

# LINK News 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011



Welcome to the LINK Southwark news where you will find out about the happenings in the field of Health and Social Care and get up-to-date on the events of your local involvement network LINK Southwark.

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## Local News

### **1. Lambeth Council Launches Care Support Services Website**

Lambeth Council has launched a new website to help people search for care and support services. The ‘Your Care, Your Way’ site is intended to be a comprehensive directory of all services offered by community groups, voluntary groups and social care providers across Lambeth. The website will also users to access information about organisations that offer health and well being services, carers support, advice on getting personal support and more. It will be especially beneficial for users who receive a personal budget, as they will be able to find and choose providers for their services.

Visit the site at [www.yourcareyourway.lambeth.gov.uk](http://www.yourcareyourway.lambeth.gov.uk)

(Note that Southwark Council will launch a similar website directory currently planned for late October)

## **2. Provider Details for Southwark Care Website**

Southwark Council are calling for all local Providers who provide a service of a health or social care nature to register their details with them, in time for the launch of their Social Care Website in late October.

The Directory is currently known as the 'Universal Information & Advice System' and will contact all details of on what type of services are offered within this service.

Providers are encouraged to fill in a tick-box form by contacting:

## **3. Innovation Fund Application – Adult Social Care 'Open Access Services'**

One of the agreed Council decisions on re-arranging Older People Day Care Services in Southwark included setting up an Innovation Fund, to take into account the councils cut in contribution towards lunch clubs.

The Innovation Fund is for voluntary and community sector organisations to bid for funding to help develop a financially self-sustaining business model, to support older people and disabled people to regain and maintain their independence. This is a one-off grant, with the total Innovation Fund worth £200,000.

Bids for the grant(s) will be considered against a specified criterion. The amount of grant you are requesting will need to have enough detail for the amount you are asking. Multiple and partnership bids are accepted.

To be eligible for funding, your organisation needs to be a third sector organisation, with extensive experience of delivering public sector services on behalf of Southwark Council, and are based in and delivering the majority of your services in Southwark.

Your application will need to be received by the Council by **5pm on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September.**

For a copy of the guidance and application form, please contact Taylor Jakks on [taylor.jakks@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:taylor.jakks@southwark.gov.uk) or call 020 7525 0374.

## **National News**

### **4. Health & Social Care Bill Update**

Where is the Bill at now?

The Bill is due to have its Report Stage and Third Reading on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> September 2011. The Report Stage means that the whole House of Commons will debate the tabled amendments (proposals for change) to the Bill which has been previously examined by the committee. All MPs may speak or vote and all can suggest amendments to the Bill or new clauses (parts).

The Third Reading, currently set at 7<sup>th</sup> September, will only debate what is in the Bill and no further amendments can be proposed. Once the debate is over, the Commons will vote whether to approve and send it to the House of Lords to repeat the process.

### Current Debate

Dr Meldrum, Chair of BMA, a trade union representing many British medical professions, has recently sent a letter to all MPs claiming the plans outlined in the Health & Social Care Bill is an “unacceptably high risk to the NHS, threatening the its ability to operate effectively and equitably, now and in the future’. In his letter, he notes that he still believes the bill should be withdrawn or, at the very least, be subject to further substantial amendments despite the government’s efforts to address some of the concerns through the NHS Future Forum earlier this year.

The BMA are particularly concerned about:

- The removal of the cap on how much income foundation trusts can generate from private patients, which the BMA says could lead to reduced access for NHS patients as trusts seek to increase their income by focusing more on private care
- The proposed ‘quality premium’ for commissioners — which the BMA insists must be judged against well-defined quality measures not financial performance — must remain separate from GP practice income and only be used to improve patient care
- Forcing all NHS trusts to become foundation trusts, with the financial stringency this requires, which the BMA believes could compromise patient safety and quality of care
- The lack of satisfactory assurance that the health secretary will have ultimate responsibility for the provision of a comprehensive health service while also allowing other bodies, such as the new NHS Board and clinical commissioning groups, day-to-day operational independence.

Source (BMA Press Release 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2011)

<http://web2.bma.org.uk/nrezine.nsf/wd/CPAN-8LBDYH?OpenDocument&C=3+September+2011>

Some Liberal Democrat MPs, are also uncertain about whether the changes made to the Bill are substantial enough following the ‘listening exercise’. Some are arguing that the new version has introduced too many layers of bureaucracy while others note that there is still too much emphasis on

competition. However Norman Lamb, previous Liberal Democrats Health Spokesman has urged MPs to support the legislation, so as to give some certainty to the NHS so that it can achieve the efficiency savings that are so important. He believes the bill supports a more evolutionary approach to clinically commissioning with better accountability in the governance arrangements for the groups.

