

# Engage

A virtual conference brought to you by the  
Engagement Practitioners' Network

**18 to 20 May**  
**#EngageSpring21**



# Tuesday 18 May



## 9.30-10am - Wellbeing: Rise and stretch yoga

Join Yoga Soul for a gentle morning session to wake up and stretch the body and mind ready for the day ahead. Open to all levels. You will need a blanket, a pillow/cushion, comfortable clothing.

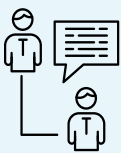


## 10-11am: Keynote: The power of engagement our achievements and opportunities

This keynote session will celebrate the achievements of engagement practitioners across the system over the last year, in response to COVID-19.

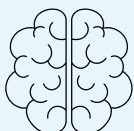
Speakers, including Ruth May, Chief Nursing Officer for England, and Olivia Butterworth, Head of Public Participation at NHS England and NHS Improvement, will set the scene for the Engage spring 2021 event.

They will explore the successes of engagement practitioners in reaching out and engaging with communities and the role we can all play in the ongoing recovery of services.



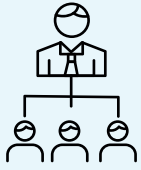
## 11-12pm: Workshop: Learning from coproduction

Join us for this session with Ccreate on coproduction.



## 12-12.30pm: Wellbeing: Taking notice - an opportunity to take a few mindful moments and learn to pause and breathe

Join Boo Coaching and Consulting as they offer some tips on incorporating simple mindfulness exercises into our day.



## **12.30-2pm: Panel discussion: The secrets of effective community engagement**

Join us for an inspiring panel discussion exploring the secrets of effective engagement at a neighbourhood/community level. Panel members will reflect on the last year and share their experiences of working with local communities.

They will bring examples of good practice from a neighbourhood level, including successful primary care and community champions programmes. We'll hear about what panel members have learnt and how they'll be building on their work going forwards.

Chaired by Dr Ursula Montgomery, Senior Clinical Advisor for Primary Care at NHS England and NHS Improvement, with panel members including Bill Graham, Community and Innovation Lead at Modality, and Bren McGowan, Senior Policy Advisor at Healthwatch. This interactive session will explore questions around:

- Tips for engagement practitioners working across health and care and others who want to work more closely with communities at neighbourhood level.
- The ongoing challenges in engaging with communities, especially inclusion health groups.
- Building working with local communities into our practice and engaging partners/people to do this.
- The role of engagement professionals working at a CCG, regional, system, national level in supporting and enabling community engagement.



## **2-3pm: Workshop: Crowdsourcing ideas - empowering people to participate in research**

In this interactive session Dr Ali Austin will share key highlights from the new UK vision for health research ‘Saving and improving lives: the future of UK clinical research delivery’ – including some key impacts for patients; and successes and challenges in engaging people in health research. The session will move into idea generation – gathering audience views on how we tackle some of the key barriers preventing communities engaging in research, these are:

1. Diversity in research
2. Long term engagement
3. Digital exclusion.

The team will share some practical tools available to enable participation in research, ending with a call to action!



## **3-4pm: Workshop: Engagement and Integrated Care Systems – what are the opportunities for working with people and communities?**

Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) are now covering the whole of England, bringing the NHS and local partners together to redesign care and improve population health. This workshop will look at the opportunities and expectations for ICSs working with people and communities.

Engagement practitioners will be able to discuss what the new health and care landscape may mean for public engagement, how to build on existing good practice, and share their views on what support is useful to them in this year of transition.



#### **4- 4.45pm: Workshop: Engaging to ensure unpaid carers received their COVID vaccination**

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented many challenges and opportunities. In this session we will share with you the engagement we undertook in relation to the Covid vaccination and partnership working with carer organisations for unpaid carers having their vaccinations.

# Wednesday 19 May



## **10-11am: Workshop: Unlocking The Digital Front Door - keys to inclusive healthcare**

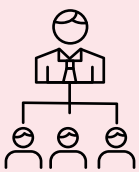
COVID-19 necessitated a rapid shift towards virtual healthcare. This has excluded many people who do not have the resources, confidence, skills, knowledge, appropriate environment, or confidence, to access care or connect socially via digital means.

Keynote: Emily Lawson who has been leading the vaccination programme will open the session.

Report Launch: participants at this session will be the first to hear about this work which offers insights into innovations designed to combat exclusion and provide inclusive remote support.

Including: a case study of emerging practice to support people who are homeless in Leeds.

The Q/A Panel will explore the experience of people who are digitally excluded and what this all means in practical terms for services to become inclusive.



## **11-12.30pm: Panel discussion: Everything you ever wanted to know about engaging inclusion health groups**

Join us for this panel discussion with experts by experience and colleagues from the voluntary sector as we talk about 'everything you ever wanted to know about engaging inclusion health groups'.

In this session we'll explore:

- The best ways to connect with a variety of inclusion health groups
- Tops tips for engaging specific groups
- Challenging assumptions and myths around working with inclusion health groups
- Good practice and common mistakes we make when trying to connect
- The benefits of working with a diverse group of people



## **12-12.30pm: Wellbeing: Chair Yoga**

A combination of simple meditation, breathing practices and yoga to improve posture and release tension in the body and mind. Open to all levels. Props required: A chair.



