



Collaborating for Military Mental Health

Contact Group associate membership criteria

Contact associate membership is open to organisations that are in one or both of the following two categories:

1. **Provider or funder of mental healthcare** (see below) for UK service personnel, veterans and/or their families (this may not be an organisation's core activity and/or may not have a national footprint)
2. **Provider or funder of non-clinical mental wellbeing services** for UK service personnel, veterans and/or their families. These are defined as non-clinical mental health-related services which aim to improve general mental wellbeing (rather than treating identified mental health disorders). They could take the form of individual or (more typically) group activities (e.g. including but not limited to: sports, outdoor, creative, social, etc), or other forms of support (e.g. listening/befriending or peer support).

Charity/independent providers of mental healthcare must satisfy all of the following:

1. Provider of mental healthcare services (accepted treatments) for UK veterans, and/or their families. Organisations should only deliver treatment that fulfils one or more of the following criteria:
 - a. Complies with NICE guidance
 - b. Is a new, or adapted, treatment being evaluated as part of a research trial with robust governance and ethical approval, and supported by a university or other high quality research organisation independent of the provider
2. Adhere to the [Contact Guiding Principles](#) for the delivery of veterans' and service families' mental healthcare
3. Either have registration with a health/social care regulator (ie RQIA, HIS, CI, HIW, CIW or CQC), or be part of the Contact/RC Psych [Quality Network for Veterans Mental Health Services](#) (QNVMS) and be accredited or improving
4. If not registered with a health/social care regulator, all practitioners must be accredited by an appropriate professional body, that is either subject to statutory regulation, or is accredited by the Professional Standards Authority

All organisations must be **Cobseo members** and well-established with **accessible evidence of positive impact and/or outcomes** for veterans and/or family members. For example, evidence could be from annual, impact or evaluation reports, and can include data from user satisfaction surveys. For **mental healthcare services** this should also include relevant, accepted clinical measures.