

# **Bristol Local Involvement Network (LINK)**

## **Your Voice in Health and Social Care!**

### **E-Bulletin**

**July 2010**

Dear LINK participant

Welcome to Bristol LINK's e-bulletin. This includes an update of the work of Bristol LINK and local, regional and national information about the planning, commissioning and delivery of health and social care services.

If you have received this email from someone else and you would like to be on the e-bulletin mailing list, or if you would like to be taken off this email list, please email Alex Hodgson at: [alex.hodgson@linkbristol.org.uk](mailto:alex.hodgson@linkbristol.org.uk)

Please let us know if you would like this bulletin in hard copy, a community language, on audiotape, in PDF or in any other format.

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## **Bristol LINK News and Events**

### **Bristol LINK Open Meeting a Success!**

The Bristol and South Gloucestershire Joint LINK Celebration Event took place on June 10<sup>th</sup> and was a great success. Over 80 people came to find out more about their health and wellbeing and to have their say, and Bristol LINK was particularly pleased to welcome some new faces.

A big thank you to everyone who came along on the day or contributed to the event; speakers, stall holders, workshop leaders and panel members for their time and input.

### **Bristol LINK Enter and View Report**

On March 16<sup>th</sup> Bristol LINK carried out its first Enter and View visit to Callington Road hospital. Two participants visited the hospital run by Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust to check that the food provided to patients was culturally appropriate.

The report into the visit will be available to download on the Bristol LINK website from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July. If you would like a hard copy of the report please contact Bristol LINK Communications Officer, Katie Bunting on 0117 958 9341 or [katiebunting@linkbristol.org.uk](mailto:katiebunting@linkbristol.org.uk).

### **Where next for Health Inequalities in Bristol?**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July 9am – 1pm, The Council House, College Green, Bristol. BS1 5TR.

The Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board is hosting a half day conference on health inequalities. The conference will bring together a wide

range of agencies to discuss health inequalities in Bristol and what needs to happen next.

Speakers will include Mike Grady, from the national Strategic Review of Health Inequalities ('Marmot Review') team, and there will be a choice of market place sessions for participants to choose from.

Health Inequalities is one of Bristol Partnership's headline priorities and they're looking forward to wide participation in this event.

Lunch and networking opportunities will be available from 1-2pm.

Bristol LINK have been allocated three places on this event which will be on a first come first served basis. To register your interest please contact Kerri Mann on 0117 958 9306 or [kerrimann@linkbristol.org.uk](mailto:kerrimann@linkbristol.org.uk).

### **The role of the commissioner**

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 10am – 12.30 midday, Malcolm X Centre, 141 City Road, Bristol. BS2 8YH.

Babs Williams Head of Service Design, NHS Bristol, will be coming to speak to Bristol LINK participants about the role of the commissioner, and the challenges that face commissioners, including some case studies. More information about this event will follow.

### **Urgent Care Joint Event**

There will be a joint Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee and Bristol LINK event in the autumn looking at Urgent Care.

The term 'urgent care' covers a very broad range of NHS services and can mean different things to patients, professionals and commissioners. At this event a definition or glossary will be determined so that there is a better understanding of the term.

Other areas that are to be covered include:

- Improved alternatives to admissions
- Urgent Care Centres
- Working with the Ambulance Trust
- Working with GPs
- Accessibility for BME patients
- End of Life Care
- Managing people with drugs and alcohol problems

If you would like to be involved in the planning of this event there will be a meeting on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July 10am – 12 midday at the Black Development Agency, Russell Town Avenue, Bristol. BS5 9LT.

Please contact Bristol LINK Community Development Worker, Caroline McAleese for more information on 0117 958 9325 or [carolinemcaleese@linkbristol.org.uk](mailto:carolinemcaleese@linkbristol.org.uk).

### **Disability Equality Training**

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September 9.30am – 3.30pm, The Vassall Centre, Gill Avenue, Fishponds, Bristol. BS16 2QQ.

Following the success of the Disability Equality Training facilitated by Mark Williams in March, Mark has agreed to facilitate another session in September.

The training will include:

- Definitions of Disability
- Language
- Barriers
- Action plan for the future

To book a place on this training please contact Alex Hodgson on 0117 958 9325 or [alexhodgson@linkbristol.org.uk](mailto:alexhodgson@linkbristol.org.uk).

