

Liverpool LINK Launches Work Plan Priorities

The first part of Liverpool LINK's work plan has now been agreed by the LINK Core Group. The first priorities were identified by participants at the LINK launch event on 27th January. These priorities have already received extensive consultation and have been selected for inclusion in the LINK work plan by the use of a fair and transparent marking system. Liverpool LINK's first work plan priorities are:

- Obesity
- Alcohol
- Direct Payments

Action Plans are currently being developed for work/research on these three topics. We hope we will be able to report back on each of these topics by September 2009.

Meanwhile, work is still ongoing to prioritise other issues to work on this year. These are issues which have been brought to us by LINK members and members of the public. They are currently being considered by the LINK Core Group and have not yet been fully consulted on. If you would like to comment on the work plan or contribute to this consultation it is available at www.liverpoollink.org.uk

Each work plan priority will be worked on by a Task and Finish Group. The group will be Chaired by a Core Group Member and made up of other members invited from the LINK membership and advisors with particular expertise in each topic. If you would like to join the LINK or if you are a LINK member who is interested in receiving training to take part in Task and Finish functions please contact the LINK Support Team for further information (Tel. 0151 227 5177 or email info@liverpoollink.org.uk)

News

May 2009

**Hello,
and welcome
to the new edition
of the Liverpool LINK newsletter.
There have been quite a few
changes within LINK over the
last few months so hopefully
this newsletter will bring you
up to speed with all the latest
developments.**

The Liverpool Local Involvement Network (LINK) is a network of local residents and voluntary, community and faith groups. We would love to hear from you about your experiences – good and bad – and your ideas about how to make Liverpool's health and social services the best they can be. LINK is your chance to let the people responsible for providing health and social services in Liverpool know what you think about the services you receive.

I hope you enjoy this latest newsletter! Please e-mail me with any feedback or comments you might have at Kathy.hull@lcvs.org.uk

Kind Regards

Kathy Hull
(Local Involvement Network
Services manager)



Core Group Growth

The LINK Core Group is the elected group of LINK members who ensure that the LINK is working for you. The Core Group is delighted to announce the co-option of Penelope Bassi and Simon Williams to fill the 2 vacant Diversity Champions posts. Penny will be the LINK Gender Champion and Simon will be the Sexual Orientation Champion.

Penny says "I'm really pleased to have the opportunity to work with the LINK on all kinds of health and social care issues and particularly to look at how services respond to the needs of individuals based on their gender. Women and men may use services in similar ways in some instances but require different approaches in others and many services are still not up to speed in the way they deal with transgender issues. If any LINK members have comments about gender in relation to health and social care services, including service commissioning, I'd love to hear from them."



Tim Oshinaike – Vice Chair

Simon adds "I'm looking forward to working with everybody in the LINK and to doing what I can to improve connections between the lesbian, gay and bisexual community and health and social care providers. The issues that the LINK is working on have a relevance to everybody and I hope to ensure that LGB people are well represented in local consultation and research."

The Core Group and Support Team welcome them both.



Simon Williams



Penelope Bassi

Other active Core Group members currently include:

Tim Oshinaike, Joanne Smith, John Perry, John Bruce, Sister Maria Renate (Faith Champion), Eric Toke, Stanley Mayne, Karen Bellion (Disability Champion), Dorcas Akeju OBE (Race Equality Champion), Jonathan Hurley, Emlyn Williams and Paul Robinson.

LINK Web Portal – update

Liverpool LINK is developing an interactive web portal to help us to improve our communication with you. The portal will allow you to access LINK reports, minutes, policy and consultation documents and will also help you to feed in your views and respond to online surveys. We are currently working with LCVS to get the portal designed and active as soon as possible. Meanwhile, you can find information about us at www.liverpoollink.org.uk



LINK Neighbourhood Champions – Your chance to represent your area

We're still looking for more LINK members to get involved as Liverpool LINK Neighbourhood Champions across the city. If you think you can help to feed the health and social care concerns in your area into the LINK and be a LINK authorised participant at Neighbourhood Partnership meetings then get in touch with us. Training will be provided.

Also, if you think you know the best way to reach local residents in your neighbourhood then let us know your suggestions. We value your local knowledge!