## **5. Blue September - International Men and Cancer Campaign**

Blue September, the international men and cancer campaign, launches in England and Wales tomorrow. The Men's Health Forum is the UK charity partner.

This is the first awareness-raising campaign to focus on all the cancers that can affect men. It's vital because men are 40% more likely to die of cancer than women.

For more information go to [www.blueseptember.org.uk](http://www.blueseptember.org.uk)

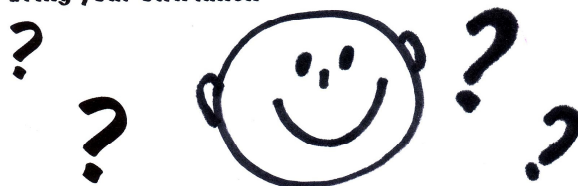
Voluntary Sector Partnerships Team  
Department of Health

6. Surrey Docks Farm – Personal Budgets training Day.

## Personal Budgets

a Training Day at  
Surrey Docks Farm

on Tuesday 6th September 2011  
at 10.00- 15.00 hrs  
bring your own lunch



**What are they?**

**What can I do with one?**

Ring Cath or James to book a place:

**0207 231 1010**

The day will be run by Denise from

**VoiceAbility**  
Formerly Advocacy Partners Speaking Up



7. Worlds Biggest Coffee Morning –  
MacMillan Cancer Support and Kings College Hospital FT.

Macmillan 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning', a joint event between MacMillan Cancer Support and Kings College Hospital NHS FT. The Coffee morning is an annual event that gives patients, staff and the local community a chance to raise money for Macmillan, promote the service Macmillan provides for cancer patients and for people to take a break, have a cup of coffee and a slice of cake.

Event will be held on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September from 10.30am – 3.0pm** in the Macmillan Information and Support Centre at King's. The main presentation will take place at 1.0pm when I and others will say a few words.

I would be delighted if you could join us for this special occasion to raise awareness about a disease that touches so many lives. Please confirm your attendance by calling Demetris Petrou on 020 3299 3257 or e,ao; [d.petrou@nhs.net](mailto:d.petrou@nhs.net).

Tim Smart (Chief Executive, Kings College Hospital NHS FT)

## **8. NALM Conference – 30<sup>th</sup> September**

National Association of LINK Members (NALM) is having their AGM and NALM conference on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011, from 11am – 4.30pm.**

The event will be focused on creating HealthWatch with the agenda to include:

- development of HealthWatch England and Local HealthWatch
- Key national and local speakers including Cynthia Bower (CQC Chief Executive), DoH, Monitor and many others
- Workshops on corporate bodies, advocacy, PALS, Indemnity
- Determining NALM Policy 2011-12 and AGM
- 200 LINK members to attend
- NALM Members: £10 to cover administration, food and refreshments, Charge to Non-NALM members - £30.00

**Venue:** National Union of Teachers, Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London, WC1H BSL. (signers are available on request)

To attend, please provide your full contact details, address, email, number, name of LINK and your registration fee to:

*The National Association of LINK Members:  
Malcolm Alexander, 30 Portland Rise, N4 2PP - or emailed to  
[NALMconf2011@aol.com](mailto:NALMconf2011@aol.com)*

*All LINKs members welcome but priority will be given to NALM members*

## **9. Guys & St. Thomas Foundation Trust – Annual Public Meeting – 8<sup>th</sup> September**

Find out more about our work and future plans.

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September,**

Coffee from 5.45pm, meeting begins at 6.15pm, - 7.45pm

**Venue:** Lecture Theatre One, New Hunts House, Guys Campus, London SE1 1UL.

Presentations include:

- Review of the last year and future plans (Ron Kerr, Chief Executive),
- Building the Cancer Day Unit – the patient experience,

- Understanding your family history (Professor Frances Flinter, Consultant Clinical Geneticist)

There will be an opportunity to meet senior managers and ask questions. For more information visit [www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk](http://www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk), call 020 7188 5577.

## Consultations

**Below are the current consultations that are taking place at the moment.**

We always appreciate feedback and comments regarding any of these consultations; please do let us know either by calling us on 020 7358 7005 or emailing [link@ch1889.org](mailto:link@ch1889.org). To request a copy of the consultation documents, please let us know.

Dependent on the future of LINK Southwark, we intend to hold public meetings to gather the views of all residents on some of the issues below. We will notify all members and residents when this is confirmed.

