

Health and Care Leaders Update - June 2020

We know it has been an incredibly challenging, extremely busy time for you all and there are so many things to update you on, so here are three requests and an overview in advance of Thursday's Health and Care Leaders Network meeting with links to the key documents / further information. Please contribute your views on the three areas below by email or via the Zoom meeting on Thursday.

1. Strengthening our Collective Voice through Harnessing Power of Communities

Together, we have a powerful voice in advocating the needs of our communities and securing the best possible conditions for our third sector organisations.

We know there is a need to continue to strengthen and co-ordinate our influence to tackle the complex issues we face like reducing ever expanding health inequalities; responding to the findings of the recent resilience survey on the vulnerability of some parts of the sector - especially smaller organisations; and taking advantage of developments taking place with our health partners - whether that be outcomes based commissioning or the shift to locality decision making.

The disproportionate impact of COVID re-emphasises our responsibility to ensure equity of black third sector representatives and reach other areas of the community that our existing networks have not reached to ensure that their voices are heard.

As part of our Harnessing Power of Communities Programme, we have funding for a post (or similar) to support third sector health and care staff in their representatives roles.

Before the meeting please have a think about your experiences of being a rep and how we could better support reps both individually and collectively to achieve our common aims.

2. NHS Leeds CCG: Shaping Our Future programme

Following on from the lively and productive discussion at the last Health and Care Leaders Network meeting where Gina Davies presented the CCG's Shaping Our Future programme, Forum Central has been asked to undertake a piece of work to ensure third sector organisations in Leeds are ready to become a partner in the new commissioning model and that the sector is well-positioned for investment. This will include consideration of the development of a provider alliance approach in order to strengthen our sector readiness.

Both the national and local direction of travel is towards more strategic commissioning for population outcomes centred on personalised journeys, with providers from the public and third sectors working together through alliances or network arrangements to deliver more integrated care that achieves improved outcomes. In Leeds providers are being asked to take more responsibility for deploying resources and we must ensure that the third sector is not disadvantaged by this approach.

The CCG's Shaping Our Future programme will transform the way the CCG operates: not only becoming a more strategic commissioner but also by forming a "system integrator" working across provider organisations to enable and facilitate greater integration.

Local consultant Francesca Wood is supporting the initial phase of this work, which will involve further discussion with the Health and Care Leaders in order to understand appetite for this approach.

Please let us know your thoughts on this.

3. Third Sector Leeds Resilience Report Action Plan

Review of locality/ hubs /neighbourhood working. The Health and Care Third Sector's response to COVID is reflected in the TSL resilience work plan [here](#).

Please let us know how we can ensure through Forum Central that your perspectives are represented.

THIRD SECTOR COVID RESPONSE UPDATE

- **R U OK** - telephone befriending service set up and delivered as a partnership between Leeds City Council employees, volunteer hubs, Leeds Older People's Forum and volunteers, in response to Helpline callers who expressed a wish for ongoing contact. Those who are shielding are currently the focus of volunteer recruitment.
- **Workforce MH - Forum Central** held a session with members to discuss third sector workforce mental health needs. The session was well attended, with attendees reporting that it was a really valuable session. You gave us great feedback, which, along with a number of other conversations we have been holding, are forming a programme of support that draws on the offer from our third sector members.
- **Leeds Community Cares volunteers and Hubs** – Links in to this response from many of our members, notably Neighbourhood Networks. The Review of future locality third sector arrangements will look at this and wider provision including Local Care Partnerships and Clusters.
- Forum Central's regularly updated log of [member service updates](#) as they respond and change and promote your work via our communications channels.
- [Positive partnerships campaign](#) (in collaboration with the Local Care Partnership Development Team)
- **Communications** - positive partnership with LOPF and other infrastructure organisations including VAL.
- Amplifying concerns about the **mental health and emotional impacts** of COVID-19, work developing to look at mental health support needed for volunteers and third sector workforce, and sharing the excellent [Mindwell resources](#).
- Circulating the weekly **Public Health and Social Care bulletin** giving key information for the Health and Care third sector in one place, along with service changes and other resources such as accessible information formats and system support information, information about [virus testing](#) available to third sector staff and [PPE info for the third sector](#).
- Sharing messages for people who are **shielding** (45K people across Leeds) through our members.
- **Digital**: Recruited worker to focus on TS Information Governance and data; working with partners to embed LOOP testing via our member updates- Daisy; National discussion with Social Finance re use of open data by Third Sector; Supporting the 100% digital grants.
- [Communities of Interest \(CoI\) Network](#) highlighting the role of the third sector issues for people most affected by COVID include people from Black, Asian and other minority groups; people with a learning difficulty, unpaid carers and many others. We are sending weekly emails; collating an overview report; facilitating fortnightly Zoom sessions and exploring additional creative communications outputs to share messages and insights from members.(particular focus on Communities of Interest Network)
 - **Walk to Test Centre info** - our focus is on quality offer to community rather than getting numbers through; posters and leaflets being circulated and translations taking a bit longer; community radio and other mechanisms being

explored; we are ensuring Third Sector is engaging with Test and Trace (see new meetings below).

