



A collective voice for the  
health and care third sector



## **PSI Information and Strategy Session**

**22<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2020 10am – 12 noon**

**The Vinery Centre, LS9**

### **Introduction**

The session brings together Forum Central members with an interest in Physical and Sensory Impairment (PSI) and offers the opportunity to network as well as providing members with news and updates from the 3rd Sector, city-wide strategic updates and keeping members informed about the work of Forum Central.

The slideshow from the meeting can be [downloaded here](#).

If you are interested in getting involved with any of the meetings detailed below, have comments or want to find out more please contact:

[Karen.fenton@forumcentral.org.uk](mailto:Karen.fenton@forumcentral.org.uk) Psi-Volition Development Worker

### **Member News and Updates**

Members present introduced themselves and gave update including:

[William Merritt Centre](#) announced the reopening of the Shopmobility store in the Merrion Centre. There was a launch event on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Jan. the shop is now open to the public for hire of scooters and mobility aids in the city centre. <https://www.wmdlc.org/shopmobility>

[Guide Dogs UK](#) promoted the 'MY Guide' service. Organisations and individuals can access training to become a Guide for people with visual impairments and sight loss. Please contact Debbie for more information:

[debbie.linford@guidedogs.org.uk](mailto:debbie.linford@guidedogs.org.uk)

[PHAB Leeds](#) gave an update on their Friday night social clubs, which meets 7-9pm at the Prince Philip Centre, which have been running in Leeds for 50 years. All are welcome.

### **Forum Central and PSI-Volition Updates**

## **Team updates and introductions**

Following a review of strategic priorities; capacity and potential opportunities alongside the merger of PSI-Volition and Tenfold, PSI-Volition/Tenfold Trustees have agreed to expand the management team and create a new post of Operations Manager, which Lucy Graham has been appointed to and will allow focus on working closely with members to make the most of opportunities for growth. Pip Goff has been appointed Director and will continue to lead on the work around Local Care Partnerships and Harnessing the Power of Communities.

## **Upcoming Merger Update**

The merger of Psi-Volition and Tenfold will officially take place on the 4<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020. We are still looking for a new name and welcoming ideas. If you want to submit one please contact us!

## **Harnessing the Power of Communities Work**

The aim of this work which Forum Central is leading on is to 'Improve the health and wellbeing of people in communities identified as the most deprived in Leeds and Build on local assets to address local need'

The Ambition is to:

- grow and sustain our diverse third sector to help people stay healthy and well
- help other parts of the health and care system by delivering and evaluating health and wellbeing outcomes
- support system changes such as Local Care Partnerships, social prescribing and Population Health Management

As part of this work, there is a small grants funding programme (£500-£10000 for 2 years), open for applications until the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

The grants are aimed at smaller organisations and projects which will improve the health and wellbeing of people in communities identified as the most deprived in Leeds, building on local assets to address locally identified needs.

For more information please visit the [Leeds Community Foundation webpage](#) or contact The Forum Central Team.

## **Street Charter Meetings**

The Street Charter meeting started with a deputation from RNIB and Guide Dogs UK and brings together planners and representatives from Leeds City Council teams with organisations and individuals to discuss issues such as Pavement parking, Pedestrian Crossings, Overgrown hedges and cycle paths. With a view to developing a Street Charter for the city based on key recommendations from these sessions. The next meeting is on Weds 12<sup>th</sup> Feb 10am till 12 noon and will focus on improving accessible reporting of issues via the council website.

## **Better Lives Board**

Forum Central represent on this quarterly board which oversees and provides leadership for implementation of Adults and Health's Better Lives Programme. More information can be found [here](#)

## **BSL in Healthcare Update**

In October 2019 A BSL in Healthcare Consultation event was held and a survey produced. Focusing on GP, hospital, community and mental health and interpreting services where people who are deaf, hard of hearing and deaf blind were asked their thoughts on the existing provision and what they would want from a future service.

The report from this has now been released. It summarises findings on the day of the event and survey responses and recommendations pulled from these discussions will be used to create the service specification for the new contract within the CCG.

The report and a video of the executive summary translated into BSL can be accessed on their website [here](https://www.leedsccg.nhs.uk/get-involved/your-views/leedsbsl/): <https://www.leedsccg.nhs.uk/get-involved/your-views/leedsbsl/>

Next steps, there will be further work to report on "you said we did's" in a few months' time, which will also be translated into BSL, which we will share with members as soon as it is available.

## **Healthwatch Leeds Accessible Information Standard Work and the Inclusion for All Group**

Tatum Yip, Community Project Worker from Healthwatch Leeds updated the group on their ongoing work around the Accessible information standard.

Between January and March 2019 Healthwatch Leeds produced a report on the experiences of people with visual impairments accessing health and social care services.

Three quarters of respondents wanted to see some improvements in health and care services. They made recommendations around Accessibility, Staff training and complying with the Accessible Information standard (AIS)

Since then, Healthwatch Leeds has brought together a new group called '**Inclusion for All**' with representatives from across health and care organisations in the city and individuals with disabilities to discuss initially the AIS and how best to influence its implementation across the city, so that peoples access needs are met. The group has met twice and meets again on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020.

## **International day of People with Disabilities**

On the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019 Forum Central, in partnership with the councils communities team and representatives from 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisations, held a celebratory event to Mark International Day of People with Disabilities at the city museum.

The event was very successful, attended by over 200 people, with 35 stalls, music and other performances, art and films on display and an opportunity for people to network and socialise.

The planning group tried to make the event as accessible as possible by providing BSL interpreters, training the event team as Visual Guides, a dedicated autism-friendly quiet hour, promoted maps for attendees in advance showing disabled parking and access information and provided exhibitors with tips for communicating with people with visual and hearing impairments and autism.

The group are continuing to meet to discuss legacy work, a 2020 event and wish to use the momentum of partnership and collaborative work to continue to influence the PSI network agenda.

A slideshow of photos from the event can be found on our Facebook page by clicking [here](#)

If you would like to get involved please contact [Karen.fenton@forumcentral.org.uk](mailto:Karen.fenton@forumcentral.org.uk)

## **Summary of a discussion around 2020**

The group took some time to reflect on priorities for 2020. Key themes were as follows:

### **Priorities:**

- Diversity
- Accessible information standard
- Access – thinking about language and reframing assets/abilities.
- Social isolation
- Member marketplace event – for networking.
- Awareness raising of 3<sup>rd</sup> sector offer to GPs, hospitals, community teams and wider.

### **Opportunities:**

- Specific space for effective networking or extended time for this at meetings.
- Hear from commissioners more regularly
- Utilise Harnessing the Power of Communities Work and links with Local Care Partnerships to work on more localised levels.
- More working together, joint bids/events/awareness days.

- The Forum Central Website – having a calendar of events and more structured place for members to network, for signposting and to share information.
- Utilise video and film more for cascading information

### **Threats/Barriers to address:**

- Access to Leeds Care Records and data sharing
- Working with GP's – each practise is different. Hard to engage with sometimes.
- Capacity within teams – sometimes organisations feel they are not able to connect with the most in need/isolated due to workloads.
- The 'politics' of disabled people/Stigma.
- A lot of the information produced is not accessible.

The Forum Central team will use this insight to plan our work for the next year.

### **Important Dates**

- **Health and Care Leaders Network meeting**  
5th Feb 2020 10-12 at the Vinery
- **Next PSI Info and Strategy Session**  
23<sup>rd</sup> April 2020 2-4pm at St Georges Centre.
- **International Day of People with Disabilities Event**  
3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 at Leeds City Museum

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**We hope to see you soon!**