Hi - Please find this week's update.

**Digital Training**

PCVS are currently working in partnership with Connecting Cambridgeshire and Cambridge Online to improve digital inclusion and improve digital skills.

As part of this activity Cambridge Online have devised a bespoke training package that is aimed at volunteers and staff who are supporting people within community settings to help/empower people to improve their digital capabilities. This training is vital to ensure you are confident that you are supporting people to an agreed standard and also to provide you with clear guidance, so that both you and those you support are safe.

This training is undertaken across 2 sessions, you will need to attend both, and they run from 10am - 1pm a requirement of our digital hubs and you will need to complete the 2 sessions which will run from 10-1pm. It will be useful to you and is certificated for your professional development.

We can also offer an online GDPR training course and certificated test for a small fee (if desired).

The sessions are normally repeated every two months, so there will be other opportunities for you and/or your colleagues to undertake and complete the course even if they can’t make both the October dates.

**Objective:**

To provide basic guidance and training to volunteers and staff on how best to interact with visitors who attend your community groups in need of digital support.

**Format:**

Two half-day sessions as follows –

**Session 1: Introduction - TUESDAY 14th October 10-1pm**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Preparing for a successful session (30 mins) | Guidance and support (handouts, video, help on Call) (15 mins) |
| Some essentials (IT, resources) (15 mins) | Accompaniments (15 mins) |
| Minimum basic knowledge (45 mins) | More advanced support / signposting (15 mins) |
| <<Break>> | Other Useful Resources (15 mins) |
| Typical experiences / requests (30 mins) | Recap and Questions (15 mins) |

**Session 2: Some Practical Advice - THURSDAY 16th October 10-1pm**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dealing with difficult people / unusual situations (30 mins) | Roleplays (online shopping, visas, equipt, UC) (30 mins) |
| Some Do’s and Don’ts (30 mins) | Testing your knowledge (!!) (45 mins) |
| GDPR / collecting feedback (30 mins) | Final questions and requests (20 mins) |
| <<Break>> | Certificates and wrap-up (15 mins) |

The training will take place at the PCVS conference room at the Allia Future Business Centre, Peterborough Football Club, London Road, PE2 8AN.

To register for session 1 [click here.](https://www.pcvs.co.uk/events/#pcvsEvents)

To register for session 2 [click here.](https://www.pcvs.co.uk/events/#pcvsEvents)

**Training Tuesday - 7th October 1pm - 3pm**

Join us for our latest Training Tuesday training and networking event. Open to members and potential members. This will be delivered online via Teams by Dee Flintoff, our volunteer centre co-ordinator.

**"How to get the most out of our volunteering matching platform, Go-ViP."**

Your organisation wants to make a difference; how can you find enough volunteers to reach your goals?

This on-line session will teach you how to get the best from the PCVS Go-ViP site and find out:
-how to reach more people
-set up an organisation page
-message volunteers
-add a form to a volunteering opportunity

We expect this event to be popular, so please register early. Details on how to access the Teams online session will be shared after registration in advance of the event.

Membership is open to VCSE groups in Peterborough, if you are not already a member please [Complete the membership form](https://www.go-vip.co.uk/o/PCVS/forms/3752)

**To register** [**click here.**](https://www.pcvs.co.uk/events/training-tuesday-online-via-teams-volunteering/)

**Peterborough Library - free meeting rooms**

I am writing to let you know about a new free resource available in our libraries that we believe could be of real benefit to your service users.

We have installed confidential meeting pods in several libraries. These spaces have been designed to provide a safe, welcoming and non-judgemental environment for people who may need early help with their emotional and mental health, or who face barriers to accessing support.

**Pod locations:**

Central Library – 2 x four person pods

Hampton Library – 1 x four person pod

Orton Library – 1 x two person pod

**How the meeting pods can help:**

* Provide confidential space for individuals to meet with support staff
* Offer laptops and WiFi access for self-help tools
* Support those in digital poverty with access to vital information and services
* Create a safe environment for people who may not be able to seek help elsewhere due to personal, cultural or social barriers.

We are keen to work with local agencies to make sure these pods are used effectively.