### **Working Group Meeting Dates**

Bristol LINK has a number of active working groups looking at different parts of health and social care. We welcome new people and new ideas at these meetings so please let us know if you would like to join any of these groups.

If you can't make the dates or times below the groups can be flexible about their future meeting times and venues.

Current work plans, and the latest minutes, for these groups can be found on our website: [www.linkbristol.org.uk](http://www.linkbristol.org.uk).

### **Acute Hospital Trusts: Has a say in the services provided by University Hospitals Bristol and North Bristol Trust.**

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 10am – 12pm, Room 4, The Vassall Centre, Gill Avenue, Fishponds, Bristol BS16 2QQ.

### **Communications Publicity Involvement and Engagement: Decides on publicity material for Bristol LINK like the website, newsletter and logo.**

Wednesday 21st July 2pm – 4pm, Malcolm X Centre, 141 City Road, Bristol. BS2 8YH.

**Equalities Group: Looks at the difficulties faced by minority ethnic groups in accessing services.**

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> August from 10am – 12pm, venue to be confirmed.

**Governance: Makes key policies for Bristol LINK and makes sure it is keeping to its monitoring targets.**

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> July 10.00am - 12.00pm, The Vassall Centre, Gill Avenue, Fishponds, Bristol. BS16 2QQ.

**Learning Difficulties Group: Looks at the difficulties faced by people with learning difficulties when accessing services.**

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 10am – 2.30pm, The Southville Centre, Beaufort Road, Bristol. BS3 1QG.

**Management Group: Made up of the Chairs from each working group. Public are invited to attend and there is an allocated slot at the beginning of the meeting where you can have your say about Bristol LINK.**

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> July 10am -12.30pm, The Vassall Centre, Gill Avenue, Fishponds, Bristol. BS16 2QQ.

**Mental Health: Open to anyone who wants to have a say in mental health services.**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July 6 – 8pm, venue to be confirmed.

**New! Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME/CFS) Working Group**

Date and venue to be confirmed.

**Older People's Services: Open to anyone who wants to have a say in older people's health and social care services.**

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July, 10.30 – 12.30, Room 6, The Vassall Centre, Gill Avenue, Fishponds, Bristol. BS16 2QQ.

**Primary Care and Community Health Services: Has a say in local services like Doctors' surgeries, pharmacies and family planning.**

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2 – 4pm, The Vassall Centre, Gill Avenue, Fishponds, Bristol. BS16 2QQ.

**Self Directed Support Group: Looks at the development of direct payments, personal budgets and the individual budgets pilot for disabled people.**

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2 - 4pm, The Vassall Centre, Gill Avenue, Fishponds, Bristol. BS16 2QQ.

**South Bristol Community Hospital: Has a say about the South Bristol Community Hospital.**

Tuesday 10th August 2pm—4pm, The Withywood Centre, Queens Road, Withywood, Bristol BS13 8QA.

**New! Urgent Care Task and Finish Group**

This group will work with Health & Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee to arrange an event in September. There will be just one planning meeting:

Monday 12th July 10am – 12pm, Black Development Agency, Russell Town Avenue, Bristol. BS5 9LT.

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## **Local Health and Social Care News and Events**

**Have your say on Bristol's budget!**

People living in Bristol are being asked their opinions on how the city council should manage its budget.

The city is facing big challenges on the future of public services and the council want to make sure that they listen to what the public thinks.

Ideas can be posted on the council's budget blog or through suggestion boxes in public buildings.

In particular the council want to know:

- How the public sector can achieve better value for money through efficiencies or more joint working
- Areas of work that while important, could better (and more efficiently) be delivered by people other than the existing public sector agencies
- Any public services that in tough financial times could usefully be cut back or stopped altogether

Later in the year the council will publish detailed proposals on its budget plans for next year which will incorporate many of the ideas contributed by the public.

### **Nilaari Agency carries out research into Dual Diagnosis**

Nilaari Agency provides support for BME people who are involved in or at risk of substance misuse. Nilaari has been commissioned to carry out a piece of work to look at the experiences of BME people with dual diagnosis. This means they have problems with drugs and / or alcohol alongside mental health issues.

