



“Collective Voices for Positive Change”

OXFORDSHIRE
**HOMELESS
MOVEMENT**

Lived Experience Advisory Forum Update April 2024

With the pieces of co-production work that LEAF has been working on there has been significant changes, such as longer timeframes for projects. With this in mind LEAF has had to look more in depth about managing the ongoing work streams for 2024. Using reflective practice, we have now implemented some changes to our regular meetings. New monthly meetings will now consist of the below and will be reviewed again in June 2024:

1st Wednesday of the month - Project LEAD meeting to keep everyone up to date with projects. Everyone is welcome but LEAD members will be asked to attend to provide a verbal update or written update on their project.

2nd Wednesday of the month - LEAF closed. Monica and Lucy will use this time for work on development and planning of LEAF, training or developing outreach and work streams.

3rd Wednesday of the month - Face to face forum at Bonn Square 10:30am - 1:30pm. Looking at new and current work streams. This time could be used for training, different services attending to meet forum members or provide updates.

4th Wednesday of the month - Outreach to different services, recruiting new members, building relationships with services, holding focus groups at different locations to get more voices heard.

5th Wednesday of the month (when applicable) - **Training or activity day.**

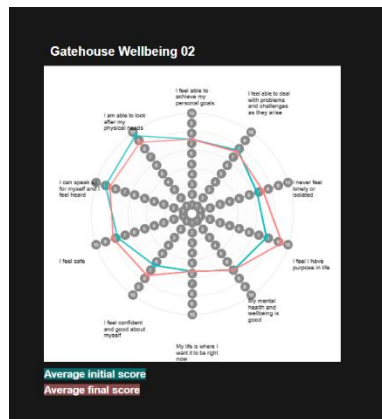
LEAF members wellbeing

The wellbeing scales were introduced over a year ago now. As previously mentioned in my last report there are pros and cons to using the scales.

Pros are that LEAF members can see what areas they have improved on or would like to work on. It also helps staff in ensuring that the LEAF work the members take on will help increase some of the areas.

Cons, we found that it was really hard to pin some people down for their wellbeing checks due to having an option of people attending when it was convenient for them. It was decided that the wellbeing scales will only be done with regular LEAF members so we can capture a more accurate picture of peoples' wellbeing whilst being part of LEAF.

The scale below shows the average of 5 members of LEAF wellbeing over a 12-month period. March 23 - March 24.



LEAF member outcomes Oct 23 – April 24

23 1-1 supervisions were provided to LEAF members.

1 forum member completed online facilitator training around developing local communities of practice around palliative care and homelessness.

1 forum member is participating in Marie Curie Dying in Debt - Financial insecurities at end-of-life ECHO Network.

1 forum member has completed a project management course with Abingdon and Witney college.

The LEAF coordinator has completed her peer support supervision training with Support for You.

2 members of LEAF are in the process of completing peer support work training.

Overall in the past 6 months LEAF members have attended over 20 training sessions to support their own personal development.

1 forum member is setting up a men's health prevention workshop . This is currently in the planning stages and involves working with The Gatehouse, Nuffield Health and NHS Outreach

Over the past 6 months LEAF has gained feedback from over 110 service users and staff within the homeless pathways for different projects.

LEAF attended 174 Coproduction meetings over the past 6 months (Oct 23 - Mar 24)

Between Oct 23 - March 24 LEAF members have had 166 work interactions with different services across Oxfordshire and nationally.

6 LEAF members attended the induction to Resolution training on the 10th April to support with the preventing evictions pilot within the homeless pathways

LEAF current work streams update April 2024

1.Community Champions – The LEAF Community Health Champions Project is currently working on putting a package of support workshops together addressing men's health needs. Feedback has been gathered from guests at The Gatehouse. This work will hopefully start addressing the solutions to accessing health care, for men in the first instance.

2.The Alliance – LEAF are still working with the Alliance on how LEAF can be involved in a meaningful way.

3.Countywide Steering Group - LEAF will continue to attend the steering group however LEAF have requested that LEAF are taken off the action plan as no work or actions were agreed with LEAF.

