

Introducing Peer Support Workforce into Mental health Teams

Preparing for a peer support worker (PSW): team checklist (adapted from IMROC)

Is your team Recovery focused?

Consider :

What do you do to inspire **hope**?

What do you do to enable people to take back **control** of their lives?

How do you enable people to access activities, facilities and **opportunities** outside services?

How do you support people to **connect** and engage with people outside services?

Preparing for a peer support worker within your team

1. Have you identified a team peer support lead and a mentor for each PSW?
2. Does the PSW have a space in the office?
3. Have you agreed a clear role for PSWs in your team? Where can staff members find out about this?
4. Is there sufficient flexibility to adapt this role to the skills and experience of the individual?
5. Have you arranged an induction for the PSW both within the team & also the wider community networks?
6. Does everyone know where the team can get more support and information about PSWs?
7. How will the PSW record their work with people they support (shared documentation)?
8. How will the team identify people for the PSW to support? PSW helps the team to think about peer support for people who haven't been offered this type of support previously
9. How will the peer support worker feel empowered to not work with someone if they feel it is not appropriate?
10. Where will PSWs get group/peer to peer supervision?
11. Has the PSW got in place their Wellness Action Plan & someone to regularly review this with them?
12. Does the PSW attend and participate actively in the MDM / clinical team meetings?