

# health & social care news

news for the Nottingham health & social care community

EDITION 3

DECEMBER 2001

[www.partnership-development-team.org.uk/news.htm](http://www.partnership-development-team.org.uk/news.htm)

## LEARNING DISABILITY

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Since the last edition of the newsletter both City and County have held the **first meetings** of their **Learning Disability Partnership Boards**. Local Authorities are required to set up Partnership Boards by the White Paper "Valuing People". Boards are responsible for **overseeing** the implementation of the targets in "Valuing People" by making sure all the agencies work together in partnership with people with learning disabilities and carers. Service users and carers (in the Nottingham Health area) can ensure their issues are raised at the Board through the Service User Forum, co-ordinated by the Home Farm Trust Advocacy service, and through the Carers Forum, which is co-ordinated by the Partnership Development Team.

The arrival of the Partnership Boards has meant that much of the work of the Joint Commissioning Group has now been taken over by the Boards therefore the JCG for learning disability held its final meeting in November 2001. We are setting up a small officers group to **support** the work of the Learning Disability Partnership Boards which will be a Countywide forum, and will **concentrate on providing information** for the boards and **working on the many targets** we have to deliver.

The Partnership Boards are **committed** to continuing the work that has been started by "Positive Futures". Many of the working groups will continue but will have a new focus through the Government targets.

I have enjoyed chairing the JCG for the past 3 years and am hopeful that with the backing of "Valuing People" many people with learning disabilities will see big improvements to their quality of life over the next few years.

**Chair – Maggie Harty**  
[learningdisability@pdteam.org.uk](mailto:learningdisability@pdteam.org.uk)

### NEW FORUM FOR VOLUNTARY SECTOR LEARNING DISABILITY GROUPS

In November a new countywide forum of voluntary organisations working with adults with learning disabilities met for the first time. This forum forms part of arrangements set up to ensure local views are incorporated into the County Learning Disability Partnership Board. The next meeting is planned for **Wednesday 6th March 2002**, in Cotgrave. For further information contact Maggy Topley on 0115 988 1710 or [maggy.topley@proweb.co.uk](mailto:maggy.topley@proweb.co.uk) or Val Gardiner on 01636 613 693

Available in Braille, large print, tape & on line  
Contact Laurence on 0115 988 1710 for details

## PHYSICAL & SENSORY IMPAIRMENT

“One project, almost at completion stage, initiated through comments made by visually impaired people, is to speed up the communication between the QMC Ophthalmology Department and Social Services, ...”

As reported in the last newsletter, the JCG for Physical and Sensory Impairment is involved in three main areas of work. These are:

- 1 The Joint Community Equipment Service
- 2 Implementing the Joint Investment Plan - Welfare to Work for Disabled People
- 3 Consulting with users & carers to ensure their views are central to commissioning

The establishment of the **Joint Community Equipment Service** is now expected to progress quickly following the appointment of Project Manager, Jordan Pitcher, due to start on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2001. A first task will be to **encourage additional user/carer involvement** in the development work – anyone interested in being involved in this please contact Jane Godden at Nottingham City Primary Care Trust, 0115 942 6000 (ext 38504).

JCG members are busy **collating** all user & carer views obtained through the consultation meetings held over the last year into one report to be widely shared with all our partner agencies. The JCG has already presented findings to Rushcliffe PCT practice managers, and by the time you read this will have given a presentation to the Patient Partnership Champions Network.

One project, almost at completion stage, **initiated** through comments made by visually impaired people, is to speed up the communication between the QMC Ophthalmology Department and Social Services when someone is first registered blind. This is being done by **monitoring** the BD8 Forms (these are the forms that are passed between health and social services when someone is diagnosed with sight loss) over a three month period to identify where the delay is occurring. We can then ensure necessary steps are immediately taken to resolve the problem.

Chair – Teresa Shaw  
physicalsensory@pdteam.org.uk



North Notts  
Health area

### Do you work across Nottinghamshire? Have you made contact with our friends in the North?

You may like to learn that they have a great newsletter “Staying In Touch” and a website for information relating to health and social care planning at

[www.healthpartnership.fslife.co.uk](http://www.healthpartnership.fslife.co.uk)

For further information contact Kevin Skingsley at Bassetlaw CVS on 01909 476118 or [partnerships@bcvs.org.uk](mailto:partnerships@bcvs.org.uk)

The **key items** for the Local Implementation Team (LIT) in recent weeks have been the work on the Stage 3 Report on the National Service Framework (NSF), and the preparation for the Fourth Annual Mental Health Stakeholders conference held in October. The conference, again titled '**Make Your Voice Heard**' attracted wide interest, with more than half of the 120 delegates being service users and carers and the remainder being representatives of service providers and commissioners. The discussions and concurrent graphic recording were as stimulating and thought provoking as ever, and the conference **report will be available soon**.

