



# Your LINK, Your Say

ISSUE 6

Welcome to the sixth edition of the Cambridgeshire LINK newsletter. In this issue we look at NHS Cambridgeshire's 5 year plan as well as giving you an update on the LINK task groups.

This is your LINK and your views are wanted. Contact the office today.

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## LINK Update

Work is taking place to develop the work plan for Cambridgeshire LINK in 2009/10. So it is more important than ever to get the views of the community so that it looks into issues that are of concern to them.

Active Participants met at the end of February to talk and review ways in which Cambridgeshire LINK engages with the community and its various organisations/groups.

The opinions and views of all health and social care services in Cambridgeshire are important.

### TASK GROUP UPDATES

The **Papworth Relocation** Task group has been busy with interviews for BBC Radio Cambridgeshire, Star FM and Cambridge News regarding funding queries into the proposed move. A letter written by the group concerning the funding has been sent to Mr Alan Johnson, Secretary of State for Health, as well as various MPs, they are

currently waiting for a reply.

The **Food and Nutrition** task group attended a visit to Hinchingsbrooke Hospital's catering department, a report of which will be available shortly.

The **Cleanliness and Infection Control** task group are visiting care homes during March.

**Palliative Care.** Members are currently working with the PCT End of Life steering group and attending workshops. They are also meeting with a representative from Macmillan Cancer Relief and a consultant at Hinchingsbrooke.

**Primary Care Out of Hours** recently met with Sue Last (Head of PALs), Matthew Smith (Director of Hospital Care) and Frank Hume (Assistant Director for Performance) from NHS Cambridgeshire to discuss the future of out of hours primary care.

The **Hinchingsbrooke Governance** group are still awaiting a response from the Department of Health about the future management of the hospital

The **Dental Access** group are carrying out a survey and mapping exercise of practices currently accepting NHS patients. In addition to this the group are keen to check the quality of the out of hours messages for patients.

The **Community Hospitals** group are keeping up to date with any information regarding the future of community hospitals in the county and are working with the South Fenland Steering Group regarding Dodington Hospital.

More update overleaf...

# Update Continued...

The **Children and Young People's Health** group are liaising with PinPoint to ensure no duplication of work occurs and have decided to focus on sexual health and smoking cessation.

### Discharge Planning.

The group's work has so far identified that successful discharge from hospital depends on the availability of adequate and flexible systems of care, and patient experiences are now being gathered and their findings will be in the interim report.

### Integrated Community Equipment Services. (ICES)

Following a visit to Nottingham Rehab Supplies the group are looking into how other task groups may link with ICES as well as meeting with the Occupational Therapy Services.

**User Transfer between age related services.** The group are discussing its link with Self Directed Support (SDS) and are awaiting confirmation of a speaker from the older peoples transition team.

**Self Directed Support.** The group have reviewed the Implementation plan with County Councilors. Questions were raised with Adult Support Services and their findings will be in the final report.

**Out of Hours Contact Services (Care)** are looking into the availability of emergency social care issues around emergency help and would like your comments on this topic. Contact the LINK using the details at the back of the newsletter.

## Your Views are Wanted

Your opinions about health and social care services in Cambridgeshire are important in shaping the next work plan, so we're asking for your help.

The information you give will be used to develop a work plan for Cambridgeshire LINK to seek to improve services that benefit you. We want to identify all health and social care issues that are important to you, your family and friends in Cambridgeshire. Contact us today!

## Review of Pharmacy services

NHS Cambridgeshire is carrying out a review of services delivered through pharmacies. This review will look to see what is currently being provided, and identify where and how services can be developed to help improve the health of the population. If you would like to provide your thoughts and help us develop effective services in your local community, please contact Jenny Booth at NHS Cambridgeshire (Telephone: 01223885722 e-mail: [jenny.booth@cambridgeshire.nhs.uk](mailto:jenny.booth@cambridgeshire.nhs.uk)).

## Preferred bidder named for St Neots Health Centre

NHS Cambridgeshire has announced that Malling Health is the preferred bidder for the new GP-led Health Centre service for the county, to be based in St Neots.

The new centre will be open 7 days a week from 8am to 8pm. The new service does not replace any existing GP services across the county, but will complement them by offering patients GP and

nurse appointments when their surgery is closed and a drop-in facility through the week. Residents of St Neots and the surrounding villages will also be able to register at the practice.

Chris Banks, Chief Executive of NHS Cambridgeshire, said "Patients regularly tell us that they would like more access to GP services before and after work or at

weekends. The new GP-led Health Centre based in St Neots will provide greater access and more patient choice."

NHS Cambridgeshire is now working with Malling Health to look at local permanent sites for the new centre. It is expected to be open by the end of the year in temporary premises.

