

Welcome to the eighth edition of our weekly bulletin Covid-19 edition of The Pulse. Our campaigns in social care and promoting the work of our #everyday heroes has taken up most of the focus for us last week, as well as the opportunity to host a great live event with the SUMO Guy – read here and get in touch with your feedback on any of our work

Take care

From the WME Leadership Team



## Social Care Campaign Update

Our work on the Social Care Campaigns #ComeBackToCare, #StepUpNow and #TimeToCare has continued with 350 candidates now registered to the West Midlands Social Care Talent Bank, and numbers growing each day.

For the #ComeBackToCare and #StepUpNow campaigns we have seen the first appointments with 4 Local Authorities appointing Social Workers and Students, and 12 authorities in the process of shortlisting or interviewing candidates.

The key focus this week has been the #TimeToCare campaign and supporting the independent care providers to fill key roles in their homes. To support the digital promotion of the campaign we have released a series of campaign videos.

Please continue to share the videos campaigns through your organisation and your own networks - which you can find here for 14<sup>th</sup> May [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) and here [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) for 21st May You can find the links to the campaign for sharing below:

[#TimeToCare](#) [#ComeBackToCare](#) [#StepUpNow](#)

Thanks to both Claire Bailey and Worcestershire County Council for their involvement in last week's video, released on Thursday, featuring Claire's story telling why she wanted to make a difference and what she has been doing.



Our #everydayheroes campaign continues to gain momentum, with three new profiles this week

Meet [Michelle Kettles](#) from South Staffordshire Council, offering virtual signposting to support the most vulnerable in the District, [Leigh Moore](#) from Wodensborough Ormiston Academy providing education in the community and [Esther](#) from Lichfield District Council supporting communications across the Covid19 response.

We have also had coverage on BBC West Midlands which you can listen again to [here](#) and press coverage in [Lichfield Live](#) and the Birmingham Mail on [16th May](#) and [20th May](#).

Please keep your nominations for your heroes coming, we want to show the full range of roles in Local Government and showcase all of the great work which is going on, in the front line and behind the scenes. You can visit the site and nominate [here](#)

## HR Support

### HR Employment Advice

The May edition of The People Hour is out now. This month's edition places a spotlight on the summary of the main changes most relevant to the changing climate and ways of working work that are now in force.

Most years we eagerly await the employment law changes which kick in at the beginning of April and this year has been a bit different, we have all had a focus on one major issue which has also impacted on employment decisions.

To access this month's issue please click on the following link to read The People Hour - <https://bit.ly/2XaBr6Y>

### WME Region virtually welcomed an internationally renowned motivational speaker

The SUMO Guy - A.K.A. Paul McGee - presented a virtual event for WME on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May. The booking requests for this event were over 310 – a great turnout. This included Local Authority delegates as well as other Public Sector Organisation colleagues. The event was hosted by WME Principal Consultant Monica Puri who has a passion for Resilience and was responsible for securing Paul for the event.

During the conversation with Paul, he shared some of his personal challenges and talked about how he had coped with them. Paul shared that he had suffered with Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME) in the past and also discussed his experience of contracting the Coronavirus. Using these life challenges as an example Paul was able to captivate his audience by then demonstrating how he used SUMO techniques to cope and grow from these setbacks.

He touched on some of his famous techniques like 'hippo time' which is when you need to give yourself time and space to work through feelings. He also explained the 'beach ball' analogy to describe how to see different perspectives and how it is important to see things from one another's point of view.

The feedback on the Zoom Chat was very positive and we will send out evaluation questionnaires to all that attended to see if we can work with the SUMO Guy again in the future. If you attended the session, please can you complete the survey by clicking on the link [here](#)

## HOT Virtual Conference on Resilience and Mental Health and Wellbeing

Our support to our Local Authorities and other public sector workers broadens next month as WME focused the selection of speakers at our June HOT Virtual Conference on resilience and mental health and wellbeing. We have 10 speakers in total covering topics including Resilience, Motivation, Equality insights and HR innovation. The flyer gives you a full timetable and details of all of the speakers. See the link [here](#)

The conference is taking place from 15th June – 19th June inclusively. Book yourselves on to sessions that suit your needs at your convenience. We look forward to (virtually) seeing you there.

## Schools Support

Following on from our first meeting last week we continue to work with our regional colleagues to ensure that any support needs are met. Liaising nationally on unanswered questions and forming more strategic links and partnerships in the region to strengthen the support. Please get in touch if you want any advice or support.

## WME here for you when you need us!

Do let us know if there is any specific support you need that we can help you with:

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Click here to read our latest wider WME Newsletter [The Pulse March 2020](#)

