

Dear Communities of Interest,

As always, this week's email includes a number of updates and resources for you to use and share with the other organisations you work with. This page provides the latest advice and guidance from the Leeds Public Health team, and signposts you to the relevant local services and resources.

We want to make it as easy as possible for you to share your knowledge of what's happening within communities, the challenges you're facing as an organisation and the successes you've achieved. If you have information you would like to share with us, before our next meeting, please use the 'Share your knowledge' button on our website.

Please forward this email to anyone who you think would benefit from these updates. Anyone who doesn't currently receive these emails, but would like to in future weeks, can subscribe by emailing communities@forumcentral.org.uk. Thank you as always for your support with sharing these important messages.

Latest position:

Rates in the city remain high but are not rising as fast as they were. It is driven by the Delta variant, and mainly cases in 19-24 age range, followed by 17-18-year-olds.

- Rates in over 60s remain low but are rising.
- Covid patients in hospital remains stable and deaths low.
- Leeds's infection rate is now 238.8 per 100,000, up 48% in the last 7 days, and the highest in the Y&H region.
- The Leeds CCG website provides information on where to go for testing.
- Self-isolation payments: 472 applications were received last week, a 90% increase compared to the previous week and the largest number of applications received in a week since the scheme started.

Healthwatch surveys

- **What are your experiences of visiting Leeds care homes?**

Complete this survey anonymously if you have friends and family in a Leeds care home or call them on 0113 8980035. This will help individual care homes to learn what is working well and what could be improved.

Healthwatch Leeds and Leeds City Council would like to hear from you about how you think returning to visiting your loved one in their care home is going via their survey.

• Do you have physical and/or mental health conditions and want to get your experiences of health and care services heard by people at the top?

If you are:

- a person from culturally diverse community or their carer
- have a health condition (eg. mental health problems, sensory impairment, have treatment paused during pandemic or care for someone with multiple health conditions)
- regularly access health services
- be willing to talk once a month for 6 months.

Your experience can be recorded on the phone or video call, through socially distanced filming or an audio/video diary.

You can see films and updates from previous participants **[on this project here](#)**. If you'd like more information about this opportunity, please contact Harriet Wright Tel: 07741

294004 Email: **harriet@healthwatchleeds.co.uk**

Community Mental Health Transformation Introductory Events (9th & 14th July)

Organisations and members of the public are invited to an introductory event around the community mental health transformation work (the plan to coproduce a new community hub model for people with severe mental illness). There are two introductory briefing sessions on zoom on the 9th and 14th July (both cover the same content), and we encourage you to attend and to invite people who use your services who you feel would be interested in attending.

To sign up to the event **[please use this link](#)**.

If you can't attend an online session but want more information or to share your thoughts, [please visit the dedicated webpage](#).

30-minute Covid-19 briefing

Due to the rise in numbers of over 60's contracting Covid-19 and the rise of the Delta variant, Leeds Older Peoples Forum in partnership with Public Health have delivered a 30-minute briefing on the current situation in Leeds.

You can find the slides here;

- [Slides from the presentation](#)
- There's also a [pdf version](#).

The link to the checklist is: <https://bit.ly/3qlv5jr>

Answers to questions:

- Even if it's been more than 8-12 weeks after your first vaccine, you can (and should) still get your second dose.
- During summer and high levels of pollen and hay fever, it is recommended that people continue to [follow the guidance](#) and complete regular COVID-19 testing.

New UK-wide funding to distribute devices

Good Things Foundation is working with [Nominet](#) to distribute 1,000 devices and data packages through our Online Centres Network. We welcome applications from members of the network who would be able to safely distribute devices to digitally excluded people in their communities. This project will also involve providing essential digital skills support remotely and/or in line with social restrictions, to help recipients set up and use their device, and to build digital confidence.

The application form will open on **Thursday 24 June** on the [Online Centres Network funding page](#). The deadline for applications will be **Friday 9 July at 12 noon**.

The vaccination bus will be located at the following location from Tuesday 29th June to Friday 2nd July from 10am – 3pm

Meynell Approach, Adjacent to St Matthews Community Centre,
St Matthew's St, Leeds LS11 9NR

Many thanks

Stacey on behalf of Forum Central