

Liverpool LINK Launches Work Plan Priorities

As previously reported, Liverpool LINK's work plan over the past few months has been focused on 3 topics prioritised by members at our launch event in January 2009. These are:

- Healthy Weight
- Alcohol
- Direct Payments/Personalisation of Care

'Task and Finish' groups have been set up to look at how Liverpool is dealing with each of these topics and progress is being made at collecting information from LINK members, the wider public and key people within Liverpool Primary Care Trust (PCT), Liverpool City Council (LCC) and other public sector and voluntary, community and faith (VCF) sector agencies which are involved in these issues. Each group has produced an interim report and aims to publish a final report by the end of the year which will include recommendations to the City Council and Primary Care Trust.

An example of an achievement we've made to date is that the LINK has been invited to join Liverpool's Strategic Alcohol Group where it will be able to have a real influence on how services are commissioned and what initiatives are prioritised – based on YOUR views.

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)

LINK Core Group members Eric Toke, John Bruce, Rev Maria Renate and Stanley Mayne join LINK Network Manager Kathy Hull (2nd left) and Cllr Ron Gould (right) at a LINK Coffee Morning at the Radio City Tower.

LIVERPOOL LINK

News October 2009

Hello, and welcome to the latest Liverpool LINK newsletter. Just one of the ways in which we try to keep you up to date with what your Liverpool Local Involvement Network (LINK) has been doing to ensure that local residents and voluntary, community and faith groups have a say in making Liverpool's health and adult social care services the best they can be.

LINK is your chance not only to let the people responsible for providing health and social services in Liverpool know what you think about the services you receive but also to have a direct influence in shaping them for the better. Enjoy the newsletter and please e-mail or ring us with any feedback or comments you might have at info@liverpoollink.org.uk or 0151 227 5177.

**Best wishes,
Tim Oshinaike
(Acting Chair)**



Liverpool LINK – biggest in England!

Liverpool LINK is one of over 150 LINK's in England set up under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. We have recently undertaken a major publicity and recruitment campaign – you may have seen our posters on buses and Merseyrail stations or heard us on the radio – and as a result of the campaign our membership has risen to over 2,600 making Liverpool LINK the biggest in the country!

Now we need to work to make sure that we are not just the biggest but also one of the best! If you are a member we want to make sure you are able to participate in whatever way works for you and even if you're not a member we are still interested in hearing your opinions – so please get in touch with us any time.

Core Group Election Results

The LINK Core Group is the group of 15 members who make sure that the LINK is working for you. This year's elections were overseen by the Electoral Reform Services to ensure fairness and impartiality and we are pleased to announce that the following LINK members were elected.

- Rev Maria Renate (Faith Champion)
- Stella Cairns (Disability Champion)
- Jen Daffin (Sexual Orientation Champion)
- Dorcas Akeju OBE (Race Equality Champion)
- Jacqui Jones (Age Equality Champion)
- Anne Gorton
- Eric Toke
- Jonathan Hurley
- Carol Boyd
- Mike Marsh
- John Bruce
- John Perry
- Jo Smith
- Stanley Mayne
- Vacant (Gender/Trans Equality Champion) – post will be co-opted.

The new Core Group will take up their posts from the beginning of January 2010 following a handover / induction period. A Chair will also be selected in January.



LINK advertising on a bus – spreading the word!

LINK Annual Seminar

Liverpool LINK held its Annual Seminar on 14th September at the LACE Conference Centre, Croxteth Drive Liverpool, L17 1AA. The event gave members a chance to hear about the LINK's activities and achievements in its first year as well as providing an opportunity to contribute to discussions about some of the issues we may prioritise for future work, including mental health and sexual health services and strategies.

A full report on the event will be available shortly at www.liverpoolink.org.uk

Annual Report

Our Annual Report was published in June and if you'd like a copy then please do get in touch with us. An electronic version can be found on our website www.liverpoolink.org.uk



Some of the participants at a LINK event at Croxteth Community

LINK Neighbourhood Events a success

Liverpool LINK held a series of events across the city during June to let you know what we've been doing so far and, most importantly, to ask you for your thoughts and experiences about the 3 big issues that we're working on at the moment and to ask you what else you think we should work on in the future.

The quality of the information you gave us was very high and we've passed it all on to the Chairs of our Task and Finish Groups where it will contribute to their final reports and recommendations, which will be presented to the City Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee later in the year. Copies have also been passed to some key people at Liverpool PCT and Liverpool City Council for information.

The events were a big success and participants said that they enjoyed the 'Informality and opportunity to talk together' and, as one person said 'I found all the event was very good. I did not know about the LINK and what it done. It opened my eyes.'

A full report is available from the LINK Support Team and also downloadable from our website at www.liverpoollink.org.uk

LINK Web Portal – Launch Imminent!

Liverpool LINK's new interactive web portal is coming soon (at our usual web address www.liverpoollink.org.uk) and we hope that it will make it much easier for us to communicate with LINK members and non-members alike.

LINK members will be given their own password and user name and will be able to access LINK reports, minutes, policy and consultation documents as well as feed in their views and respond to online surveys.

Non-members will also be able to feed in their issues and respond to surveys but will have limited access to documents in the making.

If you are a LINK member who hasn't already let us have your email address then please make sure we've got it so that we can keep you informed at all times about LINK activities. Those of you who don't have Internet access needn't worry – we can still send information to you in the post! Just let us know which method you'd prefer.

LINK Ward and Communications Champions wanted! – Your chance to get active in your local area

Liverpool LINK aims to be as active as possible at neighbourhood level and so far we've successfully recruited Neighbourhood Champions for each of the city's 5 Neighbourhood Management Areas (South, South Central, City and North, East and Alt Valley) However, we're still looking for volunteers to become active for us in their wards and to help us with communications. Being a Champion will involve

- Helping us to identify local health and adult care needs by collecting the views of local residents and feeding them into the LINK
- Helping us to communicate with local residents and community organisations about health and care issues, including chairing neighbourhood meetings in your area
- Attending and participating in Neighbourhood events which promote LINK
- Training will be provided and you will be supported by the LINK Support Team here at LCVS and by your fellow Champions and other LINK members. Reasonable out of pocket expenses (e.g. travel to and from authorised meetings) will be reimbursed by Liverpool LINK on production of receipts, tickets etc.

If you're interested, let us know! Tel. 0151 227 5177 or email info@liverpoollink.org.uk

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 below.

Thanks for your interest!

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

Contact:
 Freepost RRZK-UHLY-KGJT
 Liverpool LINK
 Liverpool Charity and Voluntary Services (LCVS)
 151 Dale Street
 Liverpool
 L2 2AH
 Telephone 0151 227 5177
 Email info@liverpoollink.org.uk

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 ਦੁਭਾਸ਼ੀਏ 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

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