



Your voice on local health and social care

bulletin

Wokingham LINK

September 2009

If this information is needed in a different format please contact us on 0300 1110102 (local rate call)

We would like to know whether people are reading our e.bulletin's and whether they are of interest and would really appreciate it if you could send us a return email just to let us know. Please also feel free to send us comments on the content.

Thank you.

The LINK Steering group said more time is needed for meaningful consultation

After receiving some papers for consultation from the PCT's Medicine Management team with only one week to comment the LINK Steering group voiced that this was too short a notice to provide any worthwhile community involvement. The Patient and Public Engagement team have addressed this on our behalf and it has been agreed that in future they will give more notice and provide clear information on what it is about.

NHS Berkshire West Transforming Community Services strategy

The PCT are holding a meeting to gather initial views on the Transforming Community Services strategies, there will be opportunities for further involvement in the future.

The meeting is to be held on 7 October from 3-5pm. If you would like to attend please contact Cath Price or Ravinder Dhesi on 01189 822 962

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Don't let a mental health condition rule your life

NHS Berkshire West and Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust are running an Expert Patient Programme which is specifically for adults whose life has been affected by living with a mental health condition. "Learn new skills, meet new people and increase your confidence. Don't let a mental health condition rule your life. This group approach is friendly, informal and motivating." The course starts on 20th October and is one afternoon a week for seven consecutive weeks. There is also a taster session on 6th October for participants to find out more and meet other participants.

The course is free and self referral but places are limited. To find out more or to book a place please contact Jo Gilbert on 01344 415 840 or email

Joanna.gilbert@berkshire.nhs.uk

SpeakOut!

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) is the independent regulator of health and social care in England. It aims to make sure that better care is provided for everyone, whether that's in hospital, in care homes, in people's own homes, or elsewhere. It regulates health and adult social care services, whether provided by the NHS, local authorities, private companies or voluntary organisations. It also protects the rights of people detained under the Mental Health Act.

The CQC are seeking to expand the Network and are inviting new groups to join. If you are interested in finding out more about SpeakOut and applying to become a member contact Khalil Patel Tel: 01772 892780 (email kapatel@uclan.ac.uk).

Closing date is 29th September 2009.



NHS Choices web-based scorecard - launched 11th August

The scorecard, which works in a similar way to internet comparison websites, means patients will no longer have to search multiple sources to find key information about where to receive treatment. Instead, for the first time, patients will be able to compare later this year, a similar service is being launched to allow patients to rate and compare GP Practices.

Find out more about Berkshire LINKs

If you would like a representative from Wokingham LINK to come along to one of your group meetings or events or you would like to find out more, please do contact us:

Michelle Wooff, Wokingham Development Officer, michelle.wooff@makesachange.org.uk

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