

3c2

Merge Two Groups

Do

Help an existing group of people who are supported by the service to join an existing community group and then blend to form a single new group.

Story

A mental health group was formed to undertake environmental work in a wood. After a time, this group was introduced to an established group of 'ordinary volunteers' from the general public who were doing similar work.

After a time the groups began to work together and then socialise together, including shared trips to the pub.

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Hints & Hazards

How do you encourage the two groups to blend, rather than remain as two separate cliques within the one activity? When members of the community group ask how the disability group know each other, what do you say? The merged group could be presented as an opportunity for both sides to achieve a shared goal, with more people to help, a wider array of skills and a chance to socialise. Working in pairs will assist this process.