



### **VOX – Group membership**

There are two ways to have your group’s voice heard, as a group, or as an individual who represents your group’s views. The first of these is appropriate for groups which are incorporated and the second is for groups who are unincorporated.

### **The benefits of becoming a group member of VOX**

As a group member you will receive a copy of VOX quarterly Newsletter which will keep you up to date with policy, practice, research and developments within mental health. You will also be able to get involved in a range of consultations and working groups which focus on particular topics. In addition to this your group will have the opportunity to influence National developments and have your voice heard.

### **Group membership Process**

To become a group member of VOX please complete the following group membership form; we will require the requested information (constitution, policy documents and signed minute of the individual who has been chosen to represent your group (if unincorporated)) as a pre-requisite to you becoming a member. If the documents listed are not available we will alternatively meet and discuss how your group ensures that it members led, and inclusive it the way it operates. Please note the management board can decide to expel a group member if it feels the group is not operating in a fair and inclusive way.

If you require any assistance don’t hesitate to get in touch, VOX are keen to provide assistance in helping you to meet the stipulated requirements.

**Name of your group/ organisation**

**Address**

**Telephone Number**

**Fax Number**

**Email**

**Website**

**1. What are the aims and objectives of your organisation?**

**2. What geographical area does your organisation cover?**

- 3. How many people run your organisation (Your Board or Management Committee if appropriate)?**
  
- 4. How many members do you have?**
  
- 5. It is required that individuals with mental health problems govern or steer the aims of your organisation. Please provide details of how your organisation meets this requirement.**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 6. Do you have a constitution or set of rules for your organisation? We will require a copy of your constitution or Memorandum and Articles of Association (if appropriate).**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 7. Do you operate in a fair and inclusive way? Please provide further information and a copy of your policies if appropriate as we wish to ensure fair and inclusive involvement.(Please note that if you do not currently have policies VOX would like to offer assistance in helping you to develop such policies)**

**8. Is your organisation an incorporated or an unincorporated\* organisation? An unincorporated organisation is any organisation which has not become a company and as such is in legal terms a collection of individuals, an incorporated organisation is a company (which provides limited liability).**

\* Please note if your group is unincorporated an individual from your group can be nominated by your group, and it is that individual who will be the member of the organisation (as your group is strictly speaking a collection on individuals in legal terms but they can represent the views of your group). To complete membership of unincorporated groups we will require *a signed copy of the minute where a member of your group was nominated to be the representative of your group.*

**9. Who funds your organisation? (Please note we will not accept group members who receive a major source of their funding from drug companies)**

***Please check you have included the following (if appropriate) together with a signed copy of your completed application form***

A copy of your organisation's constitution

Your organisation's policy documents

*For unincorporated organisations only*

A minute stating who has been chosen to represent your group (signed by your chairperson/manager/coordinator)

**I**

State that the above information is to my knowledge accurate.

**Signature**

**Date**

**Thank you**