

News from North Tyneside LINK

▶ **Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) – change to meetings**

This is your chance to get involved in the refresh of the JSNA and hear an update by Dr Fu-Meng Khaw. Join us at the Oxford Centre, Longbenton on **24 September** from 10am to 1.30pm. Please note, the meeting arranged for 6 October has been cancelled.

[More information about the JSNA.](#)

▶ **HealthWatch consultation**

Our meeting on 9 September looked at the government proposals to set up HealthWatch. 23 individual and organisational LINK members attended. Most said they found the meeting very useful and appreciated the opportunity to contribute. Look out for the report of the event on the LINK website soon.

▶ **Your experience as a patient at North Tyneside General Hospital**

Have you been a patient in the last six months? If so, we want to hear about your experience: how well you were kept informed; if you were listened to; if you were treated with dignity and respect. Contact Alison Chalmers on 0191 200 1429 or email

link@voda.org.uk

▶ **Ever thought of joining the LINK board?**

We have a vacancy for an organisational member on the LINK board. We would particularly like to hear from LINK members from organisations working with young people or with an interest in dementia, sensory support or mental health issues. [Find out more about joining the LINK board.](#)

▶ **Wanted - LINK representatives on partnership boards**

We need new representatives for the Mental Health Partnership Board and the Older People's Partnership Board. [Find out what is involved.](#)

▶ **Delivering equality and diversity in the NHS**

The Equality and Diversity Council (EDC) supports the NHS to deliver services that are personal, fair and diverse and to promote continuous improvement. It has representatives from Department of Health, NHS and other interested organisations. LINK member Lindsay Perks went to an EDC presentation this month to hear about the Equality Delivery System which aims to improve equality performance in the NHS. [See the presentation and read Lindsay's notes of the event.](#)

▶ Keeping your information up-to-date

To keep you informed about LINK activities and reports we need to be able to get in touch in the best way for you. Please let us know if you change your address, phone number or email and we will update our database. Contact link@voda.org.uk

News from the health and social care sector

▶ What happens if you have a fall?

Find out what happens if someone has a fall, from dialling 999 right through to discharge. Dr Andrew Richardson, Northumbria Healthcare and Phillip Kyle, North East Ambulance Service will answer questions and talk about what happens and how to prevent falls at this Medicine for Members event.

28 September from 6pm to 7.30pm at Cobalt Conference Suite, Cobalt Business Park, NE27 0QJ. Light refreshments from 5.30pm. [Book a place online](#) or phone 0191 203 1296 or email laura.sellers@northumbria-healthcare.nhs.uk

▶ Care and treatment of burns

The National Burns Network wants to hear from burns service users and their carers; their personal experiences of the care and treatment they have received; and where they think the service could be improved.

If you know of any patients or carers who would like to be involved in developing burn care services, contact the National Burns Network office at nbcnadmin@shsc.nhs.uk or phone 0114 271 8769.

▶ Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment consultation

NHS North of Tyne is looking for comments on the pharmaceutical needs assessment (PNA) for North Tyneside. The PNA sets out the needs of the local population in relation to pharmacy services. It includes information about current pharmacy services in North Tyneside and will be used to prioritise developments in the future. As well as giving comments on the draft PNA, you can give your views on current pharmacy services by completing a short questionnaire.

Download the survey and the draft PNA for North Tyneside from the [NHS North of Tyne website](#). Phone 0191 217 2599 or email contactus@northoftyne.nhs.uk for a paper copy of the survey. **Closing date for consultation 5 November 2010.**

▶ Dementia matters – national priorities for dementia care

Hear about the national priorities for dementia from Professor Alistair Burns, National Clinical Director for Dementia and contribute to workshops about how to make a difference to the lives of people with dementia and their carers.

12 October from 9.30am to 4pm at the Moncur Suite, St James' Park.

To book a place email lois.hedley@dh.gsi.gov.uk or phone 0191 202 3648.

▶ Live Department of Health Consultations

There is still time to participate in the following consultations:

- **Refresh of the Carers Strategy**
[Read more and take part in the consultation](#)
Deadline for responses 20 September 2010
- **Adults with autism strategy**
[Read more and take part in the consultation](#)
Deadline for responses 22 October 2010

Local news round up

▶ Developing intermediate care services

Come and hear the findings of consultations with managers, staff, service users, patients and carers of intermediate care and contribute to discussions about the way forward in developing these services.

The Community and Health Care Forum are organising this event for NHS North of Tyne and North Tyneside Council on Wednesday **29 September** from 12:30pm – 4pm at the Saville Exchange, North Shields. If you would like to attend phone Paula Peart on 0191 295 4233 or email paula.chcf@btinternet.com

▶ Living well after retirement

LiveWell research programme aims to promote health in later life. For cookery demonstrations, food tastings and information about the LiveWell research go to the LiveWell launch on **9 November** from 1.30 to 6pm at the Great North Museum. Register [online](#) or email sarah.armstrong2@ncl.ac.uk phone 0191 248 1288. Closing date for registration Thursday 30 September 2010.

▶ Mental health forum in North Tyneside

Feeling isolated? Not sure how changes to mental health services will affect you? Have your say at the mental health forum every third Thursday of the month from 12.00 to 2.30 at the Linskill Centre. Buffet lunch.

Contact jane.linda.noble@googlemail.com or phone Jane on 0791 2991391.

▶ Emotional wellbeing support group

Interested in a weekly support group facilitated by trained counsellors? Find out about a new group due to start at the end of September.

Contact jane.linda.noble@googlemail.com or phone Jane on 0791 2991391.

▶ Free travel with a companion card

A companion card lets you take someone with you free of charge on local buses. To apply you must live in Tyne and Wear and receive certain allowances. Find out more from [Nexus](#)

▶ **Free sports and health checks**

Sports for all event to celebrate World Mental Health Day on 10 October from 10am to 4pm at Hadrians Leisure Centre, St Peter's Road, Wallsend. Phone 0191 200 8920.

▶ **Queens Award for Voluntary Service**

If you know of an outstanding local group there is still time to nominate them for the 2011 Queen's Award. Closing date for nominations is **30 September 2010**. More information and nomination forms [here](#) or phone 020 7781 2397.

▶ **AgeUK job vacancies**

AgeUK North Tyneside are advertising for a Life Choices Support Officer, admin assistant and home carers. [More information here](#).

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For more information about North Tyneside LINK visit our [website](#) or telephone 0191 200 1429.

To request this e-newsletter in alternative formats or languages, please contact LINK on 0191 200 1429 or email meg.woollam@voda.org.uk