



Co-production Charter

The South Eastern H&SC Trust Recovery College is committed to developing co-production with people with lived experience of mental ill-health, their families and supporters and partner agencies involved within mental health.

In the South Eastern H&SC Trust, co-production means working with people who use services and carers as equal partners in the design, development, commissioning, delivery and review of services.

Co-production is central to achieving the Government's objectives of personalising services and increasing choice and control for users and carers. It will help the South Eastern H&SC Trust to ensure that it meets the priorities of people who use services' and carers' and should also be seen as key to the quality and improvement agenda for mental health services in Northern Ireland.

The South Eastern H&SC Trust believes that co-production is a central factor associated with both improving service user's experience of mental health services and empowering service users and others to set their own goals to live a satisfying, hopeful and contributing life even with the limitations caused by illness. Therefore, the South Eastern H&SC Trust views co-production as consisting of four intrinsically connected areas that are crucial for service development: culture, structure, practice and review. In relation to the South Eastern H&SC Trust Recovery College, the principles are organised using the following approach:

Culture

Definition: the ethos of an organisation, shared by all staff, which demonstrates a commitment to co-production.

The Recovery College will:

- Value and make meaningful use of the input of people who use services and carers in all key activity
- Learn from our own and others' experiences of co-production.
- Work to ensure that participation is a positive and mutually beneficial experience for everyone including people who use services, carers, staff, trustees and other stakeholders
- Aim to be a leading example in co-production

This Co-Production Charter has been developed in line with the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) Co-Production Guidelines and Charter & the Regional Co-Production Framework for HSCB NI

Reviewed: May 2017

- Encourage organisations we work with to develop co-production and champion participation in the social care sector and beyond
- Be positive about employing people who use mental health services, disabled people and carers
- Recognise and value the involvement of seldom heard groups and those protected by the Equality Act 2010, to ensure co-production solutions are fully informed by, and reflective of, these diverse experiences.

Practice

Definition: the ways of working, methods for involvement, skills and knowledge which enable people who use services and carers to become involved.

The Recovery College will:

- Be clear about the scope of co-production and what can and cannot be achieved, involving people who use services and carers in the decision-making in the spirit of co-production for the College. Where there are limits because of factors such as finance/funding, staffing, timing and/or other resources, we will be clear about how this will impact on co-production
- Take active steps to minimise the impact of power imbalances between the Recovery College and people who use services and carers and work to create as equal a partnership as possible
- Work with people who use services and carers to plan the processes of co-production and identify the best approaches to involvement in different types of work for the Recovery College
- Provide feedback about the outcomes of co-produced work within agreed times to the people who take part in co-produced activities for the Recovery College
- Work with the widest possible range of people who use mental health services and carers to ensure that co-production in the South Eastern H&SC Trust reflects different groups of people who use mental health services and carers and the diversity within those groups
- Provide staff with the training, support and resources required to co-produce
- Provide people who use services and carers the support and training they need to become involved with the Recovery College.

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- Use different approaches to co-production that meet the access needs of specific groups, being flexible and responsive as possible to individual requests while still remaining loyal to the recovery ethos as defined in ImROC.

Structure

Definition: the planning, development and resourcing of co-production evident in the organisation's infrastructures.

The Recovery College will:

- Provide high quality training, support and other benefits in line with the scope of the service
- Pay any reasonable expenses to Volunteers and Trainers associated with taking part in any co-production activity
- Address access and support issues, including physical access, accessible information and support to deal with emotional or psychological barriers to participating
- Give people who use services and carers participating in the Recovery Colleges' work clear roles that define what is expected of them and what will be involved in fulfilling that role
- Involve people who use mental health services and carers in staff recruitment processes when appropriate
- Aim to have at least two people who are involved in mental health services on the Recovery College Service Delivery Board

Review

Definition: the monitoring and evaluation systems which enable an organisation to evidence change effected by co-production.

The Recovery College will:

- Ensure project management and other systems promote, record and monitor co-production in the Recovery College
- Produce an annual board report on the impact of co-production which will be co-produced with the Co-production Network

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- Regularly review the Recovery College sub-groups in relation to both their membership, ToR and action plans to maintain its effectiveness
- Audit Recovery College activity for diversity on an annual bases

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