

# **YH ARC Mental and Physical Multimorbidity Theme**

## **Lived Experience Advisory Panel Members Role Description**

### **About Us and the LEAP**

The Mental Health and Addictions Research Group (MHARG) is part of the Department of Health Sciences at the University of York. We work in partnership with people with mental ill health and with NHS partners. Our research focuses on prevention, early intervention and reducing the health inequalities experienced by people with mental ill-health. MHARG leads the Yorkshire and Humber Applied Research Collaboration Mental and Physical Multimorbidity (M&PM) Theme. The overall aim of the M&PM Theme is to address complexities arising from coexisting mental and physical health problems. The Lived Experience Advisory Panel (LEAP) has been set up to provide independent advice to the ARC and, as appropriate, to the wider MHARG team, in three main areas:

- Agreeing priorities for future research and funding applications
- Co-designing research projects and methods
- Helping to identify and recruit of people with lived experience for project steering groups and other research study activities

### **What will a LEAP member do?**

We understand that people might feel more confident or interested in some areas of the LEAP's work than others. We also appreciate that LEAP members' ability to contribute might vary depending on how busy they are and how well they are feeling. The ARC team and/or researchers from MHARG are happy to work flexibly with members, but activities are likely to include:

- Contributing to online or face to face meetings about current and future research projects
- Taking part in workshops and discussion groups to help develop research ideas and co-design research studies
- Commenting on research proposals (e.g. applications for funding), with the opportunity to become a co-applicant if interested
- Reviewing project paperwork, especially documents that will be seen by study participants (e.g. information sheets, recruitment material)

- Opportunities to present at conference with researcher colleagues and contribute to peer reviewed papers
- Advising and supporting researcher colleagues in sharing research plans and findings with the wider community, in particular ensuring that outputs (e.g. Blogs, web pages, news items etc.) are relevant and accessible

## **What will be required of you?**

LEAP members will have lived experience of past or current mental ill health or experience of supporting a person with mental ill health. If you also have experience of a long-term physical health condition, that would be welcome. You should also:

- Be interested in research and how it can make a difference to people lives but you don't need to have been part of a research study or group before
- Be comfortable in meetings and working with people with different views to your own
- Have an email address or phone number
- Ideally be able to use a computer to receive and comment on documents using Microsoft Word but this is not essential and support and training can be provided

## **What support will we provide?**

LEAP members will be supported by the LEAP organiser who will ensure any questions are answered, and individual needs for taking part are met. There will also be opportunities to attend training, events, conferences as these arise.

LEAP members will receive payment for the activities they take part in. All travel and related expenses will also be met. The level of payments will vary according to the time commitment involved but will be based on the University of York Policy on the Payment of Individuals for Involvement with and Contribution to Research. See: <https://www.york.ac.uk/staff/research/governance/research-policies/policy-payment-participants/>)

## **I'm interested! Who do I contact?**

If you would like to talk to someone about becoming a member of our LEAP, please contact Olivia Taylor on [mobile number] / [olivia.taylor@york.ac.uk](mailto:olivia.taylor@york.ac.uk) or Liz Newbronner on 07385 341568 / [liz.newbronner@york.ac.uk](mailto:liz.newbronner@york.ac.uk)