

Diversity and Equality / Access to counselling

The Equality Act 2010 covers eight “protected characteristics”; race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, pregnancy or maternity and gender re-assignment. At Number 22 we advance equality of opportunity between people of all groups both for clients and counsellors alike.

As a service it is vital that we recognise the difficulties and blocks that may prevent members of the community being able to access our service freely.

Therefore, we will ensure that three times a year the Trustee review our accessibility. They will consider which groups are hard to reach and ensure there are procedures in place to reduce the blocks to access.

We also recognise that counsellors must play a part in this, being vigilant and open to all aspects of the service which may prevent access and to bring those aspects to the attention of the Director and the Trustees.

Each year in our Annual Report we will highlight accessibility issues within the report.

We recognise that as an organisation, we have a responsibility to demonstrate our commitment to anti discriminatory practice, playing an important part in improving life opportunities for people who are disadvantaged, vulnerable or have diverse characteristics.