### **a) Health & Well Being Board Consultation**

**Deadline – 30<sup>th</sup> September**

The Health & Well Being Board (or sometimes known as partnership) is looking to establish the right Health & Well-Being priorities for Southwark. The cabinet member for Health & Adult Social Care, Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle, is asking residents, local community groups and stakeholders what you think the priorities of the Board should be.

Health and well-being is complex and challenging. It refers to both the physical environment and how well you/individuals feel. The Council are calling for initial thoughts on how they and you, local residents might tackle the common health and well being challenges in the borough. Responses do not need to be detailed at this stage.

Please send your responses to Jayesh Patel on 020 7525 3805 or email [jayesh.patel@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:jayesh.patel@southwark.gov.uk). Alternatively, if you would like to feed into LINK Southwark's group response, please email us on [link@ch1889.org](mailto:link@ch1889.org) or call 020 7358 7005.

### **b) CQC Consultation on proposed changes to regulations for Care Quality Commission Registration – 7<sup>th</sup> October**

The CQC have published a set of 19 proposals which they are consulting on. These cover three broad headings:

- Changes to the extent of regulation
- Technical amendments to the regulations
- Minor clarifications to the regulations

Subject to the response to this consultation, we are aiming (subject to Parliamentary approval) to make the regulations in early 2012 and for them to come into force during the course of 2012/13.

This document is published alongside a consultation Impact Assessment that considers the costs and benefits of the options, and an Assessment of the Impact on Equality.

LINK have initially review the consultation odocuement and have identified a few areas that could allow for more close examination. If you are interested in this, please contact us.

Deadline for responses is **7<sup>th</sup> October**. The consultation can be accessed below.

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod\\_consum\\_dh/groups/dh\\_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh\\_128602.pdf](http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/documents/digitalasset/dh_128602.pdf)

### **c) Funding Allocations for LHW, Advocacy/IMCA and PALS** **Deadline - 24<sup>th</sup> October**

The Department of Health is asking for views from all stakeholders, including LINKs, on options for distributing the additional funding to local authorities for local HealthWatch, NHS Complaints Advocacy which is moving from the Department of Health, and PCT Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS) which is moving from the NHS.

Subject to the passage of the Health & Social Care Bill, the DoH will need to allocate funding for four duties which will pass from the NHS and DoH to local authorities. The timetable is as follows:

<b>Funding</b>	<b>Transfer to Local Authorities</b>
Local HealthWatch signposting element from PCT PALS	From October 2012
NHS Complaints Advocacy	From April 2013
PCT Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards	Potentially, from October 2012
Independent Mental Health Advocates	April 2013

The Consultation is asking for views on allocation options for the first three of these duties.

We will be formulating a group response from LINK members. to contribute, please email or telephone your comments with reference to the specific questions. The official deadline for comments is **24<sup>th</sup> October by 5pm**. If you would like your comment to feed into ours, please send or call us with your comments by **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October**.

To access a copy of the consultation,

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH\\_128429](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_128429)

#### d) NHS Future Forum – (18<sup>th</sup> August)

NHS Future Forum has been asked to consult patients service users and professionals on four main areas:

- the use of information to improve health,
- the development of health care education and training,
- ensuring that the reform plans lead to better integrated care;
- and ensuring public health remains at the heart of the NHS.#

Deadline for comments on education and training, information and the NHS role in the public health (**18<sup>th</sup> October**),  
Comments on Integrated services by **18<sup>th</sup> November**.

To access the consultation: <http://healthandcare.dh.gov.uk/say/>

If you would like your response and comments to feed into LINK Southwark, please telephone or email your response **by 12<sup>th</sup> October** on Education & training, information and the NHS role in Public Health or by **12<sup>th</sup> November** on Integrated services.

<b>Call-Outs</b>
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#### **LINK Ambassadors**

LINK Southwark would like to call upon any volunteers or interested parties to take part in the **new role of LINK Ambassadors** at LINK Southwark.

Endorsed by the Steering Group at their March meeting 2011, the Ambassador will have a title, task and support including training, to enable them to promote the LINK at events and collect issues from the public.

Ambassadors will be volunteers with two functions:-

1. To promote the LINK at community events
2. To collect issues from the public to be recorded and used to inform the start up of Task Groups.
3. To use the information collected to influence service provision by sharing it with the relevant commissioners.

#### **LINK Readers – Like to Read?**

LINK Southwark are looking for volunteers who will be able to assist us in keeping up to date with what is happening in health and social care within Southwark. This will include looking at board papers, reports and other written material and highlighting/bringing to our attention things that we need to know. You do not need any previous experience but a willingness to learn. You will be fully supported by the Host and can do as little or as much as you prefer. Refreshments will be available.