

# iN TOUCH



an interactive update for  
GPs working in Lanarkshire

 Feb/Mar 2024

Welcome to the iN TOUCH newsletter for February and March 2024 – providing an update on the progress of the Primary Care Improvement Plan (PCIP).

This edition contains updates on:

- **Focus on...**
  - UPCOMING Cluster event - Wed 24 Apr 12-5pm
- **Additional professional roles**
  - Primary Care Occupational
  - Community Link Workers
  - Travel Vaccines
- **News round-up**
  - Online lunchtime learning session - Thu 2 May 12.30-1.30pm
  - Catch up with iN TOUCH on our website
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## **Focus on...**

### **UPCOMING Cluster Event**

All Cluster Quality Leads (CQLs) and Practice Quality Leads (PQLs) are invited to the upcoming Cluster Event on Wednesday 24 April.

This is an excellent opportunity to engage with peers, gain helpful insight and contribute to Lanarkshire's primary care community. We encourage all CQLs and PQLs to join us by registering [here](#)

## **Additional professional roles**

### **Primary Care Occupational Therapy**

In March, the Primary Care Occupational Therapy service presented at the GP bitesize education session, chaired by Dr Jennifer Gibson. This session served as a platform to deepen GP's understanding of the role and wide-reaching remit of primary care occupational therapy.

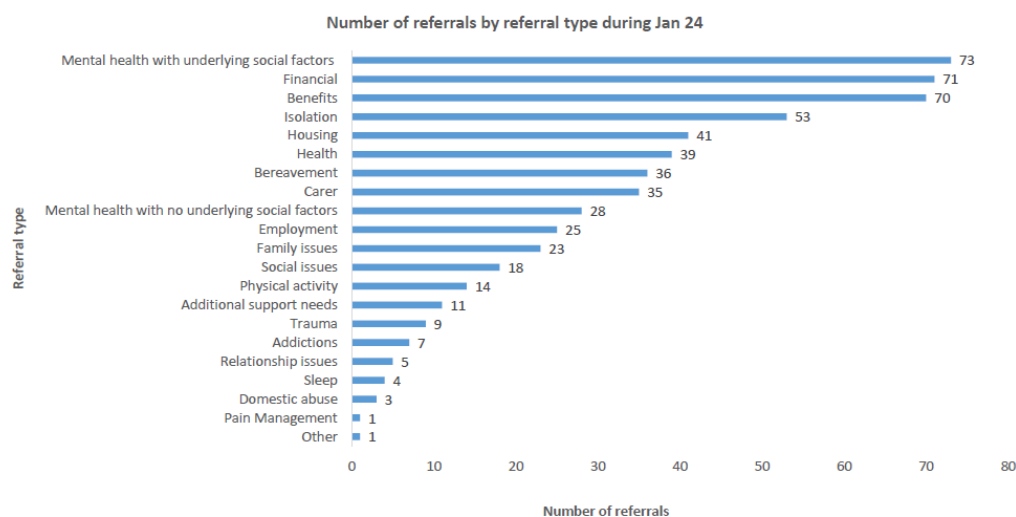
The session considered the benefit of offering early access to occupational therapy intervention at the onset of a person's health journey, highlighting the potential to minimise functional decline and foster self-management. Through the use of case studies, GPs were equipped with the knowledge to identify patients most likely to benefit from intervention, thus ensuring timely access for those in need and maximising use of the OT resource.

A recording of the education session is available on the Primary Care Education website. Should you wish any further information please contact [Shonaid McCabe](#), Care Lead Primary Care Occupational Therapy or [Amanda Turner](#), South Team Lead or Sam Corrie, North Team Lead.

### Community Link Workers

There are currently 83 GP practices in Lanarkshire utilising Community Link Workers (CLWs), and during January 79 of these (95%) referred into the CLW programme. Total referrals made were 206 in the North and 217 in the South. Below details referrals by criteria:

#### GP Community Link Worker Monthly Dashboard January 2024



• Most common criteria for referral into the service are *mental health with underlying social factors* and *financial support* both with 73 referrals.  
• *Financial Support* provided the next highest referral type with 71 referrals.  
(The above data incorporates a second reason for referral where the CLW feels it is beneficial to record this, therefore n=567 for this measure)

The programme enhances the support primary care teams provide by ensuring people are connected to their communities. CLWs are non-clinical practitioners based in or aligned to a GP practice, working with patients to help them navigate and engage with wider services. Find out more [here](#)

### Travel Vaccinations

The way people in Lanarkshire access travel vaccinations has changed, with travel vaccinations free on the NHS now being delivered by NHS Lanarkshire's Vaccination Service rather than being provided at Community Pharmacies. Anyone requiring vaccines for hepatitis A, typhoid, hepatitis A and typhoid combined, cholera and revaxis (polio/diphtheria/tetanus) can call the Vaccination Service on 01698 687 456 and colleagues will advise on the next steps. Further information is available [here](#).

### News round-up

#### Online lunchtime learning session Thursday 2 May

Our lunchtime QI learning sessions series helps create the conditions to support change and quality improvement across primary care.

Registration is now open for our upcoming QI lunchtime learning session on the Cluster Cancer Intelligence Report with the Local Intelligence Support Team from Public Health Scotland. This session

will take place on Thursday 2 May, 12.30-1.30, on MS Teams. Register [here](#) or click the link in the flyer attached for further information and to secure your place.

All those who join a session will be added to a dedicated MSTEams channel which is a single point of access to recordings and resources from past lunchtime learning. The channel is accessible by anyone engaged in quality improvement in primary care, just click [Lunchtime QI Sessions](#) and request to join. This next session is in January with future sessions to be planned throughout the year.

### **Catch up with iN TOUCH on our website**

If you'd like to read this or any previous editions of iN TOUCH you can find them online at <https://www.nhslanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk/about-us/this-is-lanarkshire/> under PCIP Updates.

### **Follow us on X**

You can follow the Primary Care Improvement Team on X. Come and see what we post [@LanPCIP](#)

### **Contact us**

If you have an enquiry or would like further details about an article in this edition of iN TOUCH, please email [LanPCIT@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:LanPCIT@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk)