Life Works Community Ltd. is a residential treatment centre in Surrey providing treatment for a wide range of addictive, eating and mood disorders. What follows is a brief description of the areas Life Works is able to offer treatment for Combat Veterans and necessary exclusion criteria.

**Treatment Delivery:**

Life Works provides three main treatment streams:

1. **Chemical Dependency** – Alcohol, prescribed and illicit drugs, and poly-drug dependence:

   We have considerable expertise in assessment, management and treatment of chemical dependence including complex presentations. We successfully stabilise individuals who present with complex needs including substance dependence in the setting of a mood disorder or situational crises.

2. **Mood Disorders** - Treatment of anxiety and depression:

   As we are a residential unit providing intensive psychotherapeutic intervention we are able to stabilise, manage and treat individuals who present with a range of co-occurring disorders. For example, we routinely treat individuals who are suffering from an eating disorder in the setting of a moderate to severe depression complicated by alcohol dependence. These issues would need to be secondary to chemical dependency issues.

3. **Compulsive Behaviours/Process Addictions**

   We work extensively with compulsive behaviours and process addictions such as Sex or Love Addiction, Gambling and Co-dependency. Quite often these behaviours accompany other addictions or mood disorders and must be addressed to avoid relapse and ensure quality recovery and way of life. These issues would need to be secondary to chemical dependency issues.

4. **Dual Diagnosis and Complex Presentations**

   Life Works has a great deal of experience and expertise in working with complex clients that may present with a number of issues including chemical dependency, process addictions, mood disorders and challenging behaviours like self harm or personality disorders. Our success is based around complex assessments, individualized treatment plans and a safe environment with firm boundaries. The primary presenting problem would need to be chemical dependency issues.
**Case Management and Outcomes**

We are able to admit individuals at short notice putting in to place a care plan delivered by a multi-disciplinary team. As we are a relatively small, focused unit we have very strong case management systems with daily clinical case reviews.

We are currently working on enhancing our ability to measure outcomes longitudinally. One of the most robust current indicators of treatment quality assurance is retention statistics. Overall we retain 82% of people in treatment. Our retention rates continue to improve.

**Exclusion Criteria:**

**Serious Medical Problems**

Life Works is not a hospital thus it is unable to take seriously ill individuals that require hospitalisation. This may include advanced liver or other organ problems, brain damage or other illnesses that require hospital treatment.

**DSM Axis I Psychotic Disorders:**

Active Psychotic illness is an exclusion criterion whether medicated or uncontrolled. In addition if there are concerns that an individual is presenting as prodromal or displaying delusional thinking we would err on the side of safety.

Important to note that if there is any suggestion of concern in relation to psychotic process a full psychiatric assessment would be required prior to agreeing an assessment to determine suitability for admission.

**Marked Suicidal Ideation:**

While we work well with depression and individuals experiencing a major depressive episode we are not a secure facility. We would always err on the side of patient safety. All individuals presenting with depression will be psychiatrically cleared prior to admission. If an individual starts evidencing increased suicidal ideation they would be psychiatrically reviewed and would receive 1:1 nursing prior to review.

**Unable to negotiate stairs:**

We are not a DDA compliant facility with all bedrooms on the first floor

**Sex Offenders:**

A prior conviction for sex offences is an exclusion criterion. Sex offences against children are an exclusion criterion. Relatively minor sex offences such as indecent exposure may be considered.

**History of Violence or Threatening Violence:**

A history of violence is an exclusion criterion.

**Methadone:**

Methadone doses in excess of 50mg is an exclusion criterion. As we offer a detoxification service as part of a 4 to 6 week programme it is not possible to detoxify from methadone at significant doses during the course of treatment.
Non-Compliant:
Non-compliance with direction and therapeutic instructions prior to admission are an exclusion criterion.

No Fixed Abode:
Given the intensity of the treatment at Life Works it is necessary that clients have a safe and secure tenancy or home to return on completion of treatment. Therefore we cannot offer treatment to individuals who are currently homeless (this includes individuals who are intermittently staying with friends and/or family but do not permanently reside in any one place).

Discharge Criteria:

PSYCHOSIS:
If individuals in treatment begin to display psychotic signs in treatment they are transferred to a psychiatric facility. We are mindful however that, for example, borderline patients under stress may enter a temporary psychotic fugue state that may be difficult to distinguish from a psychotic illness. We would transfer to psychiatric facility for evaluation and then re-admit once stable.

PHYSICAL HEALTH:
Marked deterioration of physical health beyond Life Works’ safe medical capabilities.

VIOLENCE:
Violence or threat of violence will result in immediate discharge.

SEX:
Sexual relations while an inpatient will result in discharge

NON-COMPLIANCE:
Non-compliance with the treatment program will result in, in the first instance, therapeutic consequences such as privileges revoked. Continued non-compliance will result in discharge

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL:
Use of alcohol or illicit substances whilst in treatment will result in discharge. Possession of alcohol and illicit substances while in treatment will result in discharge.