So why join the LINK?

Liverpool LINK aims to be representative of all Liverpool's people, regardless of gender, age, disability, sexual orientation, faith, caring responsibilities or any other factor.

LINK membership will not only help to keep you informed about health and social care issues in Liverpool but will also allow you to have a real influence on service commissioning, delivery and scrutiny.

Joining the LINK is free and it's easy to do. Just contact the LINK Support Team at the address on the back page.

Thanks for your interest!

Remember!

- The LINK is a network of local individuals and voluntary, community and faith groups with an interest in the commissioning, delivery and monitoring of local health and adult social care services
- It is NOT a complaints body - but it can signpost you if appropriate
- It is independent of the Local Authority and the NHS
- It will provide an opportunity for you to say what you need from services; what is working well already, what could work better and how to change things to make services more responsive to local needs
- Some LINK members have been trained and are authorised to visit services and report back on how well they're working
- The LINK also has the power to refer issues to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and to service commissioners - and to get a public response from them
- The LINK will let you know what has changed as a result of YOUR involvement

LIVERPOOL LINK

If you would like a copy of this information in another language or format, including large print or Easy Read, please let us know.

This is information about how local people can help to improve health and social care services in Liverpool. To arrange for an interpreter to give further details please use the contact details below.

هذه المعلومات عن كيف يساعد المواطنون المحليون في تحسين الخدمات الصحية وخدمات الرعاية الاجتماعية في ليفربول. للترتيب لمترجم لاعطاء المزيد من التفاصيل الرجاء استخدام الاتصال التالي.

(Arabic)

這些資料是有關本地居民如何可以協助改善利物浦的健康和社會護理服務。如果您需要安排翻譯才能提供更進一步的資料，請使用下列聯絡方法。

(Chinese)

Cette information concerne les services sociaux de Liverpool et comment les habitants de la ville peuvent améliorer leur santé. Pour avoir l'aide d'un interprète et obtenir des informations complémentaires, veuillez utiliser les détails ci-dessous.

(French)

ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ, ਲੀਵਰਪੁਲ ਵਿਚਲੀਆਂ ਸਿਹਤ ਅਤੇ ਸਮਾਜਕ ਸੰਭਾਲ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਸੁਧਾਰ ਲਈ ਲੋਕੀ ਕਿਵੇਂ ਮਦਦ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਨ, ਬਾਰੇ ਹੈ। ਹੋਰ ਵੇਰਵੇ ਦੇਣ ਲਈ ਇੱਕ ਦੁਬਾਰੀਏ ਦਾ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧ ਕਰਨ ਵਾਸਤੇ, ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੇਠਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਵੇਰਵਿਆਂ ਦੀ ਵਰਤੋਂ ਕਰੋ।

(Punjabi)

Tani waa wargelin ku saabsan sida ay dadka xaafadda deggan gacan uga geysan karaan sii hore marinta adeegyada caafimaadka iyo daryeelka bulshada ee gudaha Liverpool laga helo. Si loo diyaariyo turjumaan oo aad faahfaahin dheeraad ahna u bixiso, fadlan isticmaal faahfaahinta hoose.

(Somali)

La presente información indica cómo pueden ayudar los vecinos a mejorar los servicios sociales y de salud en Liverpool. Para solicitar más informes mediante un intérprete, sírvase referirse a los detalles de contacto que aparecen abajo.

(Spanish)

یہ معلومات اس بارے میں ہے کہ کس طرح مقامی لوگ لیورپول میں صحت اور سماجی نگہداشت کی خدمات کو بہتر بنانے میں مدد کر سکتے ہیں۔ مزید تفصیلات فراہم کرنے کیلئے ترجمان کے انتظام کے واسطے براہ کرم رابطے کی درج ذیل تفصیلات کا استعمال کریں۔

(Urdu)

For information about how you can get involved in Liverpool LINK, contact:

Liverpool LINK
Liverpool Charity and Voluntary Services (LCVS)
151 Dale Street
Liverpool
L2 2AH

Telephone 0151 227 5177
Email info@liverpoollink.org.uk

Or for more information about national LINKs visit:
www.nhscentreforinvolvement.nhs.uk