



## North Tyneside LINK e-news September 2011

Please forward this newsletter to friends and colleagues who are interested in better health and social care and may want to [join LINK](#)

### News from North Tyneside LINK

#### > Have you booked your place for our LINK event on 29 September?

- Want to know what NHS changes will mean for North Tyneside? Come and hear from Dr John Matthews and Dr Jane Weatherstone, lead GPs for Engage Health and CareFirst clinical commissioning groups.
- Find out how you can get involved in the local health and wellbeing strategy and how plans for HealthWatch are progressing.
- Talk to other LINK members and give your views in the afternoon workshops.

**Thursday 29 September from 10am to 3pm at the Langdale Centre**

Book your place by Friday 23 September by calling LINK on 0191 643 2623 or email [link@voda.org.uk](mailto:link@voda.org.uk)

[Download and display our event poster](#)

See the [programme for the day](#)

#### > Support planning workshop for third sector LINK members

At this hands-on session you will look at case studies, carry out an assessment using the new supported self-assessment questionnaire and produce a support plan based on the personal budget. This session will be led by Nicola Munn, North Tyneside Council.

**30 September from 1 to 3.30pm at the Shiremoor Centre**

For more information and to book a place call LINK on 0191 643 2623 or email [link@voda.org.uk](mailto:link@voda.org.uk)

#### > Can't make the workshop but interested in personalisation?

Our third sector personalisation group meets regularly with reps from North Tyneside Council to talk about implementation of personalisation. If you support people to make decisions about personalisation or provide services then contact Alison Chalmers to find out how to get involved. Phone 0191 643 2623 or email [link@voda.org.uk](mailto:link@voda.org.uk)

[Read more about LINK's personalisation project](#)

#### > Better information on personal budgets

We have asked North Tyneside Council for a response to the findings and recommendations of our LINK report on the information people need about personal budgets. We expect a response by 4 October.

[Read our personal budgets report](#)

[Read the findings and recommendations of our personal budgets report](#)

## > Adults with autism – share your ideas for better services

We want to hear from adults with autism and carers:

- What's working well for you?
- What could be better?

**Share your views and find out more on Thursday 13 October at 10 am at the Carers Centre, YMCA Building, North Shields, NE29 0AB**

To book your place email [link@voda.org.uk](mailto:link@voda.org.uk) or call 0191 643 2623

[Find out more](#)

## > Chief Executive responds to LINK patient experience report

Jim Mackey, Chief Executive of Northumbria Healthcare NHS Trust has sent a more detailed response to LINK's report on patient experience at North Tyneside General Hospital.

[Read Jim Mackey's letter](#)

## > Design a poster to challenge the stigma of mental health

High school students are invited to enter our LINK poster competition. For more information contact Alison Chalmers on 0191 643 2624 or email [link@voda.org.uk](mailto:link@voda.org.uk)

**Closing date 31 October**

[Find out more about the competition](#) and our [young people's project](#)

## > Preparing for transition – the way ahead

Hear from Ian Walton, Transition Officer for North Tyneside Council, about how young people in transition from children's to adult services will be supported and given the information they need

**Thursday 20 October from 1.30 to 3pm in the main hall at the Shiremoor Centre**

Please let us know by 14 October if you want to attend. Email [link@voda.org.uk](mailto:link@voda.org.uk) or phone 0191 643 2623.

[Read LINK's report on transition](#)

## > LINK gets involved in plans for local HealthWatch

Representatives from LINK, ICAS, Age UK, Carers Centre, North Tyneside Council, local NHS trust and clinical commissioning groups met in July to start talking about what local HealthWatch should look like. At the next meeting on 14 October we will share the views of LINK members from our event on 29 September.

[Read our updates on HealthWatch](#)

## > Dementia pathway mapping - could you represent LINK?

North Tyneside Council and NHS North of Tyne have invited LINK to send a representative to a review of what is available for people with dementia and to identify gaps in service.

**Wednesday 19 October from 9.30 to 12 noon at the Riverside Centre, North Shields**

If you would like to attend please contact [link@voda.org.uk](mailto:link@voda.org.uk) or call us on 0191 643 2623.

