



# Lambeth Vocational Services

## VISION

Everyone has the opportunity to thrive and not just survive.

### Our mission:

To help people find their own way forward, to improve quality of life and well-being through the achievement of vocational goals.

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### We believe that:

- Given the right validating conditions everyone has the potential to learn, change and grow.
- Mental health services are better when developed, influenced and facilitated by people with personal experience of distress.
- People's feelings and insight can never be wrong
- Access to high quality personalised vocational information and support is helpful for the improvement of well-being.
- Respectful and trusting relationships can create a safe space, where people can explore their own experiences.

## OUR PRINCIPLES

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Social inclusion and peer support are not things, agendas or concepts, they are journeys that can only be lived and experienced individually.

Everyone has to find their own way forward. Different people ask for different opportunities at different times. The process of this journey is different for everyone.

The key thing is to find out what people can or want to do, what are they good at, what kind of life do they want?

People have the right to move toward a more satisfying life.

Personal change can be slow, delicate and difficult. People tell us that self-compassion is a good starting point. Being kind to yourself and others is good ground for growth.

The primary principle underpinning any helping process must start within an emotional, social and practical sense where the person is.

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## CURRENT PROJECTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

### Vocation Matters

Vocation Matters is a user-managed project offering time unlimited vocational information and support, that helps service users achieve their own personal goals. Including: paid employment, voluntary work, education and vocational qualifications.

### Clean and Care

Clean and Care is a well established project, offering work training and part-time paid work. The project's main activity is a commercial carpet and upholstery service. The aim of the project is to help the workforce gain the necessary skills, confidence and references that are needed to obtain employment, or other socially inclusive activities.

### STATUS Employment

Offers access to employment support for people who are ready and wanting to obtain competitive employment. Support includes identifying jobs, CV preparation, interviewing support and job retention support whilst in work.

### Our centre

We have an accessible and well resourced building, where we co-produce innovative solutions and projects with service users. This includes an IT suite, training facilities and supportive office spaces for individual and community groups. Service users also run the reception area.

### Partnerships

We support a range of community groups to develop community inclusion projects. This includes partnership bidding, project management and offering evaluation expertise. For example: supportive cycling, horticultural projects and a community opportunities information network.

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## PILOTING INNOVATION

We work closely with a number of pioneering service users, to co-produce and integrate peer support in our centre. We have extensive experience in publishing pilot developments, and have successfully obtained partnership bids to evaluate projects with a range of voluntary sector organisations.

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### Named contacts:

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