

Name	Gerard Espie
Organisation	DRC Youth Project
Background (can include, work history, hobbies, family life, volunteering etc.)	
<p>I've been working as a youth worker with the DRC Youth Project since 2011. During this period of time, I've gained some great experience, partnering with organisations, linking in with networks and offering support to young people and communities in the NW.</p> <p>During my time with DRCYP I've progressed from a sessional youth worker with the charity, into the role of 'Engagement and Operations Co-ordinator'. In this role I am responsible for overseeing the DRC Pathfinder engagement team. Pathfinder is a work training programme aimed at some of the hardest to reach young people (aged 16-24) in the NW. We deliver this highly successful programme with our partners Workingrite.</p> <p>Throughout my ten years in the voluntary sector, I've worked hard to further develop my knowledge and understanding of community work. I've completed an HNC in 'Working with Communities' at Glasgow Clyde College and a BA in 'Community Development' at Glasgow University. During my studies I also participated in a student placement with the Glasgow Eco Trust.</p> <p>Outside of work I enjoy spending time with my friends and family. I live with my partner Colette and our mental wee cat Marmite! I'm really into music and I make music with my friends in a band called Tomorrow Syndicate. I won't bore you with anymore on that!</p>	

If elected how would you help ensure the board was effective and supported the network manager in their work?

If successfully elected I would look to integrate myself into the board of trustees. I've got positive working relationships with representatives from organisations in the NW and with my experience of working with young people in our communities, I am confident that I could bring a fresh perspective to the board.

Unfortunately I don't have any experience of being an elected board member but I have participated in a number of committee meetings and AGMs over the years.

To ensure I can play an effective role as a board member, supporting the network manager in their work, I would look to participate in board responsibility training. This would give me a greater understanding of the potential roles and responsibilities as a trustee.

I have had a great experience linking in with NWVSN via the DRC. I have only had positive experiences working with the network and I am excited about the possibility of learning and growing together with the charity.



North West Glasgow Voluntary Sector Network SCIO ,10 Kelso Pl; G14 0LL  
Chairperson: Tam Munro Registered charity number SC049815