## > Look out for LINK at your Area Forum

North Tyneside Council's Area Forums are looking at health issues and asking residents for their views. We took our information display along to the North West, Wallsend and Whitley Bay Area Forums and we will be at the North Shields Forum on 21 September.

[Find out more about Area Forums](#)

### > News from the LINK Board

Our LINK Board met on 30 August and heard updates from Ellie Anderson, North Tyneside Council, and Sam Harrison, NHS North of Tyne. The Board approved publication of our [report on information for personal budgets](#) and accepted the [NHS response to our patient experience report](#).

The next LINK Board meeting is on **Tuesday 11 October from 12 to 2pm** at the Shiremoor Centre. All LINK members are welcome, please let us know if you are coming as we have to book the room and refreshments.

### > LINK Board vacancies

Are you interested in joining the LINK Board? We have vacancies for an organisational member and an individual member. **To find out more call Johanne Mears, LINK Manager, on 0191 643 2623, email [johanne.mears@voda.org.uk](mailto:johanne.mears@voda.org.uk) or go the [Board recruitment page on our website](#).**

## News from the health and social care sector

### > Health and wellbeing board notes now on-line

You can now read the minutes and agenda for the shadow health and wellbeing board on the [North Tyneside Strategic Partnership website](#). For a quick summary of what was discussed on 30 August read our [LINK reps notes](#).

### > New Director of Public Health appointed for North Tyneside

Marietta Evans has been appointed as North Tyneside's Director of Public Health and will take up her post in October. [Find out more](#)

### > Give your views on priorities for 'any qualified provider' services

NHS North of Tyne are asking for the views of LINK members on what services should take priority as part of the government's plans to introduce 'any qualified provider'.

**Join in the discussion on Tuesday 27 September at 2pm at Bevan House, Sir Bobby Robson Way, Newcastle, NE13 9BA**

Book your place with Shirley Redgrave on 0191 217 2758 or email

[shirley.redgrave@northoftyne.nhs.uk](mailto:shirley.redgrave@northoftyne.nhs.uk).

[Find out more](#)

### > Addressing isolation and loneliness in later life

Book now for Age UK North Tyneside's annual conference on Thursday 27 October. **For more information and to register contact Sue Black on 0191 280 8484 or email**

[sue.black@ageuknorthtyneside.org.uk](mailto:sue.black@ageuknorthtyneside.org.uk)

### > Dementia: A North East perspective

Debbie Smith has produced a report for the Northern Rock Foundation, outlining the state of dementia care in the North East. The report provides an overview of the work to support people with dementia and their carers by statutory, voluntary and education sectors. It highlights progress made and gaps in service development and provision; setting this work

against the English policy context and the views and experiences of people with dementia and their carers. [Read the report](#)

### > **Have your say on equality in the NHS**

Our local NHS is asking for views on how equality for all can be delivered by our health services:

- What could your local NHS do better to meet your needs?
- What actions would you like to see in the NHS equality strategy?
- How can the NHS improve the way they communicate with you?

Complete the survey online [here](#). Or for a copy of the survey email [benmurphy@nhs.net](mailto:benmurphy@nhs.net) or call 01642 666700.

**Closing date for completed surveys 14 November 2011**

### > **Getting involved in health research**

The National Institute for Health Research is asking for views on their plans for a regional network of consumer panels for health research.

Give your views on the plans

[Find out more about getting involved](#)

### > **Devastating impact on health of older carers**

A report by the Princess Royal Trust for Carers highlights the concerns of older carers while demonstrating how essential it is to support local centres that look after older carers' needs.

[Find out more](#)

### > **Survey of community mental health service users**

The Care Quality Commission published the results of this survey in August. See how Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Trust compares with community mental health services across England.

[More information](#)

### > **Healthy lives, health people – what next?**

LINK members responded to the Department of Health plans for public health earlier this year. [Read the revised DH plans on how public health will work in the future](#)

### > **National consultations**

**Distribution of funding to local authorities for Local HealthWatch and NHS complaints advocacy**

Give your views on the options for transfer of funding from the Department of Health

[Read the consultation document](#)

**Closing date 24 October, send your views for our LINK response to [link@voda.org.uk](mailto:link@voda.org.uk) by 17 October**

### **An Information Revolution - response to consultation**

The Department of Health will use the responses to their consultation paper and input from the NHS Future Forum to develop the NHS information strategy.

