

Invitation for service partners // My Needs App

Overview

Thrive by Design are working in partnership with West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership and Hive IT to co-design an app that will support different people to communicate their needs to different services and in different social situations. This includes but is not limited to supporting people who are neurodivergent and / or who may experience social and communication challenges. We expect a wide age range to use the app, including children and young people, their parents and caregivers, and adults.

We currently have a prototype design but would like to test it with different people and in different environments, to inform the next stage of its development.

Further information about the project can be found here: [My Needs App: a digital tool to support neurodiverse people — Thrive by Design](#)

Service project partners

We are looking to work with two service partners in West Yorkshire, to test the current design of the app and to help us to understand how it could be used by different people within their service.

We are especially interested in testing and understanding how the app could support people who access and engage with the following services / sectors:

- Primary or Secondary Care
- Social Care
- Education

We hope that service partners can support us to:

- Engage with different people who use their service to test and co-design improvements
- Understand how services currently support different people to communicate their needs and preferences and how the My Needs App could facilitate and support those interactions
- Be part of testing the current design of the app, to inform further developments

Activities may include:

- Introduction and planning conversations
- Two engagement and testing sessions with service staff
 - Could include 1:1, group conversations and / or visit to service
- Two engagement and testing sessions with people who use your service
 - Could include 1:1 and / or group conversations

We expect that the activities will happen across three to five days in total – but we do not expect you to release staff for all of this time. We can adapt around availability and engagement preference and make sure the activities and schedules work for you.

Activities can take place in person or remotely, depending on the preference and availability of the service.

Timeframe

We are aiming for activities to take place between April – May 2023, but are happy to have a conversation about what timelines work for you and your service.

Contact

If you are interested in supporting this work, please contact:

Ali Jones (Designer, Thrive by Design), alison.jones142@nhs.net

Or

Kirstin Blackwell (Designer, Thrive by Design), kirstin.blackwell@nhs.net

Please include:

- Description of your service
- Brief overview of how your service currently supports different people to communicate their needs and communication preferences (especially people who are neurodivergent and / or who may experience social and communication challenges)
- Any key challenges or barriers you may be experiencing supporting the above
- Any work that you may currently be engaging with to address any challenges or development within this area

We would be happy to discuss any details of the project to support you in deciding whether you can help with this work.

Please indicate your interest by 17th April 2023. We may start to engage with services before this date dependent upon interest and availability to start conversations.