**Q&A: Health and Social Care Working Group**

**Why should I join the working group?**

The working group will help to inform our work for the health and social care pilot initiative across Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, and West Berkshire (BOB ICB). This initiative seeks to review existing services and to consider new services to meet patient demand and the recommendations contained in the updated NICE Guideline on ME/CFS.

We are keen to engage with people within the area and the working group will provide opportunity for the team to better understand the lived experiences of local patients, carers and their families and what steps we can take to lobby for improvements in NHS and social care services. This feedback will help shape the direction of our initiative. We hope to share anonymised feedback to service leads and commissioners with the intention that this would help to develop services that better fit the needs of the patients they are serving.

**Who can join the working group?**

The working group is open to patients and carers with lived experience of ME/CFS and Long Covid who are currently residing in or have experience of NHS and social care services in Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, and West Berkshire (BOB ICB).

**How often does the working group plan to meet?**

The working group plans to meet online via Microsoft Teams in the first week of every month for the duration of the pilot initiative. The meetings are expected to run for up to 1 hour. For those who have expressed an interest in participating, there will be an opportunity to inform the team of dates of availability and we will do our best to accommodate as many people as possible.

**Will you provide reasonable adjustments?**

Yes, there will be an opportunity for people interested in joining to let the team know of any accessibility needs and wherever possible we will provide accommodations.

**Can I still give feedback if I am unable to attend the working group?**

For those people who unable to attend on Teams, a carer can attend on their behalf. Alternatively, feedback can be shared directly with the team via health@meassociation.org and a survey will be available in the future to give opportunity for local people who are unable to attend the working group to share their views.

**How do I sign up?**

Please express your interest in joining with the team via health@meassocation.org and we will send a short follow up survey to determine eligibility.