

The Orchard

Catchment area: London and the whole South of England

Project Contact details

contact name:	Any staff able to help with enquiries	tel:	0208 483 2406
address:	The Orchard West London Mental Health Trust Uxbridge Road Southall UB1 3EU		
website:			

Project Opening times: 24 hours a day 7 days a week

Accessibility:

Physically accessible? Yes

Language interpreter available? Yes

BSL interpreter available? Yes

What does the project offer?

Treatment within an enhanced medium secure inpatient setting.

What kind of support or involvement activity is offered?

The treatment is based on a bio-psycho-social approach combining drug treatments and psychological treatments. Individual and group psychotherapy sessions are run as well as occupational therapy, rehabilitation groups and activities such as a horticultural area, gym, library.

The Orchard offers enhanced relational security which means there is an emphasis on relationships between staff and clients and one another. Staff are mindful that this is a difficult area for clients and they focus on the impact of relationships on behaviour and feelings.

Group work also focuses on relationships and there are also groups addressing offending issues, victimisation, self esteem, self identity, self harm and so on.

Who does the organisation aim to provide a service for?

Women whose needs cannot be met in conventional medium secure services

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

Who can access?	Who's excluded?
<p>Women who pose at least a moderate level of risk of harm to others or themselves.</p> <p>Women currently in medium secure settings.</p>	<p>Women must be able to benefit from the programme.</p> <p>People whose risk and needs don't warrant a medium secure setting.</p> <p>Anyone who poses an immediate danger to the public.</p>

Are there any barriers to new people joining?

This is a pilot project so its long term future is yet to be determined.

How can people access it?

Referral needed from a forensic psychiatrist.

How does the process start?

A forensic psychiatrist would fill in referral form and a multi disciplinary assessment would be carried out, followed by an admission forum with a medical panel discussion. A decision would then be made as to whether or not the service is appropriate for the individual concerned.

Are there any conditions to joining?

The individual must be able to benefit from the therapy. People are expected to adhere to the policies and procedures of the unit.

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

No, people are encouraged to talk it over with their referrer and then discuss it further with the assessment team.

What makes it different from mainstream mental health services?

It is gender specific and self contained. Activities are provided on site so women feel safe and able to use them. There is a strong focus on psychological treatment and also a variety of treatments available. The emphasis on relational security rather than physical security is very different to traditional secure services.

What do people who use the service like about it?

It is women only. It is a brand new service so the environment is fresh and modern. Service users were able to have a say in how the building was decorated and laid out. There is a garden space and good community links because of the location of the service.

Women coming to The Orchard say it gives them hope for the future as the service is designed around their needs whereas traditionally they felt that no one wanted them in their services.

Who runs the organisation/project?

West London Mental Health Trust runs the service on behalf of NHS London

Service User and Carer Involvement

Service User Involvement

- There is a monthly service user forum.
- There are service user representatives on the Clinical Governance Group which enables service users to be involved in the way wards are run.
- Service users are also involved in the recruitment of staff.
- Service user reps also sit on the West London Mental Health Trust wide, User Involvement Panel.
- There are regular community meetings which are also an opportunity for people to influence the service.
- Run training for service users to be ward representatives.

Carer Involvement

- Carers are involved via a forum for all forensic services in West London Mental Health Trust.