



Your voice on local health and social care

Your Voice on Local Health and Social Care

March 2009

Bracknell Forest, Slough, West Berkshire & Wokingham

Number 2



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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- Good or bad.

Election Results



The results of the elections to the first Steering Groups for the Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) in Bracknell Forest, Slough, Wokingham and West Berkshire are now in. The election (ballot count) for the Windsor, Ascot and Maidenhead Steering Group took place on 1st April 2009.

There were a number of places available on each Steering Group and in one area, West Berkshire, we received fewer nomination applications than places available on the Steering Group. Some people asked why we ran an election in those circumstances, when we could simply have declared everyone elected to the Steering Group. The answer is that, at heart, LINKs are about people being given the democratic opportunity to use their voice, to have their say. Therefore we gave the community the chance to actively vote for the candidates of their choice.

The election process was conducted at the Help and Care Berkshire LINKs office and was overseen and ratified by Mr John Ferguson, who is the Chief Executive Officer of the Wokingham Citizens Advice Bureau. John verified that the counting process that was undertaken was democratic and fair.

Each ballot paper had been individually numbered, to minimize the risk of fraud. No record was kept of which ballot paper had been issued to which voter so, in effect, the vote was anonymous.

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
- the percentage of voters voting

The LINKs Steering Group

The function of the LINKs Steering Groups will be to control the work of the LINKs 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

How to contact us

Email us:

contact@
makesachange.org.uk

Call us:

0300 111 0102
Monday-Thursday
9-5 pm
Friday 10-4.30pm

Write to us:

LINKs
Freepost Business
Reply Service No
RSAC-KULA-LBTX
LINKs Suite 3
First Floor
26-28 Market Place
Wokingham
Berkshire
RG40 1AP

- 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
- Submit reports, findings, and recommendations to both the PCT and the Local Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee, who are obliged to respond.

Bracknell Forest

Bracknell Forest's election (ballot count) took place on the 18th March 2009. There were 12 places available on the Steering Group, however due to a tie for the 12th place, 13 members were elected. The newly elected members made the decision that the composition of their Steering Group would be 13 elected members and not 12.

The newly elected Steering Groups members are;

160 Ballot papers issued, 103 returned

Candidate	Number of votes	%
Madeline Diver	57	9.2
Adrienne Jones	57	9.2
Mrs Isabel Mattick	57	9.2
Barbara Briggs	53	8.6
Nigel Brown	53	8.6
Paula-Elizabeth Pooler	50	8.1
Sheila Beaveridge	48	7.8
Linda Webdell	46	7.4
John Piasecki	44	7.1
David J Maxwell	42	6.8
Margaret Camp	40	6.5
Dean Brewer	36	5.8
Terry Pearce	36	5.8

We would like to apologise to the Bracknell Forest Transitional Coordinating Group for any misunderstanding regarding the nomination process for this period. We would like to clarify that the transitional Steering Group was appointed at a public meeting.

Slough

Slough's election (ballot count) took place on the 26th March 2009. The newly elected Steering Group members are;

218 Ballot papers issued, 30 returned

Candidate	Number of votes	%
Marcia Wright	21	8

Are you Interested in giving your view on a range of issues?

If you are then register today and you can choose to take part in surveys, online discussion groups, focus groups, meetings, enter and view health and social care premises etc.

You chose how you want to be involved

There are a number of ways in which you can register your interest:

BY mail using the freepost address

By telephone

0300 111 0102

Website

www.makesachange.org.uk



Eleanor Cryer	21	8
Margery Hitchman	20	7.6
Colin Pill	19	7.3
Karen Shukla	19	7.3
Josephine Hanney	18	6.9
Robin Bulbeck	17	6.5
Jacky Flynn	17	6.5
Jean Horwood	17	6.5
Zoe Krawczk	17	6.5
David Wood	17	6.5
Wayne Strutton	16	6.1
Mobashir Ahmad Tahir	15	5.7
Janice Haynes	14	5.3
Steph O'Connell	14	5.3

West Berkshire

West Berkshire's election (ballot count) took place on the 2nd March. The newly elected Steering Group members are;

196 Ballot papers issued, 42 returned

Candidate	Number of votes	%
Marika Sullivan	28	15
Tony Lloyd	27	14
Joanne Allen	25	13
David Johnston	24	13
Julie Evans	23	12
Alice Gostomski	22	11.5
Bryan Slade	22	12
Ruwan Uduwera - Perera	20	10

The West Berkshire Steering Group have democratically decided to co-opt Phil Homer on to the Group.

Wokingham

Wokingham's election (ballot count) took place on the 6th March. The newly elected Steering Group members are;

123 Ballot papers issued, 48 returned

Candidate	Number of votes	%
Jodie Newman	38	11.6
Jane Holmes	33	10.1
Tom Berman	28	8.6
Christine Holland	28	8.6
David Gaskin	27	8.3
Tony Lloyd	27	8.3
Zarron Phillips	27	8.3
Hugh Dempster	26	8
Pat Evans	26	8
Allan Johnson	23	7



Would you like someone to come and talk to your group about LINKs?

Is so contact your area's dedicated support officer, see last page for contact details

What happens next for the Steering Group:

Over the past months Help and Care have identified key areas of knowledge, (using guidance from the NHS Centre of Involvement) which will assist the newly elected Steering Group to perform their role for the community they serve efficiently.

These are;

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

Help and Care, as the host, will support the Steering Groups with specific training in these areas.

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

One of the principal roles of the Steering Groups is to plan the work of the LINKs. They need to do this based on the evidence gathered from the local community. 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.

You can contact your LINK and have your say by a number of routes. Easiest being if you have internet access, is through our website: www.makesachange.org.uk, by phone, **0300 111 0102**, or with the **have your say+** form at the end of the 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 packages.



Tell us what you would like YOUR LINK to undertake as part of an agreed work programme. The Steering Group need your support to make the LINK effective. Tell us your views, share your experience good or bad. Your LINK NEEDS YOU!

You can contact your LINK through the dedicated support officer

Bracknell Forest- Emma Croucher.
Emma.croucher@makesachange.org.uk

Slough- Carol Jackson-Doerge
Carol.jackson-doerge@makesachange.org.uk

Windsor, Ascot & Maidenhead. Kayleigh Argyle
Kayleigh.argyle@makesachange.org.uk

West Berkshire. Barbara Wade
Barbara.wade@makesachange.org.uk

Wokingham. Michelle Wooff
Michelle.wooff@makesachange.org.uk

Thank you...

The team at Help and Care would like to thank all those involved in the Transitional Steering Groups for their valuable time and effort in helping to establish the Local Involvement Networks across Berkshire. We look forward to your continued support and working along side you and the elected Steering Groups in the future to make LINKs in your area a success.

Have your say...

Your local LINK wants to hear what you think about your local health and social care services. good or bad . Please send you comments to the freepost address provided in the newsletter;

Comment:

.....

.....

Name:

Area (please circle) **Bracknell Forest** **Slough** **West Berkshire** **Wokingham**

Preferred method of contact: