

The White Paper Consultation: Liberating the NHS

The Health White Paper, '*Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS*' was published on 12th July and sets out the Government's vision for the NHS. The proposals represent some of the biggest changes to the NHS in the last 60 years and provide both opportunities and challenges for the voluntary and community sector.

There are 3 consultation papers stemming from the White Paper that you have the opportunity to respond to;

[Transparency in outcomes; a framework for the NHS](#)

Seeks views on the creation of national outcomes which will provide an indication of the overall performance of the NHS. This is relevant to patients and communities as it will be against this framework that the government will hold the NHS to account.

Key themes;

- Preventing people from dying prematurely
- Enhancing quality of life for people with long term conditions
- Ensuring people have a positive experience of care

[Liberating the NHS; Commissioning for patients](#)

Primary Care Trusts are being abolished. Commissioning of health will be co-ordinated and conducted locally by consortia of GP and Local Authorities.

Key Themes;

- GP consortia will have freedom over budgets in order to buy services on behalf of patients
- GPs will have a duty to involve patients and public
- Every GP practice will be a member of a consortium

[Liberating the NHS; local democratic legitimacy in health](#)

It is the government's view that patients should have a voice which is heard and listened to by the new consumer champion HealthWatch

Key themes;

- Your LINK will become HealthWatch which will promote patients and public involvement and seek views on health and social care
- NHS complaints advocacy service
- Supporting individuals to exercise choice
- Promote joint working

The LINK are happy to collate your views and opinions and respond on your behalf. Let us know what you think about the proposals to reform the NHS by;

Email: Nicola.Strudley@makesachange.org.uk

Phone: 0118 936 0090

We are also on Facebook and Twitter.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BerkshireLINK

Twitter: www.twitter.com/BerkshireLINKs

RAISE, in partnership with Regional Voices and the Department of Health, will be holding a consultation event to discuss the implications and impact of the changes proposed in the Health White Paper, and to gather views from the sector. There is a capacity for 100 delegates so there are plenty of places.

Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS What will it mean for the voluntary and community sector?

Wednesday 8th September 2010

10.30am – 3.30pm

Venue: Ashburton Hall, Elizabeth II Court, Winchester SO23 8UQ

If you are interested in going along to this event, then please contact Abigail Lee, Senior Policy Officer, RAISE, Bridge House, 1 Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 4UA

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