Agencies can:

* Book pods in advance to meet clients in a confidential setting
* Encourage clients to drop in and use the pods independently
* Contribute relevant resources (leaflets, service links, helpline numbers) to make available in the pods

If your organisation would like to begin using the pods with your clients, or if you would like to discuss partnership opportunities, please **contact us at** **libraryenquiries@peterboroughlimited.co.uk**

**Community Grant Programme**

This September, [Health Data Research UK](https://c-nc404.na1.hubspotlinks.com/Ctc/W2%2B113/c-nC404/VXjtzQ1TXRhwW3MsB-H2XZ9f_W39GxQ75Bw-92N5q1hjb2_3wqW5BW0B06lZ3nQW4HP0_k6XhFLkW9ldt935t_3J7W67NHbm5_8G4wW1GL6ts5FYjz2W1fmf9t6v_ZGnW6wd2RD1mp_WxW3W47q56tV1GZW9l2HGs5lPHnXN6VN2RvpsV09W8dnHwt8cP48DW4F-hFR437KKtW92Z_wQ5jtTGNN56FpZkDn7Q0W6cNGgW3WLJDdW34vkw748L6LNW4CzqFF1N1RjBN6trzFlgsvZyW79DyLj28gx2Wf80lR-M04) (HDR UK) is launching a new community grants programme called [**Take the Lead**](https://c-nc404.na1.hubspotlinks.com/Ctc/W2%2B113/c-nC404/VXjtzQ1TXRhwW3MsB-H2XZ9f_W39GxQ75Bw-92N5q1hk-2_3wqW95jsWP6lZ3psN6KTb3mYKy3MW5BGYLr72_9vnW4hypc36cBJHcW5j1ML06vsJSlVWbt0f7DmWjrW1l24n61tRxZrW3v8csR1tTmlcW3XXHYB1Fl1JmW6T7q3S5qKNMGVj-V6D87R2T0W8tJhn22cZ6kPW4WvgjB6xL5BWVs7NZv6MRqTVW6N79KH2_QC1LW83SfS31P1XR4W1dBtmn83XGxhN4MlG5d9sdjfVQ6PP_8wzJwhW8WGrcC92JSjZN6LFLxKwNZvyW9m2cTY8-yCLJVDKWdM8hfmvHW5GSFBl2Mqlt4VZNP6V48WYf4W4J14yL4H2L39W5wzm0j6VSJ8CW7hRvwD69ydBvW29k1y82YMMMgW8xTZ4032nvFKW2GwqmH5GVLV2f1SzflC04), offering between **£500 and £1,500** for community groups to deliver projects, events or activities that explore **how data can support health and wellbeing** within their local community. Grants will support activities taking place between **January and March 2026**.

The programme is designed to support community-led ideas and engage groups not usually involved in health data science, particularly those working with:

* People disadvantaged in terms of income
* Minority ethnic communities
* Older children and young adults aged 11–25 (especially in areas of deprivation)
* People over 65 (especially in areas of deprivation)
* People living in rural areas
* People experiencing digital exclusion

Take the Lead grants will open for applications in September 2025, **closing date is 5pm 13th October 2025.** Eligibility and guidelines will be shared on [our website](https://c-nc404.na1.hubspotlinks.com/Ctc/W2%2B113/c-nC404/VXjtzQ1TXRhwW3MsB-H2XZ9f_W39GxQ75Bw-92N5q1hk-2_3wqW95jsWP6lZ3nmW3KlDyL3Rj-4LW2gjBM87yCQFgW3Pzmcs3j2-9rN2MJGKmx0KHZW7wc8Nd77YRs1W33JMMF2VtjLVW7Gtm9K7CWQcGW3pPqkw1h7v4TW978n6l25-yVbW7g4Fj54G3nXRW4KTV7b2-gwGvW8NlJVK514F5KVT-Cw64J99zzW88b9Lm7551n3N4mgZhhh-Gm1W66BQDL50155LW70N5b63yt0dKW3Lp8TS1WQ7NDW94mp0r34cYRgW36v6Tw8rYhHRW8wzgRF8ZQYY2W7b89qL5hcV3fW1JPtJQ1Q-J6MW8LZZ2b7tKPVGW5Rdtns5Hkpz0W4sr8xl6DhrRWW21Ql6n8SkMgSW5LQWv32NlvS4VmxD448VHnB1W8TMKC46V9SpFf3G6-qR04) then.