

# A Guide to: The Windsor, Ascot & Maidenhead LINK Community Chest Fund

## A quick summary:

The purpose of the Windsor, Ascot & Maidenhead LINK is to ensure that local people's views are gathered on health and social care issues - ideas, suggestions for improvement, what works well and what doesn't - and to report that information back to the local NHS and the local authority, so that they take that information into account when making decisions and commissioning services.

The LINK has a fund of £2,000 that will be used to provide grants to local community groups and charities who wish to:

1. **Gather people's views about health services or social care services in Windsor, Ascot or Maidenhead; or**
2. **Improve access to existing services.**

## The Community Chest Fund:

The aim of this fund is to ensure that local people have their say and are able to determine how decisions are made to change existing health and social care services or to develop new ones.

To help this happen, voluntary and community groups are invited to put forward proposals for projects that gather information or improve services. Grants will be capped at £250 and suggestions that demonstrate the best value for money are more likely to be successful. This is a one-off amount of funding and allocations to groups will be on a once-only basis.

## What sort of projects will we fund?

We will consider funding for projects that meet the following criteria:

1. **Finding out people's views about existing services:**  
For example, you could interview young mums about access to Health Visitor clinics or breastfeeding clinics. Or you may be part of a group that already has views about what is working and what needs improving: you could therefore devise a formal questionnaire and write a report about your findings. Or perhaps you are a student and would like to film students talking about health issues that affect them, or how they feel about existing services or clinics.

## 2. Improving existing services:

For example, improving signage in your local hospital for people with a visual impairment. Or if you are part of a group, perhaps you need access to more accessible or suitable premises for meetings and would like to apply for hiring costs.

### Who can apply?

We will accept applications from community groups and charities who are interested in health care and social care. See The Small Print below for more information.

### How do I apply?

In order to apply, you need to complete an Application Form and send it to us before 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010. You will need to explain:

- what the idea/scheme is
- why it is needed
- who will benefit
- how it will be implemented
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### When is the closing date for applications?

Applications must be received by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2010. Successful applicants will be informed before the end of October 2010.

### What will the LINK do with the results of the projects?

The results of these projects will be sent to the commissioners of the services that the projects are about. The commissioners are the people who design and run the services themselves – such as the Primary Care Trusts, who are responsible for GP Surgeries and health centres, or Hospital Trusts that run hospitals. These commissioners have a legal obligation to give consideration to the public's feedback and ideas.

So your project could really change the way things work and help people access services that help them.

#### For further information contact:

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## The small print:

### Conditions of Grant and Agreement (in no particular order of importance)

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