Research continues to highlight the over representation of BME people who are sectioned, detained and spend a long time in psychiatric hospitals. A high percentage of these individuals will have dual diagnosis.

Nilaari are keen to work with LINK participants and voluntary services on this project. They will also be talking to service users and their carers that are not yet involved in the LINK.

If you have experience of dual diagnosis either as a carer or a service user, please contact Nilaari so that they can hear your story on 0117 952 5742 or free from a landline on 0800 028 0985 or email [tish.bell@nilaari.co.uk](mailto:tish.bell@nilaari.co.uk).

### **Independent lay member needed for Pathology Review Project Board**

Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) are looking for an independent lay member to serve, in a voluntary capacity, on the Pathology Review Project Board.

The role will be to ensure that the review is open and transparent, and that the needs of patients and local people – for safe, high quality pathology services – are considered during the review. In addition the member will act as the link between the Project Board, and the Review's Lay Reference Group.

The role of the lay member will be complex and demanding. The successful will need to be:

- Independent,
- Objective
- non-partisan
- Skilled and experienced to participate on an equal basis in Project Board meetings with senior NHS managerial and clinical staff
- Able to attend Lay Reference Group meetings and feedback to the Board, as well as attending local authority health scrutiny committees

to comment on how effective the review has been in responding to the interests of patients and local people

This is a time limited commitment of approximately six months, of between six and ten hours per month. In return for your commitment you will be provided with a modest attendance allowance for meetings and all out of pocket expenses.

The closing date for applications is on the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2010. For more information about the role please contact either Elizabeth Williams on 0117 900 2480, [Elizabeth.Williams@bristol.nhs.uk](mailto:Elizabeth.Williams@bristol.nhs.uk) or Tony Jones on 0117 900 2358, [Tony.Jones@bristol.nhs.uk](mailto:Tony.Jones@bristol.nhs.uk).

### **Travel Safe Havens for people with learning difficulties**

A Safe Haven is a place for adults with a learning difficulty who travel independently to go to if something goes wrong with their travel.

The Safe Havens have been set up by South Gloucestershire Travel Training and Buddy Scheme in partnership with Avon and Somerset Police. There are 57 Safe Havens across South Glos. Bristol and Bath.

A Safe Haven is a place where someone will find support and assistance. A place where they will be:

- Listened to
- Reassured
- Enabled to contact someone or supported to contact someone ( this may include one of the emergency services of a PCSO)
- Offered time (maybe to sit down, need a hot or cold drink, just to talk for a while, to be calm, or be quiet)
- Offered a safe place to stay while they wait for someone to arrive who can support them further
- Helped to complete and information form for auditing purposes.

### **Parents urged to talk to their teenager about sex this summer!**

Summer is the time for holiday romances – and the ideal opportunity for parents to talk to their children about sex and relationships.

Throughout July, the Bristol Teenage Pregnancy Partnership is promoting its 4YP resources for parents to help them talk to their children about growing up, puberty, sex and relationships.

There will be posters in Cabot Circus and The Mall, and a series of ads on local radio.

Tips for parents on talking to their children about sex and relationships are available on the 4YP website at [www.4ypbristol.co.uk/for-parents](http://www.4ypbristol.co.uk/for-parents).

Courses for parents are also available across the city to help parents talk to their children about growing up, relationships and puberty. To find out more visit [www.4ypbristol.co.uk/for-parents](http://www.4ypbristol.co.uk/for-parents).

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## **Regional Health and Social Care News and Events**

### **‘Living Together’ – Debating Race Equality in the South West**

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> July 7pm – 9pm, Circomedia, Portland Square, Bristol.

The Runnymede Trust, in association with BSWN is delighted to invite you to attend a ‘Question Time’ style debate with local politicians and race equality experts.

The event will provide an opportunity to quiz MPs and councillors from all the major parties. It is hoped to be a lively and honest debate.

The debate is being held to mark Runnymede’s involvement in the re-launch of the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Race and Community. This will help parliamentarians across all parties to work together to raise the profile of race equality issues in parliament, as well as work towards ways to bring about a more equal and cohesive society.

Places are limited so please RSVP early by clicking on the following link:

<http://www.bswn.org.uk/training/living-together-debating-race-equality-in-the-south-west>.

