

Meeting between CoDA UK LGBTQIA+ Working Group & NSC Members 16/09/25

Brief notes and actions

Attendees:

Annie (Chair)
Jennifer
Emma W
Rochelle S
Julia H
Saku

Apologies:

Becca

Meeting opened with the CoDA Opening Prayer & Traditions

1 item to discuss

Proposed guidelines and announcement for meetings and events with a specific focus.

The proposal, that the NSC considers adopting and providing the following guidelines and announcements for groups running meetings or events with a specific focus in order to maintain CoDA unity, principles and boundaries, and to uphold the safety of our meetings and events for all who seek recovery, was approved in principle at the NSC meeting on Sept 6th 2025. It was agreed to hold a meeting between the CoDA UK LGBTQIA+ working group and NSC members to discuss if any further crafting of the document was needed.

The floor was opened for discussion, questions and views to be heard. All were heard respectfully and questions were addressed satisfactorily.

It was proposed that the NSC should adopt the guidelines as were originally presented, and the following should be posted on the CoDA UK website.

Guidelines for running meetings and events with a specific focus:

When running a meeting or an event with a specific focus, for example men's meetings, women's meetings, LGBTQIA+ groups etc, it's important to ensure that all those who seek recovery are made welcome, and to remember that CoDA has no opinion on outside issues. "The only requirement for membership in CoDA is a desire for healthy and loving relationships." (Tradition 3)

The CoDA programme emphasises the spiritual principles of acceptance, fairness, equality and respect for individual rights. We strive to practice these principles in all areas of the Fellowship and our lives. Thus we do not question anyone else's identity, presentation or preferred pronouns. In this way we maintain a boundary in order to create a safe, supportive, and welcoming environment.

This is in accordance with CoDA's primary purpose: to carry the message to other codependents who still suffer.

Suggested announcement:

At this meeting (or event) all people are welcomed and respected. In CoDA the emphasis is on our individual growth and on taking responsibility for our own recovery without judging others. Thus we do not question anyone else's identity, presentation or preferred pronouns. In this way we maintain a clear boundary, and we create a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for everyone.

If you think that this boundary has not been respected during the meeting or event, please ask the scriptreader or host to read this announcement again.

Proposed and seconded – all members voted in favour

The chair thanked all those who attended and contributed to the meeting.

These minutes are to be sent out for approval before sending on to the NSC Chair.

Meeting closed with the CoDA Closing Prayer