

EPUT Forum – April 2026

Public Summary – Accessible Version

What we covered

- We discussed making the Coproduction Conference engaging, interactive and meaningful.
- We want to avoid formats where people feel talked at.
- We talked about understanding what topics matter most to people and how they want information shared.

Conference planning updates

- Planning is ongoing for the Coproduction Conference 2026 in partnership with Essex County Council.
- A venue in Harlow is currently being explored.
- The date, logistics and stall arrangements are still to be confirmed.

Ideas for content and activities

- A strong focus on co-production and lived experience.
- Experts by experience sharing recovery journeys.
- Information about hospital stays and recovery pathways.
- A focus on carers and the question ‘What is recovery?’.
- Creative wellbeing activities such as art sessions.
- Stalls or gallery spaces to display and sell artwork.

Engagement and promotion

- Encouraging people to connect outside of their usual groups.
- Peer workers promoting the event directly to service users.
- Increasing patient involvement in planning and attendance.
- Ensuring a balanced audience including lived experience ambassadors, staff and partners.

Other updates

- A presentation was shared about a 12-week skills-based support program for carers from South East Essex Adult Community Psychological Services.
- There is an ongoing need to raise awareness of Lived Experience Ambassador opportunities.
- Open Arts was highlighted for supporting mental health and wellbeing in inpatient settings.

Next steps

- Continue gathering ideas to shape the Coproduction Conference 2026.
- Follow up on individual topics outside of the forum where needed.
- Encourage people to suggest topics for future EPUT Forums.
- We want to hear from you – what would you like to be a topic at a future forum?

Next EPUT Forum: 10 June 2026, 11:00am – 1:00pm