

# Core 3: Unit 3

## Link Time

## Link Time for Core 3: Unit 3

The Link Person has a summary of the focus and content of Core 3: Unit 3, including personal exercises that participants have been asked to do.

### Purpose of the Core 3 Link Time

The main purpose of this link time is to:

- Discuss accountability for user involvement work in the service
- Discuss what areas of advocacy user consultants think are important in the service
- Discuss the level of influence or decision-making for user consultants in the user involvement activities
- Continue negotiating user consultants' involvement in the service

The Link Person will cover areas on accountability and negotiating user consultants' involvement with the service regardless of whether training participants have done some or all parts of Core 3. Covering the advocacy and user involvement

approaches sections will depend on whether or not that is covered in the user consultant's training programme.

## **Recommended areas to cover**

### **Reflecting on Core 2 Link Time**

The Link Person will consider including the following points:

- How did the last Link Time go for the user consultants?
- Are there any specific areas user consultants would like to cover this time?
- Are there any thoughts or questions that have been raised that user consultants wish to discuss?
- Any areas that the Link Person promised to follow up at the end of the Core 2 Link Time

### **Accountability**

The Link Person will consider including the following points:

- How are health and social service staff members accountable to user consultants in user involvement activities that happen in the service?
- What responsibilities does the service expect user consultants to meet in their user involvement role?

- What are the user consultants' ideas about how they will meet their responsibilities?
- What does the service do to support user consultants in being accountable to other users, carers and the public, as well as the staff in the user involvement activity?

## **Advocacy**

The Link Person will consider including the following points:

- In what areas does the user consultant believe advocacy work is needed in the service?
- What advocacy work has already occurred or is currently occurring (so the user consultant knows who they can link to if this is possible)?
- What ideas does the user consultant have for doing this advocacy work?
- What support will the service give the user consultant in this advocacy work?

## User involvement approaches

The Link Person will consider doing the following activity:

- Discuss the information in Unit 3: Part D - Appendix 1 'Approaches to user involvement'
- Match the existing (or new) user involvement activities they have been discussing to these approaches - this will ensure user consultants know what level of influence or decision-making they have in these activities

## Clarifying potential user involvement activities and roles

The Link Person will consider including the following points:

- Summarise the agreements made so far about:
  - ω which user involvement activities the user consultant is interested to join
  - ω the support that is needed
  - ω the links that the Link Person needs to help them establish so they can get started
  - ω how this connects to any Theme Unit training the user consultant will attend
- Set a date for the next Link Time meeting