

INFORMATION FOR REFERRERS / HOW THE REFERRAL SYSTEM OPERATES

Befriending is often a form of complementary support, but it is particularly important that people are not pushed towards support that they do not want. It has to be a person's choice to get in a befriending relationship



Appropriate referrals can increase the chance of a befriending partnership working



The referral system operates only in terms of making initial contact with a person you refer, individuals can also self refer



A person can only be placed on our waiting list for befriending after they have completed and returned a questionnaire



Once a person has been taken onto our waiting list we will contact them at regular intervals to let them know that they have not been forgotten



When a person has been allocated a volunteer befriender the initial visit will be carried out in pairs. Either myself or one of my colleagues will visit the person along with the volunteer befriender



This first visit enables the service user to meet with the volunteer befriender providing them with the opportunity to go over informally the finer aspects of the befriending service



If everything is fine regular visits can be arranged. Initially these will be through BAMHAG



We try to match people as far as possible to a befriender who best suits their needs.

