**Women’s Health Network Cancer Screening Awareness Event**

**Tuesday 19 November 2019 at Carlisle Business Centre**

**Event Summary**

This event aimed to raise awareness of the importance of cancer screening amongst seldom heard women in the Bradford area. National health figures have highlighted that Bradford has one of the lowest rates for cervical screening (outside of London).

A total of 47 women aged 24 to 67 from Pakistani and Bangladeshi backgrounds attended the event. Interpreters were present at each table for the women who could not speak English.

The event was opened by Professor Sean Duffy, Clinical Director and Alliance Lead with the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Cancer Alliance. This was the followed by short presentations and practical demonstrations where women could see photos and handle the new bowel cancer kits and feel lemons and other materials that resembled breasts. Signs and symptoms were covered in detail.

Sessions on booking appointments for screening were led by: Arshad Hussain, Screening and Immunisation Co-ordinator, (NE + Yorkshire), Public Health (cervical and bowel cancer screening); and Julie Hodgins, Health Promotion Specialist /Pennine Breast Imaging, Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (breast screening). 26 women spoke to screening providers to make appointments and are arranging visits to GP or mobile screening unit.

To end the session a WHN member shared her Breast Cancer Survivors Personal Journey.

More information about the Women's Health Network can be found [**here**](https://cnet.org.uk/projects/engaging-people).