Hello all,

After speaking to some of you over the past few weeks and hearing your feedback on our service’s launch, the team and I thought it would be helpful to share some more information about our ‘consultation’ pathway. Below we’ve pulled together some (hopefully) useful information about what this pathway includes and how to get in touch if this is something you are interested in accessing as a service.

Just to let you know or remind those who already know, as part of our service launch, we aimed to implement three pathways to enable us to best support those currently (or at risk of) rough sleeping in Leeds alongside supporting the existing teams (you) which already work in the area to continue doing the amazing work you do every-day. As we are a new service, it is taking some time to get off the ground and although we have high hopes for the service in the future we feel it’s best to start with part of our offer then extend out once we get to hear from you what is needed from a mental health service and can put the right things in place to deliver this.

So, as ‘phase 1’ of our service launch we have decided to proceed with the consultation (advice and support) pathway. Part of this pathway includes the staff drop-ins which we are pleased to say started on the 27th November across various Crypt sites alongside joining colleagues at the help-hub and on outreach every Mondays.

Although we are hopeful that this kind of support will extend in the future, we realise that for now we are covering a relatively small patch of the street support land, this is why we want to now offer more ad hoc consultation (advice and support) which other services, alongside the Crypt, can access when needed. Attached to this email is more information on what this looks like and how to arrange this for your teams, if you have any questions about this or wish to know more information then please do get in touch and we can arrange a time to chat about this more.

We hope to see you all soon!

Best wishes

**What is consultation?**

To us, consultation means a shared space to think and talk about the work you might be doing with a particular client, or group of people, to help to understand some of the things you or the client may be experiencing, and how we might want to support them moving forwards. To help us do this we might use the space to begin formulations, case discussions or to think about a specific need of a client and what this means for us working with them, we might even use the space as a place to acknowledge some of the difficulties from the work in a safe place without needing to find a solution just to get it out there.

**What does this look like?**

Consultation can look different for everyone depending on what you or your service are looking for. To begin with we would love to hear a bit about you, your team, and the work you and for you to help us to understand where you are at and what you would find helpful from the consultation sessions. We can then agree what will happen next and may summarise our discussion in a diagram which you are encouraged to keep as a resource for your team.

**How to enquire about consultation?**

To ensure we don’t miss any of your requests we have created a team email address which all members of our team are able to access. If you or your team are interested in accessing consultation from our team we would encourage you to send an email to our team email address – rsmhservice.lypft@nhs.net – and someone can respond to you about the next steps.

We want to be as flexible as we can during our launch of the consultation pathway to make sure we are meeting the needs of your services; we are able to offer face-to-face, telephone or videocall sessions which can be agreed when booking dependent on what feels best for you and your team.

As a small team we may need to negotiate the day or time to ensure someone is available to join you on the day. Also, we may request to speak with you about your enquiry before booking in a date or time.

You may find it helpful to think about some of the following prompts before sending over a request for consultation, this helps us to both understand what you may want from the consultation and who to contact to book something in:

* Where and when to meet?
* Who to involve; is it just one person, one team or multiple teams who would like to access consultation? Who is the main point of contact?
* What is the hope of you or your team in accessing consultation?