



Physical and Sensory Impairment Network Members Update Sept 2020

Dear members, please find below a list of updates relating to both information and current projects we are involved in on behalf of the network, relative wider Forum Central and collaborative/strategic pieces of work. If you would like to discuss anything within this update individually or feed information into it for future update's please do not hesitate to contact Karen.fenton@forumcentral.org.uk

Forum Central Recruitment

Forum Central is pleased to share information on three exciting new job opportunities. We'd really appreciate it if you could help us get the message out to as broad and diverse an audience as possible, by sharing this information with relevant contacts and across your networks.

The roles are as follows:

- [Volition Operations Manager](#)
- [Third Sector Advocate and Representatives Relationship Officer](#)
- [Leeds Third Sector Outbreak Plan Co-ordinator](#)

These roles are incredibly important for Leeds, and successful candidates will play a key part in shaping the development, integration and ongoing growth of the third sector in the city.

As an organisation which advocates for anti-racist practice, and embraces diversity in all forms, Forum Central are particularly keen to receive applications from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic people, and people from groups which are currently under-represented within Health and Care Leadership.

Applications for all three roles must be submitted by 5pm on the 15th September. For further information please contact hello@forumcentral.org.uk

If you belong to any other networks where this information could be shared, or know of others who may be interested in applying, please do share further.

Next PSI network Meeting

The next meeting of the network will take place on the 15th October 10-11.30am via zoom. If you are able to attend please email hello@forumcentral.org.uk

During this meeting we will be joined by Bairbre McKendrick, Access Officer, at Leeds City Council for an update on a number of council led projects currently running, including the e scooter trial, street charter developments, consultations on proposed city planning and the new inclusive design group.

We'll also utilise some time during this meeting for the network to share updates on service provision, reopening and planning for the winter and a discussion around the communities of interest network and insight. <https://forumcentral.org.uk/communities-of-interest/>

International Day of People With Disabilities 2020

The Planning group met for the first time in August to consider what we might be able to do to celebrate and raise awareness

this year in light of the Covid-19 pandemic and ongoing/changing restrictions and lockdown measures.

We collectively decided a virtual series of highly accessible online events, taking place over a week in December, led by our member organisations and with individuals too, would be an ideal way to celebrate and also showcase some achievements of people in light of what has happened this year and also consider and reflect on the ongoing challenges faced by people with physical and sensory impairments and the organisations that support in the city.

The group are due to meet again on the 23rd Sept and in the meantime are working up a 'project plan' document and a proposed budget for consideration by our funders. If anyone else is interested in joining this group or finding out more at this stage please let me know.

Reports from Last Years event are found here:

[The Event Report](#)

[The Event Report – In Large Print](#)

[The Event Report – Easy Read Version](#)

Communities of Interest Network

<https://forumcentral.org.uk/communities-of-interest/>

The [network](#) continues to meet every two weeks to discuss and support the flow of information to communities facing additional challenges during Covid-19. We are continually seeking your input into this and if you have any additional information to bring to the network around queries, issues and resilience please do continue to feed that through to us via email or regular phone/zoom chat as suits you best. This will continue to enable us feedback to decision makers across our Leeds

system to respond to current challenges, but also help develop a future system which is both personalised and responsive to the needs of all communities of Leeds.

Inclusion for all Group

<https://healthwatchleeds.co.uk/our-work/inclusion-for-all/>

This Healthwatch led group continues to meet and discuss the implementation of the Accessible Information Standard across health and care organisations in the city.

For organisations providing adult social care services, this is a legal requirement.

You can find information about the recent discussions, minutes and findings on the healthwatch [website](#).

We are interested to find out from our members what you are doing to achieve this standard and how you are developing your systems and recording data as well as understanding more about the level of awareness around the standard with the people who you work with. Please update any information relevant to this including any concerns, barriers and need for support to karen.fenton@forumcentral.org.uk or arrange a catch up.

Winter Planning Workshops

We know that partnership working is essential to ensure that all people of Leeds receive the care and support needed to stay safe during the winter period, which is fast approaching. The [Local Care Partnerships Development Team](#) is delivering a series of Winter Planning Workshops, across each of the 15 areas of Leeds, to communicate Citywide plans and to allow Third Sector organisations working with diverse communities to coordinate their support with system partners.

If you would like to join one, or more, of these workshops please complete this brief form:

<https://forms.gle/JzvMgXh7sKDW5YQ59>.

Unable to join us? If you want to draw our attention to the needs of particular communities of interest, or you would like to share important information on how you are supporting people this winter, then either contact Karl at

karl.witty@forumcentral.org.uk or mention it in the form above and we will make sure your information is shared.

COVID-19: mental health and wellbeing surveillance report:

[This report](#), published yesterday by the Government, looks at population mental health and wellbeing in England during the COVID-19 pandemic. It includes up to date information to inform policy, planning and commissioning in health and social care, and it is designed to assist stakeholders at national and local level, in both government and non-government sectors. The '[Important findings so far](#)' section gives an overview of the changes in population mental health and wellbeing that we will all be aware of, as well as which population groups appear to be disproportionately affected.