

Dear Communities of Interest Network,

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.

**Please note** that there will be no communities of interest virtual meeting or weekly email next week due to half term and bank holiday.

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](mailto:communities@forumcentral.org.uk). Thank you as always for your support with sharing these important messages.

### **Call for evidence for anyone supporting male victims of domestic abuse**

The aim of this Call for Evidence is to enable the local authority, in consultation with the Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board, to understand the scale of the issues in relation to the need for support for victim-survivors of domestic violence and abuse in safe accommodation.

We are particularly keen to hear from services who support people who may feel underrepresented in previous strategies or who feel their circumstances were not supported by existing services including people with protected characteristics, complex needs or male victim-survivors of domestic abuse.

[You can find more information and the form here.](#)

Please complete and return the form **by Friday 11th June**  
to: [SaferLeedsSafeguardingandDVTeam@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:SaferLeedsSafeguardingandDVTeam@leeds.gov.uk)

### **Updates and sessions for Men Communities**

You can find the [Spring Bank Holiday Update from Men's Health Unlocked here.](#)

### **Free Training and Support for unpaid carers, people with a PHB, integrated personal budget or direct payment**

WY&H HCP alongside expert trainer Community Practitioner Alliance are offering **FREE** training to those;

(a) Being in receipt of Carers Allowance.

(b) Providing regular (at least weekly) or intense care and support for an individual without which they would be at risk of harm and for which there is not a ready alternative support.

The training is open to those offering unpaid care or support to a loved one within the West Yorkshire and Harrogate region only and will provide useful support and advice now and beyond COVID-19.

A range of days and times are available. [If interested please sign up here](#)

### **Advocacy support for victims of honour-based abuse/forced marriage**

[Karma Nirvana advocacy service](#) which is available for professionals to refer to within West Yorkshire. This is a referral pathway especially for victims of honour-based abuse/forced marriage to receive face to face advocacy support in helping them stay safe and supported.

We are pleased to let you know that the service is now running again, albeit with a more limited referral intake. [The referral form can be found here.](#)

### **Lateral Flow Test ( LFT) Testing**

- [Please see slides attached with information about key testing messages](#) and where to access LFTs in Leeds as well [as the FAQs document.](#)
- Translated posters in [11 community languages can be found here.](#)
- [Self-test instructions](#) in both [Easy Read](#) and [Large print](#) as well as this YouTube [video](#) demonstrating how to take a LFT test

### **Exploring Hybrid working event**

As part of **Co Production Week** (5th-9th of July), Forum Central are bringing together a variety of case studies to explore some of the options available for hybrid/blended

working, as well as how insight around digital inclusion in Leeds can support this work. We also want to make space to consider how to make sure that any new ways of working are co-produced with the people who use services.

This event is open to anyone in West Yorkshire who is interested in hearing the work going on across Leeds, the ways organisations are building on the successes of online working during lockdowns to meet people's needs as restrictions ease, and some of the challenges they're facing.

If you'd be interested in being one of the case studies, please contact [sarah.wilson@forumcentral.org.uk](mailto:sarah.wilson@forumcentral.org.uk).

Please sign in for the event using the link below

[The New Different: Exploring Options for Delivering Services](#)

### **Community Mental Health Transformation Work**

Liz Hindmarsh, the new Programme Manager for Community Mental Health Transformation, is looking to do engagement work around improving care for people with Severe Mental Illness (SMI). Specifically for adults & older adults:

- with eating disorders.
- with complex mental health difficulties associated with a diagnosis of a personality disorder.
- In need of mental health rehabilitation services.

If you have any groups that meet this criteria and might like to be involved in doing some coproduction, please email [sarah.wilson@forumcentral.org.uk](mailto:sarah.wilson@forumcentral.org.uk).

### **Vaccine update and training**

Please share on social media the [Vaccine infographic](#) and see the [Social media plan](#) with more resources to share.

A light-hearted drama has been coproduced with a local charity to encourage people to have their vaccination. [The video is available here.](#) Please share on your social media platforms

Public Health have developed resources to address vaccine hesitancy in key groups including people with SMI, Learning Disabilities and/or Autism. There are two main offers for staff/volunteers working with these communities:

- - A digital resource (something people can work through in their own time) can be found [here](#). It's on google drive and you need to download it to be able to get the functionality to be able to click through it. [The user guide video to accompany the digital resource is here.](#)
  - A filmed webinar called: ['Want to Know More' \(WTKM\)](#)

If you work with or commission a staff cohort that supports a particular population group or community that you think would benefit from something more bespoke, then there is also capacity in the system to run a specialist WTKM webinar. Please contact [Sarah Erskine](#) for more information.

### **Connecting the Dots Workshop**

In other exciting news, the first Connecting the Dots workshop was held on Tuesday 18 May, where representatives from Forum Central, Young Lives Leeds and the Culturally Diverse Hub shared in 1-3 words why they became representatives.

Some of the themes were... - hoping to have this after the workshop this afternoon; depending on what time you send the newsletter. During the workshop, a representative from each forum shared their journey towards becoming a representative.

Many thanks

Forum Central Team