

The National Stalking Clinic

Leaders in stalking assessment and treatment

"Furthering the interests of stalking victims and perpetrators, and of the criminal justice system, through state-of-the-art risk assessment and treatment of stalking cases"

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What is the National Stalking Clinic?

The National Stalking Clinic (NSC) is a specialist service for the assessment and treatment of stalkers, and of stalking victims. It is an initiative of the North London Forensic Service, part of the Barnet Enfield and Haringey Mental Health NHS Trust (BEH).

What services does the NSC provide?

The NSC provides:-

- detailed assessment of stalkers and of risks in stalking cases
- guidance as to the appropriate management of risk in stalking cases
- individual, structured, psychological treatment programmes for stalkers to reduce reoffending
- assessment and treatment of stalking victims
- guidance to police, MAPPAs and other agencies on problematic cases which have yet to lead to conviction or re-conviction

Why is the NSC needed?

- Without treatment, many stalkers will reoffend either with the same or a different victim.
 Prison sentences or community penalties alone often prove insufficient to stop the behaviour. There are no other centres for the treatment of stalking in the UK.
- The standard means for assessing violence risk in offenders are often misleading in stalking cases. And specialised assessment is needed in stalking cases, not simply of the risk for violence, but the risk that the behaviour will continue without intervention or that it will escalate.

Which agencies can refer?

- Courts, probation service, police, MAPPAs, NHS Trusts, social services in cases involving stalking, harassment and threat, whether charged/convicted specifically for such offences or for other offences in which these behaviours formed a significant component.
- Reports for the Criminal Justice system can be provided for sentencing, bail applications, parole applications, MAPPA planning and police investigating cases.
- Reports for NHS Trusts or social services will concern risk and advice on its management.
- Assessment is available in custody, in the community and in mental health facilities.
- Treatment is available only in the community and initially only under compulsion, either as a condition of a community order, bail or of parole.

What resources does the NSC possess?

- BEH psychiatrists and psychologists have a decade of experience in dealing with stalkers and have published a considerable body of research on stalking in peer-reviewed journals
- BEH runs the NHS component of the Fixated Threat Assessment centre, which assesses and manages risk to politicians and the Royal Family from stalking and harassment
- The NSC has close links with the Melbourne stalking clinic which is at the forefront of service developments and research in this area
- Thirty BEH staff are trained in the *Stalking Risk Profile*, the leading stalking risk assessment and management tool

How is the service paid for?

 Reports and treatment are charged in the standard manner on a case-by-case contractual basis

How to make a referral

• To discuss possible referrals, agencies are invited to contact the NSC by telephone, post or email, using the details printed overleaf.