

# August 2025



## **Project Update**

#### **Digital Hubs**

The PCVS, digital Inclusion Pilot developed in partnership with the Connecting Cambridgeshire strategy has led to 10 digital hubs currently set up. The hubs are located in areas where there is limited or no digital access for the local community and also for specific populations who would benefit from increased digital skills. More hubs will come on board with a total of 12 being supported to deliver digital support. Volunteers for each hub are being provided with training from Cambridge Online who are also working closely with us to help each hub offer access to the online world from which they are excluded.

We will soon have a visual map of all hub locations with details of when they are running. If you are a volunteer with some level of IT skill, and would like to help your community access basic skills, we would like to hear from you.

Safety Online for young people Conference.

In March 2026, PCVS will be hosting a conference with a focus on Safety Online for Young People. Central to this will be the voice of young people and their views on online safety and the impact of it on their lives.

Perspectives from a range of organisations will be heard and examples of good practice discussed. The online world is an increasingly complex arena and the conference will be an opportunity to gain a greater understanding of this challenging issue.

## **Training & Networking**

We are in the process of scheduling a number of digital related training sessions between September and March, these will be a mix of face to face and online. First up on 1st September at PCVS Offices, Allia Centre Peterborough is a face-to-face session with Paul Bayer from Get Safe Online between 7pm and 8:30pm. Paul will be delivering an easy-to-understand talk about the basics of keeping safe when using the internet. Paul will cover such topics as password management, scam spotting, personal information sharing, online payments and what to do if things go wrong. There will also be time for any questions you may have.

Paul served in the Police for 30 years and a hobby in computing in the 90s, led him, into cybercrime investigation and later into training other officers. Paul has trained officers in the UK and also internationally in places as far away as Colombia in the west, the Philippines in the east, 50+ countries in between. Paul now uses this experience to help people to stay safe on the internet through his position as the Senior Online Safety Advisor for Get Safe Online.

If you would like to register please click here.

We have Webinars pencilled in for 2nd December on Effective Use of Social Media and 24 March on AI, further details will be shared in due course.

# Other News, Events and Resources

Connecting Cambridgeshire - launch of Digital Hub Grant Scheme across Cambridgeshire

Following the successful pilot launch in Peterborough led by PCVS, other community groups and organisations across Cambridgeshire county have the opportunity to apply for a small grant to become a digital hub and provide much needed local digital access to our communities.

To check out the eligibility criteria please click here.

#### Cambridgeshire Digital Partnership - End Digital Poverty Day

Join us for an in-person networking event to mark national End Digital Poverty Day, an initiative created by Digital Poverty Alliance to help raise awareness of digital poverty as a barrier to digital inclusion, and as an intersectional contributor to, and symptom of, poverty and inequality.

Hear from national, regional, and local partners on the work they are doing to influence digital inclusion policy and to improve support to overcome digital poverty, improve digital inclusion, and empower citizens to boost their financial and general wellbeing through being online.

We'd love to see you there to share learning, opportunities, and challenges, and help us overcome digital poverty across Cambridgeshire!

You can book here.

## Cambridge Digital Partnership - DIGI Fest - October 2025

Digital Literacy for Youth: Risks and Opportunities - Online - 2/10/2025 10:30am - 12:00pm Helping charities recognise the importance of digital literacy in protecting, empowering, and preparing young people for success in a connected world. to book <u>click here.</u>

Culture Connects: Using Culture and the Arts to Bridge the Digital Divide - Online - 7/10/25 1:00pm - 2:30pm Discover how charities and arts organisations can use culture and the arts to make learning digital skills fun, engaging, and accessible for everyone. To book <u>click here</u>.