

LINK ... Plymouths Local Involvement Network

Issue 2 – July 2008

Welcome to the next edition of the Plymouth Local Involvement Network Bulletin!

The LINK has some exciting new developments to tell you about. This bulletin aims to give you a better idea about the LINK and how you can get involved. In our last bulletin we launched a logo competition. Congratulations to Jacques Mynhardt who submitted the idea for the winning logo as chosen by members of the LINK Transition Group. The logo will be developed and will be launched in our next bulletin. Well done!

What is the LINK?

- 1) The LINK will be a network of individuals, groups and organisations across the City
- 2) The LINK will give local people ways of getting involved and influencing service design, reviews and development
- 3) The LINK will be independent of the Local Authority & the NHS
- 4) The remit of the LINK will be all health and social care services

What will it do?

- 5) The LINK will ask Plymouth people what they need from their services and will provide lots of ways for people to give their views
- 6) The LINK has the power to visit services to get the views of the people who use them
- 7) The LINK will feed those views to the people and groups in the City in charge of services
- 8) The LINK will have the power to refer the public's issues to our Overview and Scrutiny Committee and commissioners and get a response
- 9) The LINK will tell Plymouth people about what has changed as a result of their involvement

But remember the LINK is not a complaints body.

How you can be part of the LINK...

As a member of the public....

- ☺ Contact the LINK at any time to give your views on health or social care services
- ☺ Sign up as a 'LINK Participant' and be kept informed of opportunities. Get involved in consultation and give your views about local services
- ☺ Become a 'LINK Member' and also get actively involved. LINK members will be offered training & support to:
 - Represent the LINK at public meetings, community Forums or events
 - Become part of the group that will guide the LINK
 - Visit health & social care premises to see the quality of the service and get feedback from people who use them

As an organisation that works with local people....

- ➔ Publicise the LINK through your newsletter/ websites
- ➔ Offer LINK opportunities and support consultation among your service users
- ➔ Share any feedback about health and social care services with the LINK
- ➔ Use your networks to help the LINK reach as many people as possible
- ➔ Support the work of the LINK and offer training, resources, good practice, networks or any community directories

As a provider of health & social care services....

- 📖 Promote the LINK and LINK opportunities to the users of your services
- 📖 Work in partnership with the LINK to make sure services meet the needs of service users
- 📖 Work in partnership with the LINK to support your public and patient consultations

We need everyone's voice to make a difference

So how does the LINK actually work?

The Host Support Team

- 🔊 Will not direct or steer the LINK but will offer good practice and guidance
- 🔊 Will have a responsibility to the local authority to meet targets set for the Host
- 🔊 Is responsible to the LINK and will be directed by the LINK

The LINK Transition Group

- 🗨️ Is made up of a representative group of Plymouth people.
- 🗨️ Will look at how the LINK will work and what it will look like
- 🗨️ Is responsible to the wider LINK in making any decisions

The LINK

- ✂️ Will be representative of and be answerable to local people
- ✂️ Will not answer to the Local Authority

Current Consultations

'A New Vision for Mental Health'.

The Future Vision Coalition is made up of seven mental health organisations/services such as MIND, Rethink and Sainsbury's Centre for Mental Health. This group hopes to bring health and social models of mental health together, working with the whole person. They hope to see awareness raised about mental health issues to improve prevention and early intervention for people suffering with mental health issues. They want mental health policy to focus on people's quality of life, ambitions and hopes rather than their illness. They hope to change the relationship between individuals and mental health services.

You can find the policy by contacting the LINK or emailing future.vision@nhsconfed.org for a copy (paper or electronic). Please give your views to help shape the future of mental health services.

Any feedback you have can be sent to the LINK or direct to future.vision@nhsconfed.org

Future Vision coalition wants you to consider the following points:

- ❖ Is this a vision you share? Why or why not?
- ❖ What needs to be done nationally and locally to achieve the four aspects of the vision?
- ❖ What do you think are the top three priorities for the next ten years of mental health policy?





Closing date: Wed 1st October to LINK office, Fri 3rd October direct to The Future Vision Coalition

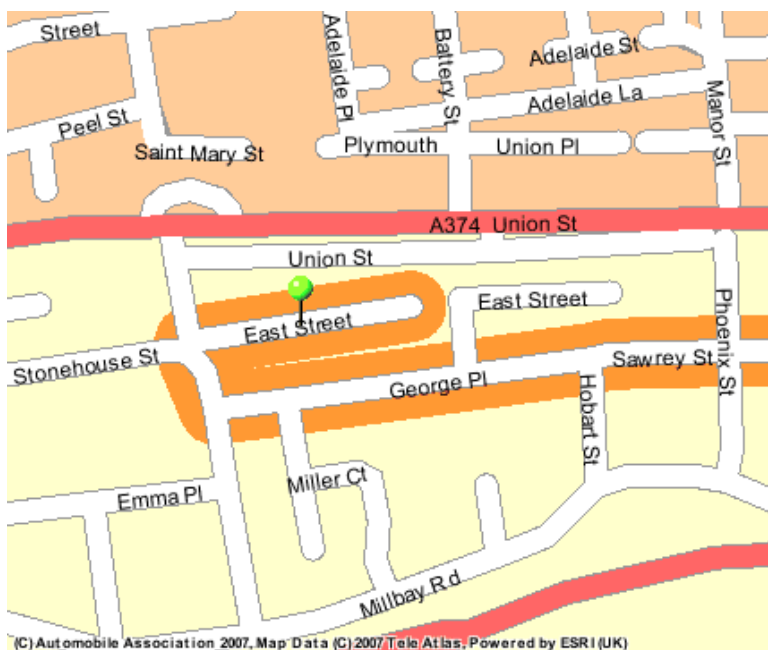
We have now recruited The LINK Support Team.

We are excited to be involved in this dynamic new service and look forward to working with you!

Vicky, Claire & Sue

HOW YOU CAN GIVE US YOUR VIEWS:

-  By phoning 01752 202407
-  By emailing info@plymouth-link.co.uk
-  By writing to Unit 20, HQ, The Millfields Trust, 237 Union Street, Plymouth. PL1 3HQ
-  Visit the LINK webpage www.plymouth-link.co.uk



Unit 20,

HQ, The Millfields Trust,

237 Union Street,

Plymouth PL1 3HQ

Visitor parking at the front of HQ

Initial office opening hours are –

Mon to Thurs - 9am-5pm.

Fri - 9am to 4.30pm

(These times may change in response to the needs of the LINK and PAPOP).

Easy to understand information

If you need this information in another format or language, please let us know by

Calling – 01752 202407

Emailing – info@plymouth-link.co.uk

Do you have anything to say?

Please tell us if –

- ✓ There is information you would like to see in this bulletin
- ✓ You have any comments or feedback on the bulletin