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ELECTION RESULTS

The results of the elections to the first Stewardship Groups for the LINKs in Bournemouth, Dorset, Poole and Torbay are now in and are printed overleaf. There were ten places available on each Group and in each case just under that number of candidates were nominated for each Group. Some people asked why we bothered to run an election in those circumstances, when we could simply have declared everyone elected. The answer is that, at heart, LINKs are about people being given the opportunity to use their voice, to have their say. So we gave people the chance to actively vote for the candidates of their choice and to have their say. The election process was conducted with the assistance of the Bournemouth Council for Voluntary Service, who sent an observer to the count at Help and Care's offices in Bournemouth and have verified that the process was fair and open. Each ballot paper issued had been individually numbered, to guard against fraud. We did not keep a record of which ballot paper had been issued to which voter so, in effect, the vote was secret.

The vast majority of those voting chose not to vote for every single candidate, but chose to vote for some and not to vote for others. Some voted for only one candidate.

The results of the elections are printed overleaf and include the total number of ballot papers issued in each area, the number of people voting, the number of votes cast for each candidate and the percentage of voters voting who cast a vote for each candidate.

THE LINK STEWARDSHIP GROUPS

The function of the LINK Stewardship Group will be to steer the work of the LINK and to support and enable the groups and individuals to carry out the work of the LINK through:

- Ensuring key local stakeholders are represented and their views considered
- Allocating resources for the work of the LINK
- Communicating with the wider community
- Planning work and allocating resources to support that work
- Supporting groups to undertake work and take up issues as necessary
- Supporting groups to produce reports which commissioners and providers can use to improve services
- Approving reports produced by groups on behalf of the LINK

Members of the Group will be asked to sign up to the seven Nolan Principles of Public Life.

The following bodies will each be invited to send one representative as an observer/information representative (with no voting rights):

- Primary Care Trust
- Adult Social Care
- Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committees
- NHS Trusts

How to contact us

Email us:
contact@makesachange.org.uk

Call us on 0300 111 0102

Monday-Thursday 9-5

Friday 10-4.30

Write to us at:

Freepost Business Reply Service
Licence No. BH1902

LINKs
896 Christchurch Road
Bournemouth
BH7 6BR

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11 Castle Road
Torquay
TQ1 3BB

Tel: 01803 295277

Your local LINK Development Officers:

Bournemouth
Sarah Peters

Dorset
Annie Bray

Poole
Louise Bate

Torbay
Richard Martin



Torbay 187 ballot papers issued, 59 returned (32%)		
Candidate	No. of votes	%
Mary Ann Watson Harland	44	74.5
Peter Shipman	44	74.5
Michael Vango	40	67.7
Hazel Wood	34	57.6
Susan Pitcher	31	52.5
Muhammad Davis-Ali	29	49.1
Michael James	24	40.6
Donald Harkness	23	38.9
John Hart	21	35.5

Dorset 518 ballot papers issued, 87 returned (17%)		
Candidate	No. of votes	%
Davina Smith	69	79.3
Gavin Maxwell	62	71.2
Gabrielle Henstridge	62	71.2
Patricia Hedges	61	70.1
John Smith	58	66.6
Michel Hooper-Immins	56	64.3
Linley Venters	54	62
Paul Tomlinson	52	59.7

Bournemouth 131 ballot papers issued, 44 returned (34%)		
Candidate	No. of votes	%
John Major	37	84
Tammy Groves	34	77.2
Tina Thompson	33	75
Chika Norah Udezue	32	72.7
Jane Colleau	28	63.6
Ebi Sosseh	27	61.3
Diane Smelt	25	56.8
Sheena Randall	24	54.5
Jean Pearce	21	47.7

Poole 139 ballot papers issued, 43 returned (31%)		
Candidate	No. of votes cast	%
Sarah Harris	34	79
Paul Bishop	29	67.4
James Cook	29	67.4
Suzanne West	29	67.4
Lomond Handley	26	60.4
Barbara Plumbridge	26	60.4
Roger Wilson	26	60.4
Robert Moberly	25	58.1
Ben Hurley	18	41.8

Note: “%” means the percentage of people voting who voted for each candidate.

What happens next For the Stewardship Groups:

Each of the newly-elected members of the Stewardship Groups has been contacted and arrangements are being made for the first meetings of the Groups.

Over the past few months we have been gathering people's views as to what sort of training and support, if any, they feel they would like so that they can get the best out of LINKs. The top ten areas people have told us they would like help with are (in order of importance):



1. Working together
2. Understanding the system
3. Community engagement
4. Roles and responsibilities
5. Making decisions
6. Diversity and Equality
7. Code of Conduct
8. Being accountable
9. Communication skills
10. Computer skills

Over the next couple of months, Stewardship Group members will be beginning to get support in these areas, to enable them to fulfill their role.

What happens next For everyone who has an interest in LINKs:



One of the principal roles of the Stewardship Groups is to plan the work of the LINKs. They will want to do that based not on their own opinions but on evidence gathered through the wider LINK.

So, over the next couple of months, we want as many people (both individuals and organisations) to share what they believe are the most important health and social care issues for people in their areas, and how they think the LINKs might be able to help to make a change.

Tell us what you think about GP services, mental health services, hospitals, day care, residential homes, older people's services – and anything else about health and social care in your area.

You can contact your LINK and have your say by a number of routes. Easiest of all, if you have internet access, is through our LINKs website: www.makesachange.org.uk (see overleaf). But you can also contact us by post or by telephone (contact details are in this newsletter).



New LINKs Telephone number

No Hidden Charges

It is now even easier and cheaper to have your say about local health and social care services as the new 0300 111 0102 number is now live and ready for your LINKs calls. Unlike 08 numbers, the 03 numbers cost no more to dial than local or national numbers (01 and 02) and are included in all mobile phone bundle packages.

Group Discussion

Bournemouth

[Add new topic](#)

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Showing Results 1 to 5 of 6

Topic	Author	Replies	Views	Last post	Actions
Public Toilets <i>I am annoyed that public toilet are not open at night. Public toilets are now a limited service due to drug addicts misusing the service.</i>	Pooky	1	10	02/10/2008 10:20 by Carolina Moon	
Bournemouth Hospital <i>Do you think it is fair that the main Bournemouth Hospital car park charges for its use?</i>	Gary Seneviratne	2	28	01/10/2008 16:28 by Dick	
A LINK by any other name <i>Which idiot in Whitehall thought of calling it LINKs?</i>	Russell	3	23	01/10/2008 16:23 by Dick	
Boscombe Polyclinic <i>It's about time we got our priorities right!</i>	Russell	2	34	01/10/2008 16:22 by Dick	
Dentists	Gary Seneviratne	2	57	01/10/2008 16:09 by Pooky	

[1] 2 > Last

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Have your say...

Should GPs be open on evenings & weekend?

- Yes
 No
 Don't Care

[Submit](#)

Have your say...

If you need care and support, who should pay for it?

- You
 Your family
 The government using taxation

[Submit](#)

Community Groups

[Connect to your community and get your voice heard!](#)



From October 6th, you can register on the new LINKS website at www.makesachange.org.uk and use the new interactive tools:

- Find your local LINK
- Read the latest news from the LINK in your area
- Start or join in a discussion
- Write a blog and share your thoughts and experiences with others
- Start or join a group where people with similar interests can meet online
- Find details of local groups and organisations and post comments for them

Get online and have your say!