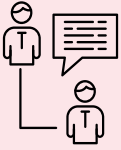
## **1-2.30pm: Masterclass: Improving cancer outcomes without strong community partnerships, impossible!**

The session will provide delegates with an opportunity to learn about the role and function of a Cancer Alliance including the key drivers for Cancer Alliance workplans and how they relate to public involvement activities.

It will provide delegates with insight into the approach adopted by the Northern Cancer Alliance to “involving the right people at the right time”. In particular, it will focus on the importance of partnerships with community organisations and building mutually beneficial relationships.

The session will also include a presentation from Healthworks Newcastle who have developed a strong partnership with the Northern Cancer Alliance. Healthworks who will detail some of the work they have been involved in and provide their perspective on the partnership and the reasons for its success.

The session will be delivered using a Powerpoint presentation and will involve audience participation via Q&A and Sli-do polls.



### **3.30pm-5pm: Workshop: Engagement Open Space: Co-consulting**

Engagement Practitioners Network (EPN) members are invited to join facilitated sessions for peers to support each other, gain insight from other experts and share discussions of the issues we are all tackling in leading and supporting engagement. This is a chance to tap into the wealth of experience in the EPN.

Discussions can be about any aspect of engagement, whether broad and strategic or a specific aspect of a particular programme. In advance of the session we will send out joining instructions and a link to a virtual whiteboard where you can suggest discussion topics.

On the day you will arrive at the session to find a series of 'open space' sessions you can choose to participate in.



### **4.30-5pm: Wellbeing: caring for yourself**

Caring for yourself - what does this really mean for you? Join Boo Coaching and Consulting to explore a model to condor your wellbeing. We will reflect on stress triggers and identify positive and healthy renewal activities...helping you to put your own oxygen mask on first!



# Thursday 20 May agenda



## 9.30-10am: Wellbeing: Taking notice – Mindfulness

Taking notice - an opportunity to take a few mindful moments and learn to pause and breathe. Join Boo Coaching and Consulting as they offer some tips on incorporating simple mindfulness exercises into our day.



## 10-11.30am: Workshop: Aiming for Impact - Putting Theory of Change into Practice

Healthwatch is committed to making care better. So how can we ensure that our engagement work delivers meaningful long-term changes for the people whose views we present? How can we ensure we identify what we have achieved; celebrate our success; and help our funders and supporters see the full value of the service?

Healthwatch England and network organisations have together explored using the Theory of Change approach to plan and shape engagement projects. As more Healthwatch incorporate it into their operations, we invite you to hear from us and talk about:

- what led us to embark on the approach;
- what Theory of Change means for us;
- how and why we use it;
- experiences from one Healthwatch that has used it for some time and another that has just decided to start.

In breakout groups we'll discuss the challenges; the breadth of outcomes that might be achieved from engagement work; and how we can become more confident that our contribution is recognised.



## 11-12.30pm: Masterclass: “It’s a kind of magic” – using creative approaches to connect with people

The magic of creatively engaging and connecting with people will come to life in this masterclass. Working together we will harness our own individual power and ideas to build confidence to try out new ways to connect, build energy and to have fun when we are facilitating meetings, workshops or big engagement events. Come along prepared to take part, have fun and take away some ideas for your next event.



## **1- 2pm: Workshop: The secrets to vaccinating the boating community**

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented many challenges and opportunities. In this session Ruth Atkins, Head of Public Engagement and Insights at Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire CCG, and Imogen Coningsby, Health Improvement Officer (Higher risk groups and places from COVID-19) at Bath and North East Somerset Council, will share with you the engagement they undertook in relation to the COVID vaccination.

They will talk about their partnership working with the local authorities, VCS and CCG, for boaters having their COVID vaccination.



## **2-3pm: Keynote: In conversation with Dr Hilary Cottam OBE - the role of engagement practitioners as change makers**

Join Dr Hilary Cottam OBE, in conversation with Olivia Butterworth, Head of Public Participation at NHS England and NHS Improvement, as they explore the big social challenges of today and examine the role of engagement practitioners as catalysts for change.

Hilary will build on the themes set out in her book 'Radical Help' around the transformation of public services and the power of people and communities. They'll discuss the organic social infrastructure that developed in neighbourhoods across the country to respond to COVID-19 and the role of engagement practitioners in nurturing this and promoting long term relationships with people and communities that have a lasting impact on health outcomes.



### **3-4pm: Workshop: Digitising Leeds: Working Together as Engagement Professionals for Digital Inclusion**

The aim of this session is to 'explore how involvement professionals from across health, care and third sector organisations in Leeds work together to put people's voices at the centre of health and care decision making'.

The session will:

- Introduce Leeds
- Outline the role and function of the People's Voices Group, including our shared principles
- Describe the challenges and opportunities of partnership working
- Provide examples of how we have worked together to;
- Provide leadership across the city and champions people's voices in all levels of decision making
- Co-ordinate involvement work in the city
- Minimise duplication
- Share best practice
- Encourage and support colleagues who need to involve people in their work
- Share a case study which describes how we have worked together to ensure digital inclusion is embedded in changes to the way health and care is delivered.



### **4.30-5pm: Wellbeing: Wind down + Relax Yoga**

A relaxing evening session to wind down from the day, including gentle stretches and a restful meditation.

Open to all levels.

Props required: a couple of blankets, 2 x pillows/cushions, comfortable clothing.