The Stage 3 report on the local activity towards implementing the NSF included an **action plan** for the next two years with anticipated financial costs. Although we had no news at that stage about the £300m promised nationally, for Mental Health in the NHS plan, we have since heard that £75m will be available in 2002/2003. We still wait to hear what the share will be for Nottingham Health District. An **update** of the National Mental Health Service Mapping exercise was undertaken, as was a separate in-depth mapping of all local expenditure on mental health. After submission of the report, we held a meeting with colleagues from NHS Trent Regional Office to review progress and are looking forward to their feedback.

A late piece of **good news** from the voluntary sector is the opening of splendid new premises on Mansfield Road for AWAAZ (Asian Mental Health Resource Centre). We wish Angela Kandola and her team every success.

David Levell – Local Implementation Manager Mental Health  
mentalhealth@pdteam.org.uk

“... ‘**Make Your Voice Heard**’ attracted wide interest, with more than half of the 120 delegates being service users and carers, ..”

## HEALTH IN YOUR ENVIRONMENT VOL. SECTOR FORUM

“ .. a major item has been the development of a Healthy Environment chapter of the Health Improvement Programme, ..”

On 23rd October HIYE held its AGM. Reports were received from various groups **associated** with HIYE, including: the Nottingham Health Action Group, where a major item has been the development of a Healthy Environment chapter of the Health Improvement Programme; the Food Initiatives Group, which has produced a Community Food Project Directory; the Health Action Zone Affordable Warmth workstream, the Transport and Health Initiatives Group and our involvement with the local Agenda 21 process.

It was highlighted that this is a time of great change, with a **need to develop positive working relationships** with the Primary Care Trusts, and a need to be clear about how HIYE can work best when the Health Authority functions are transferred to the PCTs in April 2002. This at a time when the Government is stressing the need to tackle health inequalities and the need to take into account the wider determinants of health and ill-health, in particular environmental issues.

HIYE are **planning** a conference on the theme of ‘what is meant by a healthy community’ in the Spring of next year, and a directory of best practice in terms of health and environmental issues from around the country.

For information contact Helen Thompson on 9123344 ext 49419 or Richard Eddleston on 9252586.

## MEASURES TO GIVE PATIENTS, CARERS & COMMUNITIES A SAY

“.. move away from a system of patients being on the outside, to one where the voices of patients, their carers and the public generally are heard, ..”

The Government has announced final plans to give patients and the public more say about how health services are developed and run as part of its commitment to creating a “health service designed around the patient”.

These plans follow a national consultation exercise and promote new arrangements to replace the current system of Community Health Councils. They highlight a “..move away from a system of patients being on the outside, to one where the voices of patients, their carers and the public generally are heard and listened to through every level of the service, acting as a lever for change and improvement..”

Proposals include ‘**Patient Advice & Liaison Services (PALS)**’ and ‘**Patients’ Forums**’ and a new independent national ‘**Commission for Patient & Public Involvement in Health**’, which will have “networks” based in local communities.

### How will they affect patients, carers & voluntary groups?

- Patients and carers will access **PALS**, located in reception areas of hospitals and primary care settings (eg GPs’ surgeries) to get information and resolve problems. An **Independent Complaints Advocacy Service (ICAS)** will support patients with complaints.
- Patients, voluntary groups and the public will have the opportunity to sit on **Patients’ Forums**, to be established in each hospital trust and Primary Care Trust (PCT). As independent forums they will monitor Trust services and provide representation on the Trust board.
- Individuals and community groups will get support from the **local “networks”** of the **Commission for Patient & Public Involvement in Health**. These independent organisations will use outreach workers in community premises within each PCT area to support local people and community groups to have their say.

The Government hopes to make sure people’s views are heard. It establishes a new independent body – the Commission for Patient & Public Involvement in the NHS to co-ordinate these arrangement. It places a statutory duty on the NHS to make sure arrangements are implemented effectively.

Plans are already underway to implement PALS in April 2002. Patients’ Forums and the Commission are likely to begin in 2003.

Full details can be found in the document “**Involving patients and the public in healthcare: response to the listening exercise**” - on the internet at [www.doh.gov.uk/involvingpatients](http://www.doh.gov.uk/involvingpatients)

Karen Cross – Policy & Information Officer (Health), Rushcliffe CVS



If you would like further information on health and social care developments, try Karen’s section on the Rushcliffe CVS web site.

[www.rushcliffecvs.org.uk/healthaction.htm](http://www.rushcliffecvs.org.uk/healthaction.htm)

In **Intermediate Care** I am pleased to confirm the appointment of two Locality NSF Implementation Managers/Intermediate Care Co-ordinators: **Shirley Smith** (formerly Joint Commissioning Manager – Older People's Services) working across Nottingham City and **Sharon Creber** (formerly Commissioning Officer, County Social Services) working across Nottingham Boroughs (Broxtowe & Hucknall, Gedling, and Rushcliffe)

Older people in Nottingham can already benefit from the fairly well established intermediate care services that have been developing since 1997. These services **aid** a more timely discharge from hospital (or even prevent an unnecessary admission to hospital) by providing short-term rehabilitation and support either in the home, or in a residential setting thereby promoting and maximising independence for older people.

