**Innovative Placements Process**

This document is intended to guide the development of innovative placements within the DClinPsy programme.

**What is an ‘Innovative Placement’?**

The table below describes how placements can be based in a range of settings delivering a range of work. We would consider an innovative placement to be one which fits into categories 2, 3 or 4.

|  | **Type of Setting** | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **NHS**  Teams/services based within NHS. | **Non-NHS**  Charities, social enterprises, Local Authority, private sector. |
| **Type of Practice** | **1. Traditional**  e.g. providing individual and group therapy, and indirect work. | **3. Traditional**  e.g. providing individual and group therapy and indirect work to populations not currently served by NHS. |
| **2. Non-traditional**  e.g. direct and indirect work with populations not traditionally served by NHS, and/or developing new models of service delivery. | **4. Non-traditional**  e.g. working with populations not traditionally served by mental health services, implementing models of service delivery not usually found in NHS, and/or developing new working practices. |

Anyone can propose an innovative placement, i.e. trainee, staff member, placement provider. Trainees are encouraged, in the first instance, to contact their clinical tutor to discuss any innovative placement ideas, as well as consult the list of previous innovative placements (both completed and available) held by Ruby Mitchell.

Although innovative placements typically run within the 3rd year, we will consider running them alongside core placements, depending on the focus of the innovative placement and the individual trainee’s progress and competency development to date.

Although we encourage trainees to think creatively about placement providers and settings, we would not normally approve a non-NHS placement that offers services equivalent to NHS services, or which operates in direct competition with a similar NHS service.

**Placement Approval Process**

**Placement Approval Process Flowchart**

*This flowchart identifies the steps which need to be considered in ensuring a placement is well managed. It has a built-in flexibility to enable an idiosyncratic approach to exploring new placement ideas. Please remember that any placement must be approved by the programme.*

**Placement Sourcing**

New placements can be proposed by a tutor, external person or trainee. **Use Placement Values Form to guide initial discussions .**

**Trainees can consult list of innovative placements.**

Potential trainee(s) identified for opportunities

Potential placement identified

Is this an option for a specific trainee, or to be offered out to others?

Complete/update Adapted Placement Description Form, in liaison with placement provider

Send documentation to Ruby & Richard

INITIAL PLACEMENT APPROVAL

Richard & Anna meet to review documentation

Trainee(s) to complete Placement Application Form

Complete other necessary documentation, e.g.

* Risk Assessment Form
* Psychological Contract
* Standard Placement Contract

Establish placement review processes (e.g. tutor visits / supervision). Agree and document mechanism for assessing trainee, evaluating the placement, & feedback to stakeholders (including DClinPsy).

FINAL PLACEMENT APPROVAL

Richard and Anna review all documentation and give final approval.

A Quality Assurance visit by clinical tutor may be needed before placement starts

**Innovative Placement Forms**

| **Form** | **Purpose** | **When to complete and by who?** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Innovative Placement Values & Practicalities Form** | A guide for considering the ethos and expectations of the placement stakeholders.  This form facilitates discussion around whether the placement is both congruent with the values of the Lancaster DClinPsy Programme, and whether it can be managed within the frameworks of DClinPsy training.  **For all new potential placements.** | To be written from the early stages of identifying a new potential placement.  To be completed by the person proposing the placement (trainee and/or tutor) in conjunction with the placement provider. |
| **Adapted Placement Description Form** | This form describes key features of the placement and ensures minimum quality standards. It is recognised that some questions may not be applicable.  **For all new placements; to be updated for all previously used placements** | To be completed by the placement proposer, in conjunction with the placement provider, in advance of a placement being approved. |
| **Placement Application Form** | This form is to be completed when several trainees are interested in limited placement opportunities.  It can also be useful as a guide for discussions around how the placement fits with trainee development.  **For placements where trainee demand exceeds available opportunities.** | To be completed by trainees in advance of a placement being approved. |
| **Risk Assessment** | A framework for considering safety and risk in innovative settings.  **For all non-NHS placements, or NHS placements where there are specific potential risks.** | To be completed by the trainee and tutor, in conjunction with the placement provider in advance of final placement approval. |