

## Fuse Quarterly Research Meeting

*Multiple and complex needs in North East England: understanding high mortality rates and identifying opportunities to intervene*

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020, 12.30 – 16.30

G.003 Exhibition Space, Urban Science Building, Newcastle University  
1 Science Square, Newcastle Helix, NE5 4TG

### Programme

Chairs: Sheena Ramsay, Clinical Senior Lecturer & Honorary Consultant in Public Health, Newcastle University and Angela Broadbridge, Research and Evaluation Lead, Fulfilling Lives Newcastle Gateshead

12.30pm	<b>Lunch and Registration</b>
1.00pm	<b>Welcome</b> Sheena Ramsay, Clinical Senior Lecturer & Honorary Consultant in Public Health, Newcastle University
1.10pm	<b>Co-production and the peer research approach</b> Angela Broadbridge, Research and Evaluation Lead, Fulfilling Lives Newcastle Gateshead
1.30pm	<b>Background to the study</b> Ged Hazlehurst, Expert by Experience Ambassador, Fulfilling Lives Newcastle Gateshead
1.45pm	<b><i>"I've got a collage in my bedroom of me and all my friends that have died"</i>: Emerging findings from the qualitative study</b> Rachel Perry, Specialty Registrar in Public Health, Newcastle University
2.00pm	<b>Questions &amp; answers</b>
2.10pm	<b>Reflecting on the research findings – Facilitated Group Discussions</b>
2.30pm	<b>Coffee break</b>
2.50pm	<b>Priorities for action – Facilitated Group Discussions</b>
3.30pm	<b>Feedback and reflections</b>
4.00pm	<b>Close</b>

## **About this QRM**

Multiple and complex needs include issues of homelessness, substance misuse, repeat offending and mental health. People facing these issues experience severe health inequalities – the mortality rates in these groups is almost seven times higher for men than the general population and almost twelve times higher for women ([Aldridge et al, 2018](#)). The North East of England has the highest drug-related death rate of any region in England and Wales.

Fulfilling Lives is a charity that works to improve the lives of people with multiple and complex needs across Newcastle and Gateshead. A qualitative study developed by its Experts by Experience (peer researchers) network along with Fuse researchers aimed to explore the reasons underlying the high mortality rates among people with multiple and complex needs. In particular, the study aimed to pinpoint opportunities to identify people at-risk and to explore potential interventions that may be helpful in preventing early death. Focus groups were held with Experts by Experience as well as those working in the health, social care and voluntary sectors that support people with multiple and complex needs.

## **What will I gain from this?**

This Fuse Quarterly Research Meeting offers an opportunity to hear about, and engage with, the emerging findings from this study. The event will provide an overview of the research itself, followed by facilitated table discussions where participants will help reflect on the findings, and shape meaningful recommendations for policy, practice and future research in the region.

## **Who is the event for?**

Anyone who is interested in improving outcomes for people with multiple and complex needs and reducing health inequalities across North East England (e.g. housing, drug and alcohol services and commissioners, probation, primary and secondary care, voluntary sector).