

THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA
HEALTH, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

16 MARCH 2011

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA LOCAL INVOLVEMENT NETWORK
KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA'S "LOCAL INVOLVEMENT NETWORK"

This report updates the Committee on the Local Involvement Network (LINK) in Kensington and Chelsea.

FOR INFORMATION

1. The Future of K&C LINK and Local HealthWatch

- 1.1 By the time of the Committee, a Key Decision Report confirming the appointment and contract awarded to a host organisation to support the LINK during the transition period to Local HealthWatch will be publicly available.
- 1.2 The LINK Management Group is meeting on the 24 March to finalise the workplan for 2011/12. This workplan will reflect the evolution to Local HealthWatch as outlined in the Health and Social Care Bill.
- 1.3 The LINK is actively seeking further engagement on the development of the Health and Well-being Board and the pathfinder pilot in the borough.
- 1.4 Patient and public engagement in the interim and future health and social care structures are likely to be a key priority. In preparation LINK has organised a number of involvement opportunities for local residents in coming months to include:
 - a procurement panel to assist the commissioning cycle;
 - a local event on the NHS Reforms, in partnership with the third sector;
 - the creation of a locality-based patient participation group framework.

- 1.5 K&C LINK is working in partnership cross-borough with Westminster and Hammersmith & Fulham LINKs on strategically influencing NHS reforms in the Inner North West London Cluster.
- 1.6 K&C LINK is also participating with other North West London LINK Chairmen in drafting a protocol with North West London NHS.

2. Recent LINK activities

Quality Accounts

- 2.1 The LINK has recently trained participants to comment on the draft Quality Accounts of the following Trusts:
- Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust
 - Central London Community Healthcare
 - Chelsea and Westminster NHS Foundation Trust
 - Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust
 - The Royal Brompton & Harefield NHS Foundation Trust and
 - The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust
- 2.2 The LINK is pleased that there has been greater engagement by the Trusts on their quality processes this year. This includes good practice such as LINK membership on the Imperial and Chelsea & Westminster Quality Sub-groups and LINK representation on the CNWL Patient Environment Action Team (PEAT) assessments
- 2.3 The LINK would welcome the opportunity to share their draft Quality Assessment feedback with the appropriate Scrutiny representatives in April 2011.

Issues of concern

- 2.4 The LINK notes the possible closure of the Paediatric Cardiac Unit in The Royal Brompton Hospital. Whilst we appreciate the need for service reconfiguration, we are also concerned about the impact any closure may have on respiratory and intensive care at that site. The location of the Foundation Trust on the Fulham Road also enables the sharing of teaching and facilities with neighbouring Trusts, such as Chelsea and Westminster and The Royal Marsden.
- 2.5 Following local concern, the LINK has written to Chelsea and Westminster NHS Foundation Trust in recent weeks to explore the current closure of the Aqua Therapy facility on the site and to stress the impact of the lack of access to hydrotherapy on local residents' rehabilitation.

Ms Christine Vigars

**Chairman, Kensington and Chelsea Local Involvement Network
(LINK)**

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