



Care and Well-being Through Chronic Health

Membership Policy

CWTCH (Pembrokeshire) has two types of membership. They are:

- **Full-Membership**
- **Associate Membership**

Details of membership are stated below:

1. Full Membership.

a) This applies to an individual who:

- Lives in the county of **Pembrokeshire**
- Is aged between **18 and 45**
- Has a **physical chronic health condition**. Applicants may apply for membership at any stage of the diagnostic process. We recognise that applicants may also have a co-occurring mental health problem such as depression, anxiety or OCD (for example) as a result of their physical condition.
- Will adhere to and accept the charity's objects:
"The protection and promotion of good health of persons aged 18 - 45 who are living with a chronic health condition in Pembrokeshire, in particular but not exclusively through the provision of support, recreational activities and information. For the purpose of this object "a chronic health condition" is a long term or incurable health condition or disease, including but not limited to arthritis, asthma, cancer, COPD, diabetes, fibromyalgia, HIV/AIDS and ME" (Official CIO constitution CWTCH)
- Completes and signs a full-membership form

b) Benefits of Full-Membership:

- Full-members can attend the bi-monthly support groups for free.
- Take part in the activities and gain information specifically designed for adults aged 18-45 with a chronic health condition.
- Request information surrounding their illness(es). Please note that CWTCH (Pembrokeshire) is not an advisory service but provides support and information on most physical chronic health conditions.
- **Full-members** will receive an invitation to attend events and days out organised by CWTCH, who will apply for funding or fundraise so that **entrance costs to these events/days out can either be kept to a minimum or free of charge to full-members only.**
- Receive an annual "our CWTCH time" voucher (subject to funding)
- Have an invitation to join our 'closed group' CWTCH chat room on Facebook
- Volunteer

- Participate in annual planning meetings
- Vote in an AGM.
- Receive a quarterly newsletter.

c) Ending Membership

- Once a full-member reaches their 46th birthday, **full-membership will cease** and they will be invited to become an **associate member (see point 4)**.
- Full-members and associate members can cancel their membership at any time. They must write to CWTCH and their details will be destroyed.

2. Fees

Membership is free.

3. Referral System

a) People who express an interest in becoming a member can either be referred to CWTCH (referral forms are available on our website www.cwtch-pembrokeshire.wales)

either by a:

- GP
- Another health professional such as a social worker

b) OR applicants can contact CWTCH themselves at:

admin@cwtch-pembrokeshire.wales to request a membership form. If an applicant meets all of the criteria in 1.a (page 1) they will qualify as a full-member.

c) Referrals can also be made by

- Friend or family member

4. Associate Membership

a) Associate membership applies to:

- Any individual (aged over 18) as long as they adhere to and support the charity's objects (Please refer to point 1.a)
- Has a **physical chronic health condition**. Applicants may apply for membership at any stage of the diagnostic process. We recognise that applicants may also have a co-occurring mental health problem such as depression, anxiety or OCD (for example) as a result of their physical condition.

b) Benefits of associate membership:

- Associate members can attend the bi-monthly support groups for free.

- Take part in the activities and gain information specifically designed for adults aged 18-45 with a chronic health condition.
- Request information surrounding their illness(es). Please note that CWTCH (Pembrokeshire) is not an advisory service but provides support and information on most physical chronic health conditions.
- **Associate members** will receive an invitation to attend events and days out organised by CWTCH, **but will be required to cover the cost of entrance fees.**
- Have an invitation to join our 'closed group' CWTCH chat room on Facebook
- Volunteer
- Participate in annual planning meetings
- Receive a quarterly newsletter.

Date policy adopted on: 06.03.13

Date policy amended annually: 08.02.14, 10.02.15, 17.01.2016, 24.06.17, 26.06.18

Please return the form below to a trustee:

For parents/guardians who wish to bring children under the age of 18 to a CWTCH (Pembrokeshire) support group meetings:

Please note that we cannot accept any full or associated members under the age of 18. However, if a full or associated member would like to bring a child under 18 with them to one of our support group meetings, CWTCH (Pembrokeshire) DO NOT hold any responsibility for the child.

“I, the undersigned, agree that should I decide to bring a child to a CWTCH (Pembrokeshire) support group meeting, they will remain my responsibility for the duration of the meeting”

Signed.....

Name.....

Date.....