

## Clearer Care – new Surrey health literacy programme

Are you a Surrey based VCSE, NHS, Local Authority or Public Health organisation interested in learning more about health literacy?

When you share health and care information, are you confident everyone can:

- ✓ Understand it?
- ✓ Act on it?
- ✓ Know which services to use?

We are launching a programme that can help you.

### About the programme

Low health literacy is a major driver of health inequalities. In England, 42% of working-age adults struggle to understand everyday health information rising to 61% when both words and numbers are involved. In Surrey Heartlands around 30% of adults aged 16-64 fall below the health literacy threshold. This means many adults are reading at, or below, the level of an average 9 year old. Low health literacy is associated with missed appointments, poor medication adherence, and reduced uptake of preventive services. Evidence shows that people with lower health literacy are 1.5 to 3 times more likely to experience increased hospitalisation or premature death.

Our new Health Literacy support project - Clearer Care - will support organisations to use a health literacy lens to make health communication, information, and services more accessible, inclusive, and equitable.

This project is being run by Luminus, Community Foundation for Surrey, Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care Board and Dr Mike Oliver from Health Literacy Matters.

### How can the programme help you and your organisation?

Following an expression of interest and application process, successful organisations will receive:

- Expert health literacy advice and guidance
  - Practical support to design and run health literacy pilot projects
- Available for VCSE organisations only (in addition to the above)
- Small grants of up to £2,500 are available to deliver pilot projects.

### Want to find out more?

Sign up for our launch webinar on 24 February via Eventbrite: <https://launch-webinar-clearer-care-health-literacy-support-programme.eventbrite.com>