[Read LINK's response to the consultation](#)

[Read the national responses](#)

### **End of life care national information standard**

The National End of Life Care Programme and the Department of Health are developing a new national information standard to support quality end of life care. Give your views by complete their short online survey. [Find out more and complete the survey](#)

**Closing date Friday 30 September 2011**

### **Consultation on proposed changes for Care Quality Commission registration**

Give your views on the regulations for the registration system for health and social care providers. [Read the consultation document](#)

**Closing date 7 October**

### **> Join NICE working groups and give your views on new guidance**

The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) has wide ranging opportunities for patients and the public to get involved.

[Find out more about NICE opportunities](#)

### **Local news round up**

#### **> Age takes centre stage festival**

From archery to zumba, the Age Takes Centre Stage Festival presents a fabulous array of events and opportunities for people over 50 during October.

[More information](#) or contact Age UK North Tyneside on 0191 293 9149, email [info@agetakescentrestage.org.uk](mailto:info@agetakescentrestage.org.uk)

#### **> Have you been affected by Parkinson's?**

Parkinson's UK provide one-to-one information and support to people with Parkinson's, their families and carers. This includes up-to-date information on issues such as benefits, links to local and other services, emotional support to deal with the fluctuating nature of Parkinson's, and helping people to find their way through the health and social care maze.

**To contact the Information and Support Workers (ISWs) for North Tyneside phone Deborah McGarrity on 0844 225 3608 or email [dmcgarrity@parkinsons.org.uk](mailto:dmcgarrity@parkinsons.org.uk)**

**For expert information go to [www.parkinsons.org.uk](http://www.parkinsons.org.uk) or phone their free national helpline on 0808 800 0303.**

#### **> DNEX 2011 - Disability North annual exhibition**

Information, exhibition, seminars, digital zone, entertainment and sports demonstrations on 21 and 22 September at Newcastle racecourse.

**For more information go to [www.disabilitynorth.org.uk](http://www.disabilitynorth.org.uk) or call 0191 284 0480.**

#### **> Mental health wellness and recovery support group**

Meeting every two weeks starting Tuesday 13 September from 1 to 3pm at the Linskill Centre, North Shields. Or join in with the weekly social out and about group.

**For more information email [jane.linda.noble@googlemail.com](mailto:jane.linda.noble@googlemail.com) or phone Jane on 0791 2991391.**

#### **> Caring for a drug or alcohol user?**

Contact PROPS (Positive response to overcoming problems of substance mis-use) to find out more about their half day course on 5 October looking at why people use and how to

cope. PROPS also have a carers' forum and run drop-in sessions and other training courses.

Phone 0191 270 4238 or go to [www.newcastleprops.org.uk](http://www.newcastleprops.org.uk) for more information.

### > Voice North research on retirement, health and ageing well

Interested in joining a discussion about retirement?

- Are you aged 55-70?
- Have you retired within the last two years?
- Are you considering retirement?
- Is your spouse or partner, who is the main income provider in the household, about to retire or is recently retired?

Sessions will take from 60 to 90 minutes and will be audio-recorded. You will receive a £10 Eldon Square voucher and reasonable travel expenses.

If you would like to take part please contact Sarah Armstrong on 0191 248 1288 or email [sarah.armstrong2@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:sarah.armstrong2@ncl.ac.uk)

### > Promoting active travel – the great health and transport debate

Discuss the links between transport and health, focusing particularly on practical ways to promote active travel

**Tuesday 20 Sept, refreshments at 5pm for 5.30pm start at Northumbria University, Rutherford Hall, Ellison Place, Building 23, Newcastle**

Free to attend, to book a place email [northeast@tps.org.uk](mailto:northeast@tps.org.uk)

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For more information about North Tyneside LINK visit our [website](#) or telephone 0191 643 2623.

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