In **addition** to the above appointments I am also pleased to introduce two new project managers who will be focusing on implementation in specific areas:

Jordan Pitcher Project Manager **Joint Community Equipment Service**. Work is underway to develop an action plan to establish a joint integrated community equipment store in Nottingham by late 2002/early 2003.

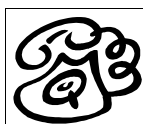
Sarah Greaves Project Manager **Single Assessment Process**. A workshop relating to the Single Assessment Process is to be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> December at Colwick Racecourse. This is an **opportunity** for professionals to develop a common understanding of what is meant by a single assessment process and debate the changes that will need to take place locally to implement it. Further consultation events will be planned to give older people themselves and their carers, an opportunity to find out what single assessment will mean to them, and to express their views on the proposals.

Caroline Jordan – District-wide NSF Co-ordinator  
olderpeople@pdteam.org.uk

" .. services aid a more timely discharge from hospital (or even prevent an unnecessary admission to hospital) by providing short-term rehabilitation and support either in the home, or in a residential setting , ..."



If **you** have any ideas, issues or concerns about any of the subjects in this newsletter please contact the Chairs direct or write to the **partnership development** team (PDT) ,



British Red Cross – Notts Branch,  
Great Freeman St,  
Nott'm NG3 1FR



Telephone **0115 988 1710**, Direct Fax **0115 912 3441**, (office hours)  
E-mail [pdteamrx@proweb.co.uk](mailto:pdteamrx@proweb.co.uk)  
Website [www.partnership-development-team.org.uk](http://www.partnership-development-team.org.uk)

## voluntary sector forums

These local forums provide opportunities to exchange information & share views. All discuss health & social care, some have a wider remit exploring other local initiatives and opportunities. Further information available below:

Ashfield	Ashfield Links Forum; David Gilding on 01623 555 551 or LINKS@netcomuk.co.uk
Broxtowe	Broxtowe Voluntary Sector Forum, Mel Hatto on 0115 949 1175 or staplefordvb@talk21.com.
Gedling	Gedling Voluntary Action Network, Pam Wisher on 0115 926 6750 gedlingvb@care4free.net
Rushcliffe	Rushcliffe CVS on 0115 981 8988 or health@rushcliffecvs.org.uk
ARCH	Action for Rural Care & Health – a multi-agency forum looking at health & social care issues in the context of Rural Nottinghamshire. For Information contact Marilyn Tippet at Notts Rural Community Council on 01623 727 600
Housing & Homelessness	A multi-agency forum examining issues of housing and homelessness in the County & City. For further information contact Fiona Bennett on 0115 967 4424

## IN BRIEF

### Substance Misuse

Over the last few months the Partnership Development Team has been talking to a few voluntary sector service providers about ways of linking their “user involvement” mechanisms into the work of the City and County Drug Action Teams (DATs). We have talked to Framework, (formerly Macedon & NHHA), Compass, Double Impact, and Emmanuel House to find out what they already have in place to collect the views of people using their services. As a result it looks like we’ll be putting together a **pilot project** taking an item from both DAT Action Plans and involving service users to influence how that action is carried out. Hot favourite so far for this pilot area is **alcohol**, since many people have said that the high profile given to illegal drugs deflects attention away from the widespread misery caused by one of our most dangerous legal drugs. Watch this space!

[substancemisuse@pdteam.org.uk](mailto:substancemisuse@pdteam.org.uk)

### HIV & AIDS

An update for the HIV & AIDS **directory** of services is nearing completion. When reproduced current holders of the directory will be able to replace pages in the existing binder with new information.

[hivaid@pdteam.org.uk](mailto:hivaid@pdteam.org.uk)

**contact details**

Lynne Winstanley	Substance Misuse Joint Commissioning Group	<b>Gedling PCT</b> Carlton Health Centre Clinic 61 Burton Rd Carlton Nottingham NG4 2DQ Tel: 0115 840 5921
	Mental Health Local Implementation Team	
Ruth Cutler	HIV & AIDS Joint Commissioning Group	(Interim address whilst staff re-deployed in PCTs) <b>Nott'm Health Authority</b> 1 Standard Court Park Row Nott'm, NG1 6GN Tel: 0115 912 3344
Caroline Jordan	Older People Strategic Modernisation Team	
Harjinder Nerwal	Black & Ethnic Minorities Advisory Group	
Wendy Lippmann	Learning Disability Joint Commissioning Manager	
Teresa Shaw	Physical & Sensory Impairment Joint Commissioning Group	<b>Nottingham City PCT</b> Linden House 261 Beechdale Road Aspley Nott'm, NG8 3EY Tel: 0115 942 6000
Andrew Fry	Community Reference Group	write c/o The <b>Partnership Development Team</b> (as page 5) Tel: 0115 910 1008



We have recently updated our site to make it more accessible and have added a news links page, from which you can access Government sites relating to those care groups we work with (ie, HIV & AIDS, learning disability, mental health