



PCS Northern Region LGBT Newsletter.

An introduction from the Chair.

Hi. For those who don't know me, I'm Eddy Nixon and I am the new Chair of the PCS Northern Region LGBT Network. The Forum itself has been established a number of years now, however in the last two there has been a bit of a hiatus due to various circumstances.

Following the successful Pan-Equality Event at Regional Office, I was inspired to see if we could re-energise the Forum, and so here we are. So who are we and what do we do? Well, we are a group of PCS members across the region who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Transgender, or are advocates.

The great thing about it is that you do not have to be a TU Rep to be a member of the Network. You just need to have an interest in the issues relevant to LGBT members. So that's who we are, what do we do?

The Network operates to a Terms of Reference which is presently being updated, but the following is integral to its work:

- To bring together LGBT members and Advocates of PCS across the region to counter the isolation faced by many such members and to discuss the issues of interest to those members in relation to the bargaining, campaigning and organising agenda of the union and its component parts.
- To uphold the principle of self determination amongst equality groups in PCS.
- To co-ordinate the views of the LGBT members within their area of operations and to feed these views as required to the PCS Proud group.
- To foster knowledge of issues affecting LGBT members, and to offer support through this to individual members and to branch and other representatives.
- To promote awareness of LGBT equality.

- To build appropriate links with other organisations of LGBT people within the PCS Northern Region and to identify and support suitable local/regional campaigns.
- To assist in taking forward those priorities and objectives within resources.
- To raise the profile of LGBT issues within PCS and its elected bodies.

The Network can only be as effective as those who form its membership, so I would encourage anyone who would like to join us to come along to our next meeting which is at 10.00am on Friday 27th January 2017 at Regional Office in Newcastle and should finish by 12.30pm prior to the Network's Holocaust Memorial Day event at 13.30pm. You will find a warm and supportive welcome in a secure and safe environment.

Thank you, and I hope to see you at the next meeting.

Eddy Nixon

PCS Northern Region LGBT Chair.

Roles:-

It was agreed at the meeting that the following would be co-opted to the positions until the next AGM, possibly September 2017.

Chair- Eddy Nixon

Vice Chair- Stephen Finch

Secretary & Newsletter Editor-Dave Cunningham

Assistant Secretary-Tony Moore

For those who wish to attend the above Holocaust event, please contact any of the above via their e-mail addresses or contact northern@pcs.org.uk