



MEAM Approach Network – User Policy

About us

Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM) is a coalition of national charities – Clinks, Collective Voice, Homeless Link and Mind. Working together we support local areas across the country to develop effective, coordinated services that directly improve the lives of people facing multiple disadvantage. Our vision is that everyone experiencing multiple disadvantage can reach their potential and contribute fully to their communities.

We use our shared knowledge and practical experience from this work to influence policy at the national and local level. MEAM takes a practical yet ambitious approach to change, supporting and enabling local areas to create long-term changes to local systems, while also recognising the many constraints that people are working within.

The MEAM Approach Network online community platform

You are joining the online community space for the MEAM Approach Network. Our aims for this virtual network are to:

- Provide a space where members of the MEAM Approach Network across the UK can find each other and easily make connections outside of our regular events
- Share stories, and exchange experiences and ideas through community posts and group or direct chats
- Explore challenges and learn together in workshops, courses, events, and more
- Provide a single, simplified point of access for MEAM Approach network events and resources
- And ultimately support MEAM areas to become a thriving collaborative community that works together to tackle multiple disadvantage

Our Community Culture

We want our virtual network to be a positive and encouraging environment for everyone who joins us. In addition to following Mighty Network's Terms of Use (as set out here: <https://www.mightynetworks.com/terms-of-use>), we hope that all of our members embrace our community culture and contribute to making the MEAM Approach Network a rich and vibrant space for making change happen.

Here are some of the values at the heart of our shared community:

Collaboration. Tackling multiple disadvantage requires a collective and collaborative approach. As a coalition, we model the collaboration we want to see from local services and national government. We work closely with a wide range of local and national partners, while also valuing our independence and unique position. We are open, honest and reflective in everything we do.

Involvement and inclusion. Our ultimate focus is on people. We strive for our work to be inclusive and representative, paying particular attention to how intersecting forms of discrimination impact on people's likelihood and experience of multiple disadvantage. We enable the voice and individual experience of everyone facing multiple disadvantage, and those supporting them, to be at the heart of change.

Intersectionality. We take an intersectional approach to our work, recognising how people's social and political identities and the discrimination linked to these intersect to create unique experiences of multiple disadvantage.

Anti-racism. More specifically, we want to understand how structural racism and white privilege impact on people's likelihood and experience of multiple disadvantage. We use our learning to challenge ourselves and others, and to change how services and systems respond. We take an actively anti-racist approach to all our work.

Co-production. We coproduce our work with people facing multiple disadvantage and support local areas to do the same, helping to ensure that services and systems are trauma-informed and focused on people's strengths. At MEAM we believe that people with experience of multiple disadvantage must have a central role in partnerships, sharing power so that all decisions are coproduced and people have the support they need to engage in the work. The MEAM Network champions lived experience voices and is a hierarchy-free space.

In line with our shared values, we expect our community members to:

Be supportive. Encourage and support your fellow members. No one here is looking for criticism, cynicism, or judgement. (We can get those things on the rest of the Internet).

Stay curious. There is no such thing as a silly question, ask, ask and ask again. Between us we might be able to find the answer!

Share generously. Your stories and experiences may be exactly what another participant needs to hear today to solve a problem or seize an opportunity.

Be constructive. We're here to push each other forward and lift each other up, not to compete. Find ways to help each other think bigger, reframe challenges, and stay curious.

Be mindful of privacy and confidentiality. In particular when sharing case studies or your experience with supporting individuals. Do not share any private information or details that would identify any particular individual that you may have worked with in services.

Not spam, promote, or troll. The MEAM Approach Network exists to help you connect with like-minded individuals, learn and make change happen. It's not a place to spam, promote, or bully anyone else. In particular, there is no space for harassment or discrimination of any kind, including racism, ableism, sexism, homophobia and transphobia.

When we might remove content or ban a member from the network

Content that violates this User Policy or Mighty Network's Terms of Use will be removed from the platform. When content is reported by two or more members, it is automatically hidden everywhere in the Network for all Hosts and members (except for the creator of the content).

If a network member acts in violation of this User Policy or Mighty Network's Terms of Use, we may also consider removing or banning them from the virtual MEAM Approach Network. Each situation will be looked at individually.

We rely on your help to ensure that our virtual MEAM Network is a safe and positive space for everyone.

Please get in touch if you are concerned about any content posted or the language or behaviours of another user. You can do so by reporting them to the Network host, as described here:

<https://faq.mightynetworks.com/hc/en-us/articles/360023054871-Block-or-Report-Another-Member>