



Your voice on local health and social care

Your Voice on Local Health and Social Care

December 2008

Bournemouth, Poole, & Dorset Number 4



DECEMBER ISSUE



A Message from your LINKs Development Officers

As this year comes to an end, the LINKs Development Officers for Bournemouth, Poole and Dorset have spent a busy couple of months working with the newly elected Stewardship Groups for each area. The groups have been meeting for training sessions about their role and how they will plan for the future. They have been thinking about the roles and responsibilities of the Stewardship Groups and the LINKs, and about accountability. They have also been drafting some of the basic policies each LINK will need to help it to operate fairly and efficiently – e.g. how to make decisions about prioritising the use of the LINKs’ resources. In the New Year, these policies will be circulated to people who’ve expressed an interest in the LINK, to get feedback and to ensure that there is general agreement on them before they are formally adopted. This will help pave the way for the LINKs to start planning their activities for next year and decide how they will work on your behalf.

We have also been out and about in the community, attending many events to raise awareness of LINKs, to meet people and talk about how they might like to be involved. Our aim is to get as many people as possible from all walks of life registering their interest and getting involved with LINKs. If you know of or belong to a group who you think should know about how a LINK can help in the community give us a call and we will happily arrange to come and meet you.

With best wishes for the season.

Annie Bray,
(Dorset LINK)

Louise Bate,
(Poole LINK)

Sarah Peters
(Bournemouth LINK)

In This Issue

- Stewardship Group Update
- LINKs Needs YOU!
- Website Opinion Poll Results
- New Year New Launch
- Keep Well Keep Warm
- Email or Post?
- LINKs Telephone Number
- Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Email or Post?

Are you happy to receive your LINKs Newsletter by post or email? You can tell us which you prefer.

If you have access to a computer and would like to receive the newsletter by email please let us know. This will help to save paper and cut costs. All you have to do is email the word ‘eNews’ with your full name, contact email address and your local area (e.g. Bournemouth) to: contact@makesachange.org.uk

How to contact us

Email us:
contact@makesachange.org.uk

Call us on 0300 111 0102

Monday-Thursday 9-5

Friday 10-4.30

Website:
www.makesachange.org.uk

Write to us at:

Freepost Business Reply Service
Licence No. BH1902
LINKs
896 Christchurch Road
Bournemouth
BH7 6BR

Your local LINK

Development Officers:

Bournemouth
Sarah Peters

Dorset
Annie Bray

Poole
Louise Bate



LINKs Needs YOU!

Now that the LINK has been established in your area, we would like to get as many people as possible actively feeding back about local health and social care services. Your views and opinions are the key to making LINKs a success, so please get in touch.

We want to hear what experiences and views you have about things such as hospital visits, social services applications, GP appointment times, dental charges, easy access to information – and anything else about health and social care in your area.

You can Call Us, Email Us, Write to Us, or Get Online. Contact details are on the side of this newsletter

Right now there are online discussions about the following

topics: Hospital car parking; Boscombe Polyclinic in Bournemouth; GP practices; Public conveniences; Physiotherapy, Westminster Memorial Hospital in Dorset, and more. Please go online and have your say by joining in the discussions.

LINKs will not work without you!

www.makesachange.org.uk

NEW Launch New Year

The start of the new year will signal a new launch of the LINKs newsletter. We want to give a consistent and dedicated service, and will do this by producing a regular monthly newsletter that will keep you up-to-date with the work the Bournemouth, Poole and Dorset LINKs have been doing. There will also be bigger quarterly issues during the year, being published in March, June, September and December.

If you have any comments about the newsletter please get in touch. We value your feedback

LINKs Telephone Number

In September this year your LINK introduced a new 0300 telephone number. The 03 number is a great benefit that gives all users an increased confidence and reassurance. When you dial 0300 111 0102 it will cost no more to dial than 01 and 02 numbers, and is included as part of any inclusive call minutes from both landlines and mobiles.

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

LINKs are looking forward to a great new year in which we can make changes for the better. Thank you for your support and involvement this year.

www.makesachange.org.uk

