

A SENSE OF TAVISTOCK COMMUNITY

Welcome to the Tavistock Community – we value your presence and voice.

The idea to create a Tavistock Community grew from people completing TIHR professional development programmes and wanting to stay connected to both the Tavistock Institute itself and the people they met through the programmes. The idea was built upon during an open space event at 70th Anniversary celebration in 2017.

People who have joined conversations about how to keep connected have expressed a variety of ideas about what they are looking for.

Purpose

- **A community.** A place to **connect with others** who might have a similar way of thinking, something to counter the isolation that can be experienced either because one is working alone or because one is in or working with organisations or systems that privilege other paradigms. A place to **exchange ideas** – a means of sharing and developing ideas and resources. A place to *develop practice* and **expand learning** – some are looking for ways of connecting where they can reflect on and develop their practice.
- **A sense of belonging.** People want to feel they belong somewhere, there is the notion of a mothership, a homebase where there is a sense of shared understanding and language through the Tavistock methods, ideas and practice.
- Such a community is also seen as a way of **promoting Tavistock approaches**

Timeline

A soft launch was at the 70th Anniversary event Oct 2017, then a Working Group was formed.

The first event was the Lunchtime talk to promote the Community on 8 May 2019.

Membership opened for people to join soon after.

First Annual Gathering 24 June 2019

Second Annual Gathering 29 June 2020

Current organisation

Primary task

To apply group and organisational processes - Tavistock approaches - to engage and observe the engagement, to learn, and to build and evolve the Community.

See in Docs & Files for plans, desires, possibilities: *TC Member presentation*

Roles

There were three leadership roles: Host, Chair and Deputy Chair. The role definitions are described by the current role-holders in *Role definitions – Leadership* (saved in Docs & Files)

All members are creators, promoters, contributors and participants of activities. In that way members take up their leadership authority and shape the Community. Members are invited to describe their role in *Role definitions – Members* (saved in Docs & Files)

Activities

Regular monthly TC meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 12pm BST/GMT – everyone is invited. This new timetable is to accommodate more people in different time zones.

Members offer initiatives, create and lead task-groups on ad-hoc basis for the activities proposed. The task-groups dissolve once tasks are completed. Participation to groups is openly invited, confirmed and committed to.