

**Oxfordshire Local Involvement Network  
Update for Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee  
meeting 5<sup>th</sup> July 2012**

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 brief update refers to LINK projects which mostly have a Health remit only, unless there is joint interest, or commissioning, with Social Care services**

**LINK Core Group**

All members are welcome to attend the next Core Group meeting in public, which will take place at **Wallingford Methodist Church on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July from 1.30pm** (networking) – meeting from **2.00pm until 4.00pm**.

Agenda topics will include updates from earlier LINK involvement with Oxford University Hospitals Trust who will discuss their recent work on:

- The Productive Ward initiatives
- Food and Nutrition
- Discharge Planning

The LINK will be presenting their **Annual Report for 2011-12** and promoting support for improving and developing public engagement through **Patient Participation Groups** in collaboration with local representatives and the PCT/CCG. The LINK has developed a PPG 'Toolkit' for this purpose which will be used in partnership with the PCT/CCG's support programme.

**Ongoing Health projects and engagement:**

**Mental Health 'Hearsay'** engagement: An action plan for the year has now been received and is being agreed with Oxford Health and the PCT Commissioner. The delayed report will be published in mid-July and a feedback event planned with service users and carers for later this year, provisionally in October. The main themes from the event fall under the following headings, which will be reflected in the detail of the action plan and will be considered by the Joint Management Group (JMG) and the Better Mental Health in Oxfordshire Board (BMHO) at their next meetings, and where they will agree how the Hearsay engagement could relate to the BMHO's wider engagement activities:

- Pathway of care and access to services;
- Relationships (between physical and mental health services, and between different services, service users, carers and families);
- Carers and support;
- Confidentiality;
- Communication and information

A **Maternity Services review**, focusing on post-natal care, has been agreed by the LINK Priorities Group in collaboration with a HOSC working group, Commissioners and OUH. There will be a verbal report from the first project meeting due to be held the day before this Scrutiny Committee meeting.

The first formal meeting for the **Patient Participation Group** attached to Luther Street Medical Centre has taken place. Although low in attendance, the positive responses received are being used to further develop engagement, with LINK facilitation, through existing support groups within the homelessness hostels. Information collected will be fed back to Luther Street and the PCT/CCG.

Other projects

#### **'Enter and View' visits to Care Homes**

The second series of visits to 26 care homes has been ongoing from April 2012 with a report due later in the year. The proposed timescale will see the visits concluded during July with a draft report being available for consideration by the Enter and View Group in September and publication towards the end of that month.

*'Assuring Quality in Externally Provided Social Care'*. LINK has been invited to contribute to this joint ASSC / SCS working group, specifically to add to the monitoring of concerns raised by carers and recipients of externally provided social care services. LINK is collaborating in the development of an action plan, to include knowledge and feedback gained from Care Home visits and other information collected from SCS Hearsay and the SDS Forum.

#### **Self Directed Support (Personal Budgets)**

Following LINK support for the SDS event held in March and delivered in partnership with Oxfordshire Wheel and Oxfordshire Family Support Network, information & feedback obtained from service users and carers from this event has been compiled into a report. There are recommendations contained within the Hearsay report which are related to SDS and together with contributions from the SDS Forum, the various sources of information will reflect a wide consensus of recent views about the effectiveness and implementation of Personal Budgets. Responses to issues raised will be requested from SCS.

#### **Local HealthWatch**

An update on the procurement process and developments will be provided by the LINK lead officer for the County Council.