4.Connections, Step Down House and King's College London – Evaluation of the Out-of-Hospital Care Models (OOHCM) Programme for People Experiencing Homelessness Report launch & shaping future impact will be held in London on Tuesday 30 April 2024, which a LEAF member will be attending and also talking at the event.

5.Aspire/Community Research Networks (CRN's) – LEAF and Aspire have secured funding for work to continue through 2024 to support the development of CRN's across the county. The LEAF lead has also been attending regular meetings with the stakeholders. 3 CRN's will take place across Oxfordshire over the next month. The sessions will be held at Turning Point hubs in Oxford, Banbury and Didcot.

6.Homeless Link - Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM)/The Gatehouse – Ongoing conversations on how LEAF may be able to support.

7. OHM - Considering ways LEAF could support OHM looking at how to improve services for women within Oxfordshire. Today we don't know some very basic things such as, how many women are experiencing rough sleeping in the county? There is a quantitative element, which OHM can work on with the councils and service providers. There is also a qualitative element that OHM hope LEAF can support with, what is the experience of women? What are their priorities for improvement?

8.The Gatehouse - Evaluating the Gatehouse Community Centre by way of Storytelling. A LEAF member has now gathered the stories of guests at the Gatehouse and another member will now transcribe and look at themes throughout the stories.

9.The Mint House/Alliance/OCC – Preventing evictions in the homeless pathways pilot. Funding has been secured and training dates have been set. 6 Forum members will be provided with full resolution training alongside Matilda house staff to support a pilot project around preventing evictions. The induction training for LEAF members was completed on the 10th April and went really well.

10. Oxford Institute of Clinical Psychology – Some of the female LEAF members supported Amy who is doing a placement at Homeless Oxfordshire. The project's aim was to find out what support services, such as Homeless Oxfordshire, can do to improve the support they provide to women experiencing homelessness. The focus groups have now taken place with staff and LEAF are awaiting an update of findings.

11.Katherine and Sobell House Hospices - The findings from two workshops around palliative care held at The Gatehouse and O'Hanlon house have now been released and provided back to the participants. Sobell and Katherine house have committed to doing some collaborative work with Homeless Oxfordshire and The Gatehouse to improve end of life care for people in the homeless pathways. **Please find reports attached**

12.Peer support training - Lucy has completed her course in how to support peer workers. Two members of LEAF are being supported in attending their course to become peer workers.

13.Adult Safeguarding Board Mortality reviews - LEAF have been working with OCC and OASB to look at barriers to healthcare within the homeless and rough sleeping cohort from the mortality reviews. Outcomes and recommendations from the LEAF Community Champions work are being used to support breaking down some of the barriers.

14. Centre for Homeless Impact/Alliance – LEAF supported the Alliance Prevention Meeting and held an interactive event one afternoon. The event went really well and we definitely had thirty plus people stay for the afternoon session. A LEAF member spoke very articulately about the importance of acting on feedback in order to build trust and prevent feedback fatigue. This led into a really interesting discussion about how to overcome power imbalances within feedback loops and co-production settings. Report has now been completed and has been uploaded to The Gatehouse website. [LEAF-festival-of-feedback-Final-.pdf \(oxfordgatehouse.org\)](https://oxfordgatehouse.org/leaf-festival-of-feedback-final-pdf)

15. Oxford OCC – LEAF supported Jonathon Taylor to evaluate Oxford City's Housing first in 2023 – the report has now been released with recommendations. **Please find report attached.**

Challenges and aims for LEAF

The multiple co –production work streams that LEAF are part of, have changed from the original co-production work/model. Historically the co-production work has been shorter pieces of work and at most over a six-month period. As some co –production partners/organisations have attained extremely large contracts and commitments, the commitment they want from LEAF is extensive and over an eighteen-month period in some cases. LEAFs aim to build a consultancy service is progressing, this would be to provide more training for LEAF members and provide extra staff for LEAF in the future.

However, what we have faced whilst trying to introduce the consultancy service is that there has been a push back from services and services questioning why they now need to pay for LEAF's service? I find it quite interesting that services are questioning paying for lived experience involvement and the work that goes on behind the scenes like any other service. LEAF will continue to challenge and push for equality for lived experience involvement.

Lucy Stokes – Lived Experience Advisory Coordinator

Monica Gregory – Member Development Coordinator

