

Henderson Resource Group

Catchment area: London and national

Project contact details:

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Where does the project/ organisation meet?

The group meets at the Henderson Core Team offices in Vauxhall, London. The group gets involved in different pieces of work which take place in various parts of London/England.

How often are the meetings and how long for?

The group meets every two months for 2 hours. Projects which the group are involved in take place at different times and venues, depending on nature of the project.

Project opening times: The group's working hours depends on what projects are currently active.

Accessibility:

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| Physically accessible? Yes |
| Language interpreter available? One can be accessed if needed |
| BSL interpreter available? One can be accessed if needed |

What does the project offer?

The project is not a clinical service. It is a group comprised of Henderson Hospital/Core Team staff (experts by training) and ex-residents of Henderson Hospital (experts by experience). The group provides training and consultation to NHS mental health Trusts, Community Mental Health Teams and other organisations such as

educational establishments, Housing Associations, Therapeutic Communities, voluntary and non-statutory organisations.

What kind of support or involvement activity is offered?

Types of work include:

- being part of the staff team delivering Post Graduate Certificate in Working with People with Personality Disorder;
- co-presenting on Henderson/therapeutic ways of working at conferences;
- taking part in complex case seminars with multi-disciplinary mental health teams;
- contributing to National Institute of Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidelines and belonging to stakeholder groups;
- attending various conferences and lectures of interest;
- co-delivering training packages to staff teams in in-patient and out-patient settings;
- writing articles for journals.

Who does the organisation aim to provide a service for?

The group is open to ex-residents of Henderson Hospital who completed the programme and who left at least one year ago. Members may or may not have a diagnosis of Personality Disorder.

Who can and who can't access it i.e. inclusion/exclusion criteria?

| Who can access? | Who's excluded? |
|------------------------|--|
| As above. | People who have not attended the in-patient service at Henderson Hospital. |

Are there any barriers to new people joining?

The current uncertain commissioning and funding situation means that the group is accepting only limited numbers of new members.

How can people access it?

Anyone who fits the membership criteria is welcome to make contact. No referral is necessary. It is not a clinical service.

How does the process start?

Potential members might be approached by existing members or make contact themselves. They will be given information about the group and asked to come along to the next group meeting to hear more from existing group members.

Are there any conditions to joining?

There is no contract to sign nor any timescale to commit to. There are no specific rules or boundaries although it is expected that members comply with accepted codes of behaviour etc.

Are there any opportunities for service users to have an informal chat/meeting with someone before joining?

Yes, potential members can chat to either a member of staff or to existing ex-resident members.

What makes it different from mainstream mental health services?

Experts by training and experts by experience work together on an equal level delivering training and consultation. It is an opportunity for people who have experienced mental health services to become involved in consultation, helping to train personnel within and without the mental health field and play a part in shaping future mental health services. Members are paid for their involvement in meetings and projects undertaken.

What do people who use the service like about it?

They like to work collaboratively with experts by training. They like the opportunity to use their personal experience in a positive and meaningful way. They value membership of the group and see it as playing a part in their recovery/rehabilitation. They welcome the chance to become involved with the development of mental health service policy and services. They value the opportunity it gives them to get to know others working in the same field of service user involvement. They appreciate being financially rewarded and recognised for their time and effort.

What could I expect if I came along?

You could expect to be welcomed by staff and ex-residents alike. You could expect to be told about the group and what kind of work it gets involved in. You could expect to be given a choice about what kind of work you would like to be involved with. You could expect to be supported by experienced members of the group in any projects you undertook. You could expect to be paid for the work you do and the meetings you attend.

Who runs the organisation/project?

The group is part of the Henderson Core Team which comes under South West London & St George's mental health NHS Trust.

Any plans for future development?

There are lots of plans for future development but current commissioning and funding uncertainties mean opportunities are limited to shorter-term planning.

Service User and Carer Involvement

Service User Involvement

Service users are integral to the existence of the group. Please see above for more information.

The group encourages all three levels of involvement: personal, local and national. It is what the group is all about.

Members are actively encouraged and supported to become involved. Training is offered where appropriate.

Carer Involvement

There are no carers who are members of the group although there are unconfirmed plans to open membership to include carers. Some of the work the group undertakes involves carers (the group ran a one-day conference for carers, family and friends and facilitated a carers group). The group supports the involvement of carers in the development of services on all levels.