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## **National Health and Social Care News and Events**

### **Have your say about revalidation of pharmacists**

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain is developing proposals for revalidating pharmacists and pharmacy technicians. Revalidation will affect you, whether you are a member of the public, a pharmacy user, an employer of pharmacists or a pharmacist or pharmacy technician.

Revalidation is a process to check periodically that a registered pharmacist or pharmacy technician remains up-to-date and continues to be competent and fit to practise.

Prime Research and Development Ltd. has been commissioned to appraise several different approaches to revalidation. This survey is one of several strands of work through which they are exploring the merits of

different approaches to revalidation and the practicalities of implementing them.

Your responses will remain confidential and be available to the project team only. The deadline for comments is Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July.

To have your say log on to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/QS9YBK3>.

### **Have you got a story about living alongside dementia?**

My Home Life and For Dementia are teaming up to make a film for the Department of Health this summer.

The aim of the film is to help people live alongside dementia in care homes. Currently in the development stage, they are seeking stories to use in the project.

They want to show that relationships are the key to successful dementia care and would like to hear from you if you have an example of where friendship and understanding has led to positive outcomes for both the resident with dementia and the individual who has made that relationship. They are particularly keen to find stories about two residents that have become friends, even though one had dementia, where the relationship had gone past a simple acquaintance, but instead a lasting bond has been formed.

If you have any stories or examples that you'd be keen to share please email [My\\_Home\\_Life@mail.vresp.com](mailto:My_Home_Life@mail.vresp.com)

### **Have your say on disability related harassment in Britain**

The Equality and Human Rights Commission is investigating whether public bodies and public transport providers are fulfilling their legal obligations to prevent disabled people from being harassed.

The Inquiry is examining how victims of disability-related harassment, which includes name-calling, intimidation, bullying or violence, have been supported by public bodies and public transport providers.

Members of the public are being asked if they sought help from any public body or transport provider and what support they got, either as a result of being harassed because of their disability or because of their connection to someone who is disabled.

At the end of the Inquiry companies found not to be doing enough to tackle the problem could face legal action.

To have your say, or find out more log on to:

[www.equalityhumanrights.com/disabilityharassmentfi](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/disabilityharassmentfi) or contact [disabilityharassmentfi@equalityhumanrights.com](mailto:disabilityharassmentfi@equalityhumanrights.com) or 08456 046 610 / 08456

046 620 (textphone). The closing date for submissions is Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September.

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## **Department of Health Consultations**

**To have your say in any of the Department of Health consultations log onto**

**[www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/index.htm](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/index.htm)**

### **The Health Care Workers (Duty of Co-operation Regulations 2010)**

Closing date 9<sup>th</sup> July 2010

This consultation looks at draft regulations which will impose duties on designated bodies, including employers and contractors of health care workers, in all sectors, and regulatory bodies, relating to sharing information about the conduct or performance of health care workers to protect patient safety. The regulations require appropriate safeguards in place when relevant information is shared.

The consultation follows the publication of the Tackling Concerns Locally Information Management Subgroup Report which was published in March 2009. The proposed regulations have been developed following the recommendations and conclusion of the stakeholder subgroup.

### **The Health and Social Care Act 2008: Code of Practice for healthcare, including primary care, and adult social care on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance**

Closing date: 15<sup>th</sup> July 2010

The Code of Practice and supporting guidance will help providers of healthcare, including primary care, and adult social care, to plan and implement how they prevent and control healthcare associated infections. It sets out criteria that the Care Quality Commission will use to assess compliance with the registration requirement.

This consultation draft of the Code of Practice and related guidance does not introduce anything new for those registered providers covered in the Code of Practice for health and adult social care on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance which was published on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2009. This consultation draft only reflects the inclusion of

primary care and independent ambulance services into the Care Quality Commission registration process.

## **Manual for Cancer Services 2009: Network Partnership Group measures**

Closing date: 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2010

A draft version of the Network Partnership Group measures and a supporting document have been issued for a three month consultation.

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Do you have any comments about how health and social care services could be improved locally? Email us to let us know your ideas!

What do you think of our e-bulletin? Let us know by contacting Bristol LINK Communications Officer [katiebunting@linkbristol.org.uk](mailto:katiebunting@linkbristol.org.uk).

Please remember to forward this on to anyone who you think would like to receive this email.