

1 April 2019

News

- InformationNOW
- Fenham Library
- The effect of poor mental health on our lives
- Care Homes collapse under the pressure of funding cuts and debt

Research & Reports

- Households Below a Minimum Income Standard 2008/09 ? 2016/17
- UK Poverty 2018

Opportunities for Action

- Every day is different - jobs and careers in health and social care
- Libraries and Community Hubs survey 2019

Resources

- HAREF - good practice for interpreting services
- Your Equipment Newcastle

New on InformationNOW this week!

This week's events & activities at a glance

Autistic artists and handcrafters exhibition

Falls and staying safe information day

Updated articles & organisations

Home Care agencies in Newcastle

Care homes in Newcastle

NEWS

InformationNOW

The [InformationNOW](#) has been out and about in Newcastle, demonstrating the website and showing the wide range of information, organisations and events. We showed the website to administrative teams working in GP surgeries and to the newly established Prevention, Information and Advice Network last week. With the help of their feedback, we will broaden the reach of InformationNOW to support adults from the age of 25 years. Look out for our new sections over the coming months.

Fenham Library and Community Hub

[Fenham Library](#) has broadened its opening hours from 1st April:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10am ? 5pm

Tuesday and Thursday 1pm - 6pm

Saturdays 10am ? 2pm

There is now an [Active Newcastle](#) healthy walk from Fenham Library on Tuesdays, 10.30 till 11.30 am. Contact: david.luke@newcastle.gov.uk

FoodWorks new café at Fenham Library is now open to the public. They offer fair trade coffee, speciality teas, sandwiches, baked potatoes with various fillings and sweet treats.

The effect of poor mental health on our lives

1. [Analysis from the Money and Mental Health Policy Institute](#) shows that more than 100,000 people in problem debt attempt suicide each year in England. The report also reveals that people in problem debt are three times more likely to have considered suicide than people who are not experiencing problem debt. If you, or someone you are supporting, are experiencing money worries contact these [organisations that](#)

[provide free and trusted debt advice in Newcastle](#). InformationNOW has a section on [money](#).

2. [Too ill to work, too broke not to](#) is a report that shows that people who take sickness absence due to mental health problems face severe financial hardship, such as: falling behind on bills, going without food or risking homelessness.

3. The latest research by [Citizens Advice](#) has found that people with a mental health condition can pay between £1,100 to £1,550 each year for essential services, such as energy supply, telecoms and unsecured personal credit. If you need help, there are a number of organisations that can help you:

Newcastle Council's [energy services team](#)

Newcastle Council's [welfare rights service](#) and a number of organisations listed alongside the Information NOW [mental health article](#)

Care Homes collapse under the pressure of funding cuts and debt

[The Guardian reports on research by the accountancy firm BDO](#) indicating that UK care home firms are buckling under the pressure of funding cuts, crippling debt and rising costs.

More than 100 care home operators collapsed in 2018, taking the total over five years to more than 400 and sparking warnings that people in homes that close down could be left with nowhere to go but hospitals. BDO found that in the period between 2014 and 2016 there were an average of 69 care home company insolvencies per year. The number rose sharply to 123 in 2017 and another 101 collapsed last year. InformationNOW has two information articles. One on [Choosing a care home](#) and the other listing [Care Homes in Newcastle](#) with their CQC rating.

RESEARCH & REPORTS

Households below a Minimum Income Standard 2008/09 ? 2016/17

[The Joseph Rowntree Foundation's latest report](#) considers the family and household characteristics of those below the Minimum Income Standard (MIS), which is a benchmark for an adequate standard of living in the UK. Research finds that:

- Almost 19 million people are living below the Minimum Income Standard, up from

16.5 million in 2008/09

- Nearly three in four children in lone-parent households are below the Minimum Income Standard, slightly above the number in 2008/09
 - While pensioners remain less likely than working-age adults and children to have low income, the number of single pensioners below MIS has risen from one in six to one in four since 2008/09
-

UK Poverty 2018

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation has launched their annual report which examines the nature and [scale of UK poverty](#). The research findings show that:

- Levels of child poverty have increased since 2011-12
- 4.1 children are living in poverty, an increase of 500,000 over the last 5 years
- In-work poverty has been rising faster than employment, largely driven by increasing levels of in-work poverty

InformationNOW has an article on where to find [Food banks and hot food in Newcastle](#)

OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

Every day is different - jobs in health and social care

Looking for a job or career change? The Department of Health and Social care has launched its national recruitment campaign. Visit the [every day is different website](#) for jobs in the North East or Newcastle City Council's pages.

Libraries and Community Hubs Survey 2019

There is a customer satisfaction survey running at the four Library and Community Hubs from now until the middle of April. People who use these services will be asked questions by staff from an independent research agency called 'Emotional Logic' at the City, West End, East End and Outer West location. The research results will provide a baseline for how services are performing, and asked about their views on

quality, awareness and access to services.

RESOURCES & REPORTS

HAREF (Health and Race Equality Forum)

A part of [Newcastle CVS's](#) Support and Development team, they work with communities and organisations throughout Newcastle and Gateshead to reduce health inequalities linked to ethnicity and culture.

[HAREF](#) has worked with [Newcastle upon Tyne Hospital Trust](#), [Deaflink](#) and Newcastle Public Health to provide good practice guidance to staff working with interpreters. This guidance is useful for anyone working with spoken or BSL (British Sign Language) interpreters. It ensures that interpreters get the right information and support they need and practitioners have the right skills to get the best out of working with an interpreter and service users.

View the guidance:

- [Working with a BSL interpreter](#)
 - [Working with a face-to-face spoken language interpreter](#)
 - [Working with a telephone interpreter](#)
-

Your Equipment Newcastle

Your Equipment Newcastle went live in January 2019. It is designed to make daily living easier for those who may have problems carrying out day to day tasks. Already people are telling us that it is useful, quick and easy. Equipment available ranges from hand rails and adjustable seats to easy grip cutlery and big buttoned telephones.

Read [home adaptations, equipment and aids](#) for more information.

NEW ON INFORMATIONNOW

Autistic artists and handcrafters exhibition, 8 - 14 April, Newcastle City Library

Why not support National Autism day and attend [this exhibition](#) showcasing the talents of people with autism. To find organisations that support people with learning disabilities and autism, read the [Information NOW article](#).

Falls and staying safe information day, 10th April, Grainger Market

The Elders Council are running a [mini information day at the Grainger Market](#) - one of a series of events this year. Go along and find out about exercises and dance and tips for keeping safe at home and when you are out and about.

Information NOW has an article on [falls prevention](#).

New articles

[Home care agencies in Newcastle](#)

[Care Homes in Newcastle](#)

New and updated organisations

[Social Prescribing Team, HealthWORKS Newcastle](#)

[Advocacy Centre North](#)

Last updated: March 17, 2022

Recent Newsletters:

[Friday 22nd March 2024 InfoNOW News](#)

InformationNOW Did you know you can get directions to an organisation with one click from an organisations page? Did you know you can change the website into over 100 languages? Did you know you can find informa...

[InfoNOW News Wednesday 6th March 2024](#)

InformationNOW Updated User dashboard When you log into your dashboard as an organisation, you will now see a message 'Please send us your events using this

from'. Clicking on the 'this form...