

Role Profile

Expert Advisory Panel Member (Voluntary)

Location: UK-wide (virtual meetings with occasional in-person opportunities)

Time Commitment: 2–3 meetings per year plus occasional engagement

Term: 3 years (renewable)

Remuneration: Voluntary (reasonable expenses reimbursed)

Reporting to: Chair of the Expert Advisory Panel

1. About Norwood

Norwood supports and empowers neurodiverse children, young people, adults and their families to live their best lives.

We deliver services across health, education and social care, and are committed to ensuring our work is shaped by evidence, best practice and lived experience.

2. Purpose of the Role

As a member of Norwood's Expert Advisory Panel, you will contribute your expertise to inform and strengthen the development and delivery of services across children, families and adult provision.

This is a voluntary, strategic advisory role. You will help ensure that Norwood's approach is:

- Grounded in current research and emerging evidence,
- Informed by best practice nationally and internationally,
- Responsive to lived experience, and
- Aligned with emerging changes in policy, legislation and professional standards.

Your contribution will support Norwood to remain credible, relevant and forward-looking in a rapidly evolving sector.

3. What You Will Do

You will contribute alongside a cross-disciplinary group of experts, sharing your insight and experience to help shape direction.

Shape Strategy & Direction

- Provide insight to inform service design and organisational strategy
- Contribute to future-focused thinking across children's and adult services
- Support responses to sector developments and emerging needs

Bring Research & Best Practice

- Share knowledge of current research and evidence-based approaches
- Advise on the application of best practice across services
- Identify opportunities for pilot initiatives and partnerships

Provide Specialist Insight

- Offer a multidisciplinary perspective on complex needs and service delivery

- Contribute expertise across clinical, education, social care or public health contexts
- Support development of professional standards and capability

Inform Policy & System Thinking

- Provide insight into legislative and policy changes
- Help shape positioning within the wider system
- Strengthen links with external networks, academia and sector bodies

Support Quality & Communication

- Offer input on inclusive practice, language and representation
- Review selected materials or approaches where expert input is valuable

4. Your Impact

Your contribution will help ensure:

- Services are informed by credible, evidence-based practice
- Norwood remains aligned with sector developments and expectations
- The voices and experiences of neurodivergent people and families are reflected in decision-making
- Strategic decisions are strengthened through expert insight

5. Who We Are Looking For

We are seeking individuals who bring expertise, perspective and a shared commitment to improving outcomes.

This may include:

- Clinicians (psychiatry, psychology, paediatrics)
- Education or social care specialists
- Researchers or academics
- Public health or policy professionals
- Legal or commissioning experts
- Individuals with lived experience, including parents, carers or neurodivergent adults

What You Will Bring

- Recognised expertise in your field
- Ability to think strategically and contribute at a system level
- Confidence to offer constructive challenge
- Commitment to evidence-based, person-centred approaches
- Alignment with Norwood's values: Kindness, Respect, Belonging and Empowerment

6. External Engagement and Thought Leadership

Panel members may, from time to time, be invited to contribute to Norwood's external engagement and thought leadership activity. This may include:

- Producing written content (e.g. articles, commentaries) aligned to Norwood's strategic priorities and mission

- Participating in lectures, speaking engagements, or events
- Contributing to structured knowledge-sharing sessions, including one-to-one discussions with internal stakeholders

Engagement in these activities will be agreed in advance and aligned to both organisational priorities and individual expertise.

7. How the Panel Works & Governance

- Meets 2–3 times per year, primarily virtual
- Agendas set collaboratively with the Senior Leadership Team
- Outputs include key insights and strategic recommendations
- May include time-limited working groups on specific topics
- Supported by a dedicated secretariat

8. Governance

- The Panel is advisory and does not hold decision-making authority
- Reports to the Board of Trustees via the Chief Executive or delegated SLT leads
- Members are expected to maintain confidentiality and declare conflicts of interest