- **Key current issues** for network have been around coming out of lockdown; changes in shielding; staying healthy and safe; MH - isolation and managing stress; continuing to find and respond to unmet need; unpaid carers.
- Sharing good practice through blogs on **Asset based Community Development (ABCD) approaches** for a regular [blog feature](#) hosted on DoingGoodLeeds
- Linking in to the twice weekly **Shielding Cohort** meetings to feed in our TS perspective and support sharing messages for people who are shielding (45K people across Leeds) through our members and supporting a pilot for Neighbourhood Networks to link in local data.
 - [Leeds shielding dashboard](#)
 - [Information and Routes to Support](#)

FORUM CENTRAL ONGOING WORK

Specialisms:

- **Older People** - producing an update on the impact of Covid on older people and their local third sector organisations, available shortly.
- **Mental Health** - involved in local strategy and the new 'Synergi' work to recruit 2 posts for focussed on C&YP and adults to address BAME overrepresentation in MH services
- **Mindwell** - Really positive profile in MH week: 450 retweets; 247,000 twitter impressions; 2,800 hits to the news story! Week of Kindness campaign with planner giving daily themes, tips and activity ideas with people across the country tweeting inspired to share kindness
- **Learning Disability** - communications around LD week taking place this week
- **Local Care Partnerships** - Karl led Theory of Change session for the LCP team review as part of future planning process
- **Digital** - We have worked with LCC to recruit a worker to focus on TS Information Governance and data; working with partners to embed LOOP testing via our member updates

NEW MEETINGS AND WORK AREAS

As you are likely aware, LCC has set up **Command and Control** meetings – see how it all fits [here](#).

Volunteering - This meeting looks at three tiers of volunteering: Tier 1 volunteers eg Age UK working with hospital discharge; Tier 2 offering Welfare support, food and medicines delivery through the hubs and RUOK (see below) and Tier 3 neighbourliness and reciprocity.

The Bronze TS Resilience - work supported by the LCC Communities Team has developed the proposal for new work streams based on resilience survey findings and wider TSL plan.

Health and Care System Stabilisation and Reset meeting - This meeting is looking at an agreed approach to cross-agency system reset to ensure patient voices and impact on other parts of the system are considered – see principles [here](#). This is system resilience work with a message about bringing people back to work safely; having estate conversations looking at impact of different ways of working etc. FC has raised range of issues including digital exclusion; signage and language and comms impact for family carers and the huge MH impacts of COVID: it's not just about open up services and people will come back as they were before. It also links with other meetings looking at where patients, notably those with Cancer, not coming forward are in the system and rehab support for people recovering from COVID.

Test and Trace – this is a really complicated area but the good news is local Leeds funding has been confirmed to support the response over the next 2/3 years. Leeds is the only place in Yorkshire and Humber with one of the 9 pilot sites and there is appreciation for the great partnership work so far, done at huge pace and energy. The focus of the last few days for the Public Health team has been translating this into tangible costed proposals that can be quickly operationalised. The initial plan is looking at our local capacity to support this work and Tim Taylor will be attending the Communities of Interest Zoom meeting to hear our thoughts and suggestions for what is most needed.

Leeds is taking a positive and bold approach to engage the city to help keep infection rates low and have a prevention and engagement approach that is proactive and broad rather than a narrow 'avoiding outbreaks' approach. A political board (Chris Hollins sits on this as TSL) will meet for the first time this week on 19th June after the Gold (16th) that Alison Lowe and Mark Law will sit on.

Public Health have started to look at local plans for:

- a) People who are clinically vulnerable – those shielding from COVID
- b) Socially vulnerable – build on your communities of interest.
- c) Place based outbreak – certain postcode / ward level outbreaks
- d) High risk settings – prisons, businesses, housing

OTHER CURRENT KEY DOCUMENTS

- [Left Shift](#)
- [CCG Equalities paper](#)
- Health & Wellbeing Board - [PEG slides](#)
- [LCC Councillors update](#)

West Yorkshire and Harrogate – HPoC is a key area funded through WY&Y, previously updated on. We have as the Leeds TS Rep also developed the WY&H wide resilience survey and raised issues from this at the full board and are supporting the health Inequalities Funding panel

PG 12.06.20