AMBIT Consultation Day

What is an AMBIT Consultation Day?
An AMBIT Consultation Day is the first step for all services considering, or planning, AMBIT training, following their initial engagement call. The broad purpose of the consultation day is to reach a shared understanding on whether embarking on AMBIT training will be useful and, if so, what the training objectives might be.

Some teams will approach the Consultation Day having already decided that they will go ahead with AMBIT training. In such cases the emphasis of the day rests more upon the setting of training objectives and planning training and implementation.

Implementation Science teaches us that training alone does not automatically result in the change. The Consultation Day is designed as part of a process of creating the best possible conditions for training to be helpful, both for the teams trained and the populations they serve.

The format of the day
The day is facilitated by two Lead AMBIT trainers. The consultation day may consist of either a half or full day depending on the number of people involved. Either way, the consultation day is comprised of the following elements:

- Exploration with the team/s around their core purpose, strengths and needs
- Reflection with the team about how it currently learns and develops
- Support for the team to co-create training objectives for an AMBIT training
- A presentation providing a brief overview of AMBIT
- Information about the different training routes and implementation support packages available, and discussion of how to create the best possible conditions for training and post-training implementation

Preparing for a Consultation Day
In preparation for a Consultation Day it is helpful to give consideration to who the key stakeholders are who you would like to attend (see below for guidance). We then send out a brief, electronic survey, the ASEQ (AMBIT Service Evaluation Questionnaire), the anonymised results of which we present back at the Consultation Day to help us think about areas of strength and need.
Who should come to the AMBIT Consultation Day?

Large-scale training programmes involving multiple teams

For teams who are seeking to embark upon a large-scale programme of training (e.g. one involving multiple teams within a local area or organisation), the Consultation Day is most usefully undertaken in two halves:

**Morning session:** key senior stakeholders or representatives from the different teams who will be the recipients of the training. May include commissioners, heads of service, senior managers and leaders and learning and development leads.

**Afternoon session:** frontline practitioners from each of the teams.

This ensures that the views of both are fully captured. The agenda of the sessions will be similar, with the intention that elements of the discussion from the morning (including the provisional training objectives agreed) can be shared and discussed with the frontline practitioners during the afternoon session in order to seek out and incorporate their views.

Training for individual teams

Where training is being sought by an individual team, the Consultation Day can either be undertaken with a half-day or full-day session, according to the team’s preference and taking into account the size of the team. The full day will allow for a more in depth exploration of the above areas and a more detailed overview of the AMBIT framework.

What happens after the Consultation Day?

The AMBIT Programme will send a consultation report within two weeks which will summarise the key themes arising from the day, set out proposed training objectives and make recommendations about training routes and implementation support should the team/organisation wish to proceed with booking an AMBIT training. It is important to the AMBIT Programme that training is useful for teams and as such, there is no obligation to book training after the consultation day if it does not feel as if it would assist the team with their development.

For more information:

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AMBIT web-based manual: manuals.annafreud.org/ambit