



**Mind in Harrow**

**MENTAL HEALTH USER INVOLVEMENT COORDINATOR  
Maternity Cover 6 months**

**Background Information**

**February 2010**

The User Involvement Project has been running successfully for 9 years and currently supports the Harrow User Group, the Patients' Council, and a number of user representatives who sit on a wide range of committees and working groups, and are engaged in staff recruitment. **This post is to offer cover for 6 months while the current post-holder takes Maternity Leave.**

The aim of the project is to train and support service users to bring about improvements and change to services, at both an operational and strategic level. Users represent a range of views on the Mental Health Partnership Board, the Local Implementation Team, and a range of sub-groups. There is a positive working relationship between the statutory services and the Harrow User Group (HUG), with real improvements and changes to services regularly resulting from the dialogue and the views put forward by users to senior managers. User reps are paid by the mental health trust for their work.

The Harrow User Group meets monthly and there are currently over 300 mental health service users on the database.

There is also a Quarterly User Forum, jointly attended by senior managers in Harrow Mental Health Service and service users, facilitated by the User Reps. This addresses major topics of concern or interest to users of statutory mental health services in the borough. Examples include "Consultation on Section 75", "Personalisation Agenda".

This Coordinator post is supported by a Support Worker, who undertakes admin, publicises the project and engages in a range of tasks with users. You will work closely together to continue to expand and develop the project.