

**CROYDON MENTAL HEALTH ALLIANCE:**

**CHAMPIONING VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR**

**MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND SUPPORT**

**Draft Terms of Reference**

**1. VISION**

* Our vision is to enable the voluntary and community sector (VCS) to achieve its full potential as a provider of local mental health services and community support, empowering people to improve their mental health, wellbeing and overall quality of life. We will achieve this by bringing together community providers as members of the Croydon Mental Health Alliance (CMHA).

**2. AIMS**

The CMHA’s aims are to:

* Facilitate partnership working across the wide spectrum of mental health providers in Croydon by networking, sharing information and exchanging good practice
* Collaborate in developing a Croydon VCS business case that captures the unique strengths of community-led mental health provision
* Secure financial investment in Croydon’s VCS mental health providers: directly - through joint fundraising bids; and indirectly - through negotiations with local commissioners to promote the VCS business case
* Represent the CMHA to statutory sector partners on local decision-making partnerships and strategic boards by promoting the CMHA’s aims, objectives and working principles

**3. OBJECTIVES**

Meetings of the CMHA will be used to:

* Share information on member activities, service developments, local strategies and funding opportunities
* Exchange good practice in supporting people accessing VCS mental health services
* Take an assets-based approach in developing a VCS business case that presents to local commissioners and external funders the full added operational and social value of investing in Croydon’s VCS mental health providers
* Meet with local commissioners and external funders – to influence their funding policy and practice and to promote the VCS business case
* Explore the opportunities to run activities in partnership and to assemble VCS service delivery partnerships in bidding for funds
* Support the mental health transformation programme in Croydon by (i) providing a single point of access for Croydon residents to be signposted effectively to the appropriate CMHA partner/s and (ii)influencing the emerging Mental Health and Wellbeing community plans within each locality
* Develop a fund management model, providing an option for the CMHA to act as a lead, accountable body in holding public funds, awarding service-contracts and managing delivery through CMHA members
* Report back, through our CMHA representatives, on the business conducted at those local decision-making partnerships and strategic boards on which the CMHA has a voice

**4. PRINCIPLES**

* Collaboration – members agree to work in a spirit of collaboration and partnership to achieve the CMHA aims and objectives
* Openness and inclusivity – members agree to engage the wide spectrum of VCS organisations in Croydon that support people with their mental health and wellbeing
* People focused – members agree that the CMHA’s work will always retain its focus on empowering people to improve their mental health, wellbeing and overall quality of life
* Representation – members agree that in representing the CMHA and their fellow members it is the collective that is championed and not the interests of individual members
* Transparency – members agree to conduct CMHA business in a way that remains transparent and open to scrutiny

**5. MEMBERSHIP**

In confirming their membership, each organisation is asked to:

* Return a signed copy of these Terms of Reference to CVA
* Name their key contact (and deputy)
* Provide documentation (i.e. governing document or strategic plan) showing Mental Health and Wellbeing as a core purpose
* Confirm that they can take part in Mental Health and Wellbeing delivery programmes

We will also invite into our *Associate Membership* partner organisations that, although not directly involved in mental health service delivery, are key influencers.

**6. ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS**

* Each member will have one place at the meeting for their key contact (or deputy)
* The CMHA will also convene workshops and conferences to which members can invite their colleagues and non-member groups

**The meetings are currently administered, hosted and chaired by CVA in its VCS infrastructure role**

Signed (CEO or Chair) agreement to these Terms of Reference\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Key Contact\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Deputy Contact\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Documentation provided – Yes / No

Mental Health and Wellbeing Delivery role confirmed – Yes / No