

**Oxfordshire Local Involvement Network
Update for Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee
meeting 21st February 2013**

The following update covers the final LINK project reports delivered under the current contract and which will form part of the legacy for Local HealthWatch.

Maternity Services Review report

The report is now complete with the following concerns indicated as being the most prevalent:

1) Breastfeeding

- Receiving conflicting information;
- Strongly 'pushed' as the best option;
- Initial promotion not followed up with the right level, or regularity, of support.

2) Consistency of support

- Mothers seeing many different health visitors after the birth, which leads to conflicting information being given;
- Lack of signposting onto other services means mothers can feel isolated and have to look for services themselves, potentially missing out on support;
- This can result in an inability to develop a purposeful relationship with professionals.

The report was submitted on 4th February to Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust and Commissioners with a request for a response to the recommendations

Mental Health Hearsay update

The report from the update event held on 6th December has been considered by the Mental Health Joint Management Group and will be taken to the Better Mental Health Programme Board on 28th February. Draft responses have been received from the Commissioners and Oxford Health.

Review of information provided for NHS Dental Patients in Oxfordshire

This project was set up to review access to information for Oxfordshire dental patients, in dental practices and on dental practice websites. The study design was developed in collaboration with the Primary Care Trust, based on a similar study undertaken by Berkshire LINK. Data collection & interviews were carried out by LINK volunteers & staff. The project lead and other key members have analysed the data and prepared this report on the findings for the PCT/OCCG. Overall recommendations for 'Good Practice' for display signage, printed and online materials are contained in Appendix 4.

OMEGA report into the system for referral and treatment of CFS/ME patients

The research findings have been circulated previously to the Committee. LINK has requested a response from Commissioners and Providers to the recommendations.

Transition to Local HealthWatch

A LINK round-up event will be taking place during March – invitations are in the process of being circulated. This will be an opportunity to review past LINK projects and provide a means to agree priority work to pass onto Local HealthWatch, based on the LINK Legacy. The Annual Report for 2012-13 will be presented at this event.

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