

**Oxfordshire Local Involvement Network  
Update for Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
meeting  
Thursday 7 July 2011**

Public, patient and carer concerns, issues and compliments collected through LINK engagement and outreach activities have resulted in the following projects being taken forwards. Further Health and Social care issues will be prioritised during this year.

**N.B. The following more concise update refers to LINK projects which have a Health remit only, unless there is crossover with Social Care services**

**LINK Host**

Following the appointment of Oxfordshire Rural Community Council as Host for the LINK, a meeting with a representative cross-section of LINK participants, project group leads and former Stewardship group members has been held to form a new Core group for this transition year. This larger Core group will meet quarterly alongside more frequent sub-group meetings to agree work programme priorities and finance for LINK projects. The elected Chair of the Core Group is Sue Butterworth, with Anita Higham as Deputy Chair.

The LINK Annual Report for 2010-11 will be published by 30<sup>th</sup> June and circulated appropriately.

**Ongoing Health projects and engagement:**

**Health Hearsay** update from Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre.

Following the event for Outpatients held in November 2010, the first update from the NOC on what work has been carried out from the five priorities identified, is due this month. At the time of writing this had not yet been received. Copies of the update will be available at the meeting. The full report is available from the LINK office.

**'Have a Say' Fund – Community Chest**

Of the 11 grant funded projects, reports have now been received from: Patient Voice (survey of the quality and accessibility of hospital food); Crisis House (engagement with mental health service users and carers); Neurological Alliance (consultation event); Family Support Network (Older carers' support needs). Interim reports on progress have also been received from Community Glue (community lunches for mental health service users), Oxsu'n (representation of views to mental health service providers), Ryder Cheshire Volunteers (leisure and learning needs and identifying health needs for those



with physical disabilities). Reports will be available at the meeting and from the LINK office on request.

### **Podiatry**

An information resource, comprising an attractively designed booklet, dynamically updated website pages, via social networking and other means of communicating information about Foot Care, is now available and is being widely circulated. The PCT, Age UK and local Podiatry & Chiropody practitioners have supported the project and LINK will be asking for feedback from the information supplied.

### **Community Mental Health Teams**

This project, to find out more detail and information from service users, carers and the providers about the issues around long waiting times still being experienced for those waiting for CMHT appointments, CBT or other 'Talking Therapies', was put on hold at the start of the year due to the imminent redesign of this area of mental health provision. An interim report has been produced and the LINK will decide whether to continue this work after listening to views at the next Mental Health 'Sounding Board' meeting.

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*Update 16/06/2011*