hearing the Voice', a large interdisciplinary research project focused on experiences of hearing voices.

The Board has three standing sub-committees to help run its activities: governance, finance and external affairs.

about the role

The Charity Commission website sets out the roles and responsibilities, as well as the eligibility criteria, of being a Trustee and Chair at [Charity trustee: what's involved \(CC3a\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#).

main responsibilities of the Chair

In addition to the [general responsibilities of a Trustee](#), the Chair has several responsibilities specific to their role, including:

- To be a spokesperson and ambassador for ISPS UK in the media and at events as required and appropriate
- To provide leadership for the board of trustees in their role of setting the strategy and policy of the organisation
- To work with the trustees building the future and sustainability of the organisation
- To catalyse and initiate strategic partnerships with a range of stakeholders
- To plan, chair and facilitate our quarterly board meetings
- To provide appropriate monitoring and oversight of the organisation in-line with Charity Commission guidance
- To support and advise our administrator as appropriate on the activities of the charity
- To lead on recruitment and succession planning of board members
- To lead on review and performance of Board
- To review and appraise the performance of our administrator
- To sit on appointment panels for recruiting trustees as required
- To act as final stage adjudicator for disciplinary and grievance procedures if required
- To attend other committees or working groups when appropriate in role as Chair

requirements

We're looking for someone who can demonstrate the following essential skills and experience:

- Sharing our values as outlined above
- Leadership experience in a small charity, as a CEO, Chair, Trustee or as a member of the senior leadership team, and who understands the associated challenges and rewards
- Experience of membership organisations (not necessarily in mental health or the charity sector), developing a membership offer, and growing membership
- Experience of leading or working for a mission driven charity
- Grant making/trust fundraising experience
- A commitment to and experience of addressing issues around equity and access
- Excellent communication skills, including facilitating respectful and generative conversations on complex and emotive subjects with multiple stakeholders
- Integrity, strategic vision, good judgement and decision-making skills
- The ability to work well as part of a team and collaborating with others
- An excellent understanding of the legal responsibilities and liabilities of a trustee, with previous trustee experience
- A willingness to devote the necessary time and effort to their duties

Other experience that would be desirable include:

- Established networks and relationships across the mental health sector
- Knowledge of the type of work undertaken by ISPS

time consideration

The time consideration for the Chair is expected to be 1.5 days per month.

Our Board meets at least 4 times a year, for quarterly 2-hour meetings, with planning and preparation time outside of this. The meetings are held online, with in-person “awaydays” being held once or twice a year. The in-person meetings have been held in London but could be located elsewhere according to convenience of Board members. Trustees arrange their own travel to meetings, and their expenses are reimbursed (we always encourage trustees to use the most economical means of travel e.g. advance booking of second class rail fares).

It is also important that the Chair is able to be available to the administrator (via email) on a regular basis.

what we can offer you

We are committed to creating an inclusive working culture that embodies our values.

We want to be the most inclusive, accessible, and welcoming organisation we can be with a Board that reflects the community we serve and a committee culture where everyone feels included, supported and able to bring their whole selves.

As an ISPS UK trustee you will:

- Be part of a friendly and committed board of up to 12 trustees and the wider ISPS UK team, with a wide range of backgrounds, experiences, and areas of expertise
- Have access to relevant training and development opportunities related to your role as chair of trustees, including charity governance, safeguarding, equality and inclusion
- Have the chance to engage with a wide range of our activities and be a key strategic part of the collective impact we make.

our recruitment principles

ISPS UK aims to be an inclusive and supportive organisation, and we recognise that recruitment processes don't work for everyone. We acknowledge that people from certain backgrounds are under-represented in the charity sector, and we're committed to doing what we can to correct this. We are particularly keen to receive applications from people with lived experience, in particular lived experience of psychosis; people of colour; disabled people; and people who identify as working class or have a working class background. If you have any questions about this position, and whether you are right for it, please do get in touch with Akiko (akiko.hart@gmail.com).

how to apply

Please email Catherine (admin@ispsuk.org) your CV and a covering letter explaining how you meet the essential and desirable skills and experience listed above (“About the role” section) by 2nd December.

If you would like to find out more about us or to arrange an informal discussion before deciding whether to apply, please contact Akiko Hart at akiko.hart@gmail.com.

