

Welcome to the February 2023 update from the Diabetes UK North of England Team. We hope you are all well and that the information provided below is useful. Please do pass this update on to your networks and teams if you think it will be useful to them.

### **Our 2023 Diabetes is Serious Survey is still open – but only until 20 February!**

We've had an amazing response so far, but want to make sure that as many people living with diabetes as possible have the opportunity for their voice to be heard. We already know that when we come together, we can make a real difference. Thanks to thousands of people who shared their experiences last year, our Diabetes is Serious campaign had a huge impact in 2022. We were able to tell nearly every MP just how serious diabetes is and worked with many of them to submit letters and questions to the Government to make diabetes care a priority. Please help us by sharing information about our [Diabetes is Serious Campaign](#) and the survey link with your patients: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/8R1O64/> We've attached a poster with QR code to help.

### **Could you help out by volunteering at our Northern type 1 family weekender and summer camp?**

Do you want a fabulously rewarding volunteer experience and to make a real difference to the lives of children and their families living with type 1 diabetes? Our family events bring together families living with type 1 diabetes and the impact is lifechanging - 98% of families who completed their feedback form would recommend a Family Weekender to another Family. Our Sheffield type 1 Family Weekender will take place on Friday 26 – Sunday 28 May 2023, and we are currently looking for healthcare professionals (DSNs, PDSNs, Dietitians, Registrars, Consultants and Psychologists) with clinical experience of type 1 diabetes to help out. We are also working on a summer camp in North Yorkshire in July, so watch out for more information on that shortly. If you are interested or want more information please visit our [type1 events](#) webpage or contact [type1events@diabetes.org.uk](mailto:type1events@diabetes.org.uk)

### **Our upcoming Access to Tech campaign**

We want all people living with diabetes have an equal opportunity to access diabetes technology that could benefit them (Flash, CGM and insulin pumps) in line with national guidelines, regardless of postcode, ethnicity or economic status. In 2022, NICE published new guidelines which recommend extending access to Flash and CGM technologies for people living with diabetes – you can read more [here](#). One year on, we want to make sure these guidelines are met and people living with diabetes can access the diabetes tech they need. We've written to ICBs to find out

more about the policies they have in place and any barriers to implementing the guidelines. From this we will be creating an online visual to show the variation in policies across England and will be using a postcode search tool to enable people to easily find out more about the situation in their area and to take targeted actions depending on local access arrangements. We'll keep you up to date as things progress.

### **Diabetes UK Professional Conference 2023, 26 to 28 April 2023 @ Exhibition Centre Liverpool**

There's less than three months to go until our Diabetes UK Professional Conference gets underway! The DUKPC 2023 will be a fully face-to-face event to be held at the Exhibition Centre Liverpool. Delegates will be able to join in sessions and practical workshops with opportunities to network with peers and colleagues. Spaces are limited, so don't miss out, and don't forget that our early bird rates end on 24 February, so make sure you grab your place today! [www.diabetes.org.uk/diabetes-uk-professional-conference/conference-information](http://www.diabetes.org.uk/diabetes-uk-professional-conference/conference-information)

As always we'd love to hear from you with any feedback or where you think our support would be useful. Please do get in touch if we can help.