

E-bulletin May 18th 2009

(1) LINK (2) WS PCT e-bulletin - Issue 42 (3) Free Home Fire Safety Checks

Dear members,

PRESS RELEASE

Have your say on health and social care

6 May 2009

The West Sussex LINK (Local Involvement Network) is calling on local people to have their say and help improve health and social care services.

“The people of West Sussex are becoming more and more aware of the quality and accessibility of their health and social care services, but when issues arise and changes are needed, getting their voices heard is often not easy”, says Amanda Eastaugh, Regional Manager for the LINK’s host, Help & Care. “The West Sussex LINK provides a great opportunity for people to have their say and to help shape the services that affect them, their families and friends”.

The LINK wants to know what people across the county think about health and social care - this could include GP services, hospitals, mental health services, day care, residential homes and older people’s services.

Anyone can get involved and the network has been set up to make sure people in West Sussex get the services they need. Already around 800 individuals, organisations and networks have signed up.

The work of the LINK is steered by a recently elected stewardship group made up of fifteen volunteers who together have a wealth of experience in getting things changed in the health and social care sector. A small team provided by the LINK’s host - the charity Help & Care - provides administration, marketing and development support.

“The West Sussex LINK gives local people a real opportunity to influence health and social care services. It is vital that people tell us what they think so we can tackle the issues that really matter to them”, says Amanda.

To have your say, or to find out more about the West Sussex LINK, please phone **0300 111 0102**, email westsussexlink@makesachange.org.uk, or visit the website, www.makesachange.org.uk

2. Rhian Evans, Communications Officer, West Sussex PCT, writes:

The latest issue of West Sussex PCT’s eBulletin is now available on the PCT website at: <http://www.westsussexpct.nhs.uk/news-and-events/west-sussex-ebulletins/>

Issue 42 includes information on:

- Swine flu
- Guide to health services in West Sussex
- Breastfeeding Awareness Week – 10-16 May
- Transforming primary care mental health services
- Partnership news
- A new approach for complaints: ‘Making Experiences Count’
- Improving patient participation in primary care
- The PCT’s membership scheme *My NHS West Sussex*
- Legacy for Bognor Regis War Memorial Hospital

- Upcoming NHS Choice Roadshow
- Partnerships for Older People Project extended for another year
- PCT Board approve integration with South Downs Health NHS Trust
- Review of services in the north-east of the county
- Upcoming PCT Board meetings
- Consultation on services for people with complex or severe personality disorder

If the above link does not work for you, you can also access the eBulletin by pasting the following website address into your browser: <http://www.westsussexpct.nhs.uk/news-and-events/west-sussex-ebulletins/>

3. Andrea Donnelly, Public Health Visitor Specialist West Sussex NHS PCT, forwards the following information on Free Home Fire Safety Checks:-

Free Home Fire Safety Checks

... .. The Fire and Rescue Service offer free home fire safety checks to anyone living in West Sussex. Referral form attached. They are keen to access families in areas of deprivation due to the large number of fires resulting in death in West Sussex. Unfortunately these families do not tend to contact the fire service themselves for help and so they are happy to take referrals. The fire service can install free 10-year smoke alarms

I do hope the above is of interest to yourself and your organisation. Many thanks – Janet

JANET BROWN

Attachments:

Health Visitor Referral Form



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