

HACVS E-bulletin 15 June 2009

1) Assistant Director Opportunities for young people (2) West Sussex parents encouraged to help their children maintain a healthy weight (3) New case of swine flu confirmed within Sussex region (4) Strategies for an Ageing Population (5) Positive Comedy Workshop (6) E-safety (7) Snack Wagon and Youth Support Team in Horsham Park (8) Adult Obesity Services Focus Group

Dear members,

1. Alternating Currents is the West Sussex Youth Arts Festival 09. It will take place between October 24th and November 1st in six locations across the county. Please find attached information about an exciting opportunity for young people. **Attachment:** [AD Opportunities](#)
2. Please see the latest release from West Sussex Primary Care Trust: West Sussex parents encouraged to help their children maintain a healthy weight. "West Sussex parents with children in Year 6 will be receiving letters informing them whether or not their children are a healthy weight..."
Read more...
Any questions or queries please call Laura Skelcey, Press and Public Relations Officer Communications, Public Engagement and Human Resources Directorate, West Sussex Primary Care Trust, 1 The Causeway, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, West Sussex BN12 6BT
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Web: www.westsussexpct.nhs.uk
3. Press statement issued on June 4 2009: New case of swine flu confirmed within Sussex region
Peter Hayward, Acting Director of Public Health for West Sussex PCT, said:
One case of swine flu in West Sussex has today been confirmed by the Health Protection Agency (HPA). The new case concerns a child who recently returned from America and displayed mild symptoms. The individual is now recovering at home. West Sussex PCT is working closely with the HPA, which will carry out a detailed risk assessment and advise whether any individuals need to be investigated or given anti-viral treatment as a result of contact with someone who is confirmed as having swine flu. If anyone has any concerns about swine flu we would encourage them to call the Swine Flu Information Line on 0800 1 513513. Further information is also available on the NHS Choices website at www.nhs.uk.
If you are experiencing flu like symptoms please stay at home and contact your GP or NHS Direct on 0845 4647 for advice. Please do stay at home and do not visit your GP as you risk spreading the virus to others.
The public can reduce the risk of catching or spreading swine flu by maintaining good basic hygiene, such as always covering your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, disposing of dirty tissues promptly and carefully and regularly washing your hands.

4. Please find enclosed details of the Strategies for an Ageing Population '09 Conference, the major new health and social care summit taking place on Tuesday 30th June 2009 at the Business Design Centre, London. Please refer to their web version: <http://govnet.msgfocus.com/q/14yovuKmj2qzwy/wv>
The website: www.govnet.co.uk/ageing
5. As its final event, the Developing Communities Project will be hosting a one-day Positive Comedy Learning Workshop on Thursday 2nd July 2009 at Lewes Town Hall Council Chamber. Further information and booking details attached. **Attachment:** Positive Comedy Learning Workshop
6. Grooming of children is increasingly taking place through social networking websites, according to the annual review of the Child Exploitation Online Protection Centre. The centre reports that although grooming is still the most common offence reported to it, the nature of the practice is changing, with social networking now rivaling instant messaging.
The review states that while 27 per cent of grooming cases take place through instant messaging, 22 per cent now occur through social networking sites. But, the report warns that, "there is real concern that significant levels of unknown abuse are taking place in those social networking sites that do not report to CEOP". The centre also reports that more than four million school children have seen its education programme about online safety since its launch in 2006, with resources available for children aged five to 16. But, with people accessing the internet from a range of devices, the centre says that more children will need to be directly educated on necessary safety measures. CEOP's web address is www.ceop.gov.uk
Neil Puffett, Children & Young People Now, wrote on 1 June 2009
Online protection team "flooded" with work Specialist officers are struggling to cope with increasing numbers of child abuse cases from the internet.
<http://www.cypnow.co.uk/bulletins/InCare/news/910093/?DCMP=EMC-InCare>
7. Snack Wagon and Youth Support Team in Horsham Park: please find a news item from the Horsham District Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership. The attached photo shows the Snack Wagon used in Horsham Park. **Attachments:** Snack Wagon news release & photo.
8. ADULT OBESITY SERVICES FOCUS GROUP are looking to recruit 6-8 members of the public to attend a focus group to discuss obesity in West Sussex in Crawley. The meeting will be held on 1st July, 2pm-4pm, in Meeting Room 1, 3rd Floor, Crawley Hospital, Crawley. If you are interested in attending the meeting please contact Vinny Hanley, contact details are noted below.
Obesity is one of the biggest health challenges that we face. The Government is committed to taking action to reverse the rising tide of obesity. Almost 1 in 4 adults in England are currently obese (i.e. very overweight), and if we carry on as we are by 2050, 9 in 10 adults will be overweight or obese. The cost of overweight and obese individuals to the NHS is estimated to be £4.2 billion and is forecasted to more than double by 2050. The cost to the wider economy is £16 billion, and this is predicted to rise to £50 billion per year by 2050 if left unchecked.
West Sussex Primary Care Trust is currently working to develop services for people with obesity. From looking at the needs of our population and at services available in other parts of the UK we have developed initial proposals for these services across the county. This includes a model for differing levels of service for differing levels of need, along with initial proposals of how these will be delivered to local people.
They wish to engage patients to obtain their views in a number of areas:-

- current service provision for patients with obesity (from local services provided by GP's to specialised services)
 - thoughts on the new model of service provision (which will be presented during the session)
 - initial thoughts on practical ways of delivering services to patients
 - Differing needs of men and women, ethnic groups, elderly, disabled etc.
 - location of services
 - any other ideas on meeting the needs of patients with obesity
- Vinny Hanley, Membership Manager and Public Engagement Project Coordinator
 Communications, Public Engagement and HR Directorate
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Janet Brown
 Manager

Please note below our new email address for all general communications – all previous email addresses are now obsolete and should no longer be used, thank you.

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