

# CHAIR Q&A

## FRANK KELLY

CHAIR OF YOUNG CANCER  
SUPPORT NETWORK IRELAND

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**How did you find out about the Chair opportunity? Why did you decide to go forward for the role?**

I saw the role advertised on Boardmatch and was surprised at two of the key requirements for the role. Candidates had to have suffered cancer and must have survived over two years. I qualified under both headings.

**How did you find the transition "diving" into the Chair role?**

Slightly daunting but my main focus was always going to be to ensure that the charity became fully compliant with all charity, companies' office and accounting regulatory requirements as quickly as possible.

**Did you undertake any training?**

Yes, Boardmatch always has training courses available. Anyone is welcome to sign up to them. The past year, I have done a Boardmatch course on the responsibilities of directors on boards.



### **What has been the positive aspects to the role?**

Being able to turn around a charity that was on the verge of disintegration, making it as clean as a whistle in terms of full regulatory compliance, aiding the build-up of the board with appropriate people, helping to get a funding drive going and helping set the agenda of events to be rolled out by the charity over the next two years.

### **Has there been any challenges?**

Yes, Things rarely go smoothly all of the time. But none of the challenges have been unsurmountable. I was lucky that the board is comprised of very good and dedicated people and they helped me a lot.

### **What advice would you give to someone who is thinking about joining a Board as a First Time Chair?**

Attending monthly meetings is very important. Do not be afraid. Regulatory compliance is your top priority. If the board is being dragged down by any individual, for any reason, deal with the problem quickly.