

Public Involvement Network Report for the Health Improvement Board

New Representatives

An application and interview process took place and there was an excellent response. Following the recommendation of the PIN Review, two new reps were selected for each of the partnership boards. For this board the reps are Paul McGough and Aziza Shafique.

Introducing Paul McGough:

Paul has a biosciences and healthcare background (BSc honours degree in nutrition from London University - followed by a main career in marketing and communications). Paul has worked in industry in both strategic and operational roles - In recent years he has increasingly got involved on a voluntary basis in patient advocacy and public and patient involvement and engagement consultations with Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust and workshops within the Oxford Academic Health Science Network. In his new role as PIN lay representative he's looking forward to focusing on health and wellbeing in the wider community setting. He knows it's important to ask the right questions, in the right way, to be approachable so that people feel comfortable to express their views, concerns and ideas... and for him as one of the PIN lay reps to capture the feedback. Paul feels the HIB will be a fertile ground for him to put his experience and life's healthcare passion to good use. He believes strongly in the value of "a big public voice" particularly when shaping health improvement strategy. He says the exciting challenge is to find new ways of get the public to buy into and take greater personal ownership of their health - motivating everyone to stay active (physically and mentally) and shift attitudes and lifestyle behaviour where possible - he's really looking forward to working with new colleagues and partners in Oxfordshire across many of these areas.

Introducing Aziza Shafique:

I am interested in Health Improvement Board because of both personal and professional experiences. I am a carer for my son who has rare genetic disorder called Galactosemia and my mother in law who has Alzheimer's disease and a regular user of Health services in Oxford. As a Youth and Community Development worker for 26 years I have a wide range of experiences in working as a volunteer and paid work. I feel that the ethnic minority communities are underrepresented and face many social issues such as, poverty, low educational attainment levels and social deprivation. Poverty and low socio-economic status have a profound effect on both adult's children's physical and mental health which has a detrimental effect on family circumstances. In my current role is that of a Project Co-ordinator for the Oxfordshire Cultural Parenting project with Core Assets Childrens Services. I am passionate about making a positive and lasting difference to families and my involvement Health Improvement Board will give me the opportunity to represent the opinions and experiences ethnic minority communities and to improve their health to give them and their children better quality of life.

Engagement Activities: The Engagement Team conducted a Sounding Board with parents and children about childhood obesity, the resulting report is for information in the papers of this board.

Bubbling Up Issues: Nothing to report at this time.