#### **Useful support services**

ACIS (Aberdeen Counselling and Information Service) 01224 573892 www.mha.uk.net/acis

Alcohol and Drugs Action 01224 594700 www.drugsaction.co.uk

AMIS (Abused Men in Scotland) 0808 800 0024 www.abusedmeninscotland.org

Avenue – Family Mediation, Relationship and Psychosexual Counselling Aberdeen Aberdeen 01224 587571 Elgin 01343 540 801 www.avenue-info.com

Breathing Space 0800 83 85 87 (6pm to 2am, Monday to Thursday, 24 hours at weekends 6pm Friday to 6am Monday) www.breathingspace.scot

**Cairns Counselling** 01224 633131 www.cairnscounselling.org.uk

Choices Aberdeen 01224 624900 www.choicesaberdeen.org.uk

**Citizens Advice Bureau** 01224 569750 www.aberdeencab.org.uk

**CLAN – Cancer Support** 01224 64700 www.clanhouse.org

Cruse Bereavement Care 0845 600 2227 www.crusescotland.org.uk Gamblers Anonymous www.gascotland.org

**Healthpoint** 08085 20 20 30 Text the word 'Info' to 82727

**GREC (Grampian Regional Equality Council)** 01224 595505 www.grec.co.uk

Maggie's Cancer Support Aberdeen 01224 645 928 Inverness 01463 706306 www.maggiescentres.org

NHS Sexual Health Clinic 0345 337 9900 www.nhsgrampian.org/healthvillage

**Penumbra** 01343 556191 and 0844 625 1625 www.penumbra.org.uk

**Crossreach - Buckie** 01542 835 751

Rape and Abuse Support 01224 590932 or 08088 010302 info@rapecrisisgrampian.co.uk

Samaritans 116 123 www.samaritans.org

Survivor Scotland www.survivorscotland.org.uk

LGBT Health and wellbeing support www.lgbthealth.org.uk

Victim Support Aberdeen 01224 622478 www.victimsupportsco.org.uk

Woman's Aid 01224 593381 www.scottishwomansaid.org.uk

My Healthy Workplace www.myhealthyworkplace.net

## Self help websites

www.beatingtheblues.co.uk (Contact the well-being hub to access Beating the blues)

www.franticworld.com

www.getselfhelp.co.uk

www.moodjuice.scot.nhs.uk

www.moodscope.com

www.forumhealthcentre.nhs.uk/yourhealth/moodzone-stress-anxiety-anddepression

www.ntw.nhs.uk/pic/selfhelp

www.pinktherapy.com

www.nhsinform.scot/healthy-living/ mental-wellbeing/stress/breathingand-relaxation-exercises-for-stress

www.nhs24.scot/our-services/living-life 0800 328 9655

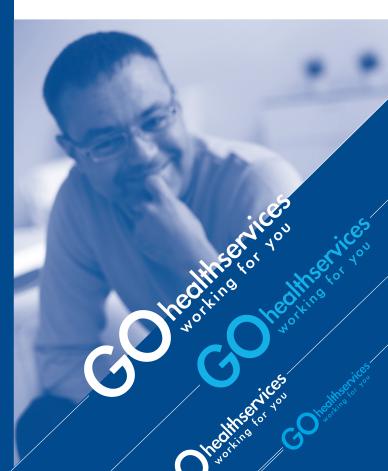
This publication is also available in other formats and languages on request. Please call Equality and Diversity on 01224 551116 or 01224 552245 or email: gram.communications@nhs.scot Ask for publication CGD 200463 Version 5

\* GO Health Services is the brand name for NHS Grampian Occupational Health Service





# **Counselling Service**



## Why use our Counselling & Wellbeing Hub?

Our confidential counselling and wellbeing hub is here to provide support for staff facing difficulties in their personal or professional lives.

Some people choose to access our services because they are experiencing a difficult life event such as bereavement, relationship breakdown or work-related stress. You may be trying to deal with difficult emotions such as low mood, anxiety, low self-esteem or anger. Sometimes it can be hard to explain why you feel stressed, anxious or depressed and counseling can provide a safe space to talk about the issues that are troubling you. Many people find it easier to discuss with someone who is not involved in the situation.

Our team of experienced wellbeing advisors, nurses and counselors are here to listen and discuss anything that is bothering you. You do not have to be in crisis or on the verge of one, before choosing to contact our well-being hub.

After completing our self-referral form you will be contacted by our experienced wellbeing advisors to explore with you the best way forward, this may be to give information and signpost to relevant self-help resources or for you to be booked in with one of our counselors depending on what you decide

#### What to expect from counselling?

Counselling gives you the opportunity to talk with a qualified person who is able to listen to you non-judgmentally and empathically.

An initial session will be arranged by our well-being hub to look at what has brought you to counselling. Your counsellor will offer support and encouragement to help you find better ways to cope with what is troubling you.

People come to counselling for many reasons but whatever the underlying causes it is a way of 'fighting back' and to start to resolve what it is that is troubling you.

We offer up to six sessions, each lasting 50 - 60 minutes however if a time limited service is not appropriate for your situation, your counsellor will discuss this with you further.

### Confidentiality

Our service is strictly confidential and no information is shared unless with your consent. However there are exceptions to this if the counsellor feels there is a danger of harm to yourself or to others or a serious crime that's been committed. This will be fully explained in your initial session.

### **Our Policy**

If you are unable to attend your appointment please call **55749** or email **gram.ohs@nhs.scot** to rearrange, so that someone else may benefit from the session. If you do not attend, it is your responsibility to contact OHS or your counselor to arrange a further appointment.

We respectfully ask that you give us 48 hours notice of cancellation, unless in exceptional circumstances, to allow us to book another client in. Otherwise, regrettably, this must count as one of your six sessions.

## **Benefits of Counselling**

Counselling offers a supportive relationship in which you can explore issues at your own pace. It can:

- help you see difficulties more objectively
- build self-esteem
- help you take control of your life and become more assertive
- improve communication about how you are feeling
- help you to become more realistic in setting goals.

Perhaps the greatest benefit of counselling is that it can help you feel more in control and

better able to do something about an aspect of your life that simply isn't working for you.

#### **About our service**

Our Occupational Health Service can offer you counselling with one of our qualified in-house counsellors via face to face\* (\*not available during COVID-19), telephone, or video link.

Our counsellors are members of their own relevant professional bodies.

NHS and GP Practice employees can self-refer by calling **01224 (5)55749** or by completing the online form available at **www.gohealthservices.scot.nhs.uk/Online\_ Forms/NHS/COUNSELLING/form.php** 

Employees of other organizations benefitting from NHS Grampian Occupational Health Services can also self-refer using the above number and links.

