

EPUT Public Forum – Summary of Discussions and Actions

Date: 10 February 2026

Format: Online Forum

On the 10th of February we welcomed over 50 attendees to the first EPUT Forum of 2026, where we discussed a number of topics, the main focus being on the future of the EPUT Forum.

The below is a summary of the takeaways from the forum which will be shared online as a way of keeping the attendees and the public updated.

1. Housekeeping

- Attendees were reminded to mute when not speaking, use of hands and maintaining a safe environment.
- Live captions were available.
- Quiet Room available as an additional safe space if further support is needed.
- Participants could request follow-up discussions outside the meeting.

2. The future of the EPUT Forum

- Strengthen service-user and carer voice from all services including external organisations. Dementia representation was particularly highlighted as a notable gap.
- Supporting services to maximise learnings from voices of lived experience.
- Improve inclusivity, especially for digitally excluded groups.
- Develop a recognised listen and learn platform for the Trust and external organisations to showcase initiatives in their services. Actively encouraging a supportive learning community.
- EPUT's own developments with initiative's such as 'Community First' and 'Time to Care' to communicate clearly what positive steps EPUT are taking to improve care provided, including what's gone well, what's not gone so well and how we are learning.
- Importance of clear and consistent communication of the EPUT Forum and topics raised to Staff, service users and the public.
- Potential for Peer Support training to be a focus in a future meeting.
- Creation of directory of services available; easy search document online/ Services tree.

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3. Q&A with Matt Sisto

- Matt shared some reflections on where we are at as a community. Changes to the wider NHS, ICB's and how care is provided day to day.
- EPUT's strength of lived experience and coproduction.
- Lived Experience Ambassador's have as much notice as possible with involvement opportunities and the ways in which communication's reach LEA's need to be broadened.
- Full transparency.
- Concerns were raised about how to include digitally excluded people in the in communications of the Forum. The Forum team will explore new participation routes. Secure Services explained restrictions on technology within secure units and committed to reviewing options.
- Clarification on what true coproduction looks like.

4. Suggested Agenda Items for the Next Forum

- Coproduction Conference 2026- What would you want to take away from the conference?
- Update on actions from the February Forum.
- Guest speakers presenting initiatives and taking questions.
- Open floor session. Forum development discussion.

7. Actions Agreed

- Explore options for including participants without digital access.
- Follow up on including representation of individuals with Dementia and/ or carer's and loved ones.
- Review feasibility of staff-supported participation in secure settings.
- Escalate questions about phone access in secure services.
- Develop draft agenda for next forum collaboratively.
- Incorporate conference learning into Forum planning.

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We would like to thank everyone for their attendance and for such thought provoking discussions and look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

Our next EPUT Forum is scheduled for Tuesday 7 April 2026 11am- 1pm