## Residents asked ‘Have we got it right?’ by NHS Cambridgeshire

### Running until 29th May, NHS Cambridgeshire begins its biggest public health debate.

NHS Cambridgeshire hope the debate will get people talking and saying what they think. The public consultation is asking residents if the NHS has ‘got it right’ for its plans to spend money on health services over the next 5 years.

Chris Banks, Chief Executive of NHS Cambridgeshire said: “As part of our 5 year plan we want to look ahead and spend money wisely and we want the people of Cambridgeshire to help us to do this. It’s important we get this right and we’re making every opportunity for people to tell us what they think.

“The plan is to develop more services closer to home and in the community, especially for the elderly. We want to make sure we have good quality, affordable hospitals with their future assured for the long term. We want to focus on mental health and care for the elderly; as well as promoting healthier lifestyles to prevent disease and improving patients’ experience of the NHS. It is these areas that form the cornerstone of NHS Cambridgeshire’s vision for the next 5 years.”

The four priorities are:

1) **Promoting health and preventing disease.** They want to make it easier for people to take care of their

own health and to make choices about living more healthily.

2) **Older people’s health and care.** They plan to focus on older people’s care, including access to mental health services.

3) **Safe, sustainable and affordable health service.** They want to make sure we have safe, long lasting and cost effective health service within the county.

4) **Patient Experience and customer care.** They want a plan that improves patient experience.

The facts that support these decisions are:

- **Growth:** By 2021 it is estimated that there will be a further 90,000 people living in Cambridgeshire.
- **Elderly population:** Nearly 40% of their total spend is on the over 65s.
- **Preventing illness:** The total number of people in Cambridgeshire with diabetes in 2008 was 24,500 and that is expected to increase to 26,000 by 2010.
- **Living more healthily:** It is estimated that 76,000 people in Cambridgeshire binge drink and about 16% of adults smoke.
- **Spending wisely:** NHS Cambridgeshire spends £286 million on hospital care

every year. That’s £23 million more than other counties of the same size.

Over the next coming weeks residents in Cambridgeshire will have the opportunity to have their say at local events, by telephone (0800 279 2535), email (Ourfiveyearvision@cambridgeshire.nhs.uk ) and through their website. For more information and to complete the online questionnaire please visit [www.cambridgeshire.nhs.uk](http://www.cambridgeshire.nhs.uk).

A list of events that will be taking place:

- 17 March, 11am—1pm St Mary’s Parish Hall, Huntingdon
- 19 March, 7-9pm, Sawston Free Church
- 25 March, 12.30-1.30pm Princess of Wales Hospital
- 30 March, 11am—1pm Ross Street Community Centre, Cambridge
- 14 April, 7-9pm, St Andrews Hall, Chesterton
- 16 April, 7-9pm, Community Centre, St Neots
- 28 April, 7-9pm, Littleport Village Hall
- 29 April, 12.30-1.30pm Conference Hall, Wisbech
- 5 May, 7-9pm, March Youth & Community Centre



**Cambridgeshire**  
Local Involvement Network

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**A NEW WAY TO HAVE YOUR SAY ON  
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SERVICES**

**Your Local Involvement Network is here to help you with a stronger voice in Health and Social Care services in Cambridgeshire.**

Your LINK host team is:

Mike Cornwell - Host Manager

Zoe Johnson - Communications & Administration Officer

Kate Hales - Social Care Facilitator

Kim Armitt - Health Facilitator

Emma Stubbs - Part Time Health Facilitator

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**[www.cambridgeshirelink.org.uk](http://www.cambridgeshirelink.org.uk)**

## **Pancreatic Cancer**

### **Consultation**

You have until Monday 1st June 2009 to submit your views on the proposal to improve pancreatic cancer services in the East of England.

The East of England Specialist Commissioning Group are proposing a change in the way specialist services are organised to treat pancreatic cancer, based on national and international evidence that can improve outcomes for pancreatic cancer patients.

For further information and copies of the documents please email [pancreatic@eoescg.nhs.uk](mailto:pancreatic@eoescg.nhs.uk) or contact Roz Stevenson on 01371 877263. An online form is also available from [www.escg.nhs.uk](http://www.escg.nhs.uk)

## **Addenbrookes Consultation**

Your comments are wanted by Cambridge University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust's first draft Single Equality Scheme. This document supercedes their previous/current Race, Disability and Gender Scheme. The Single Equality Scheme has been placed on the homepage of their website ([www.cuh.org.uk](http://www.cuh.org.uk)) and a comments box is available. If you would like this in an alternative format please contact Monica Jacot, HR Project Manager on 01223 217913 or [monica.jacot@addenbrookes.nhs.uk](mailto:monica.jacot@addenbrookes.nhs.uk) or Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Addenbrookes Hospital, Box 240, Foxton House, Hills Road, Cambridge, CB2 0QQ.

### **DONT FORGET!**

This is your LINK and any views you have or hear of LINK wants to know about.  
Or if you know somewhere in which it can display a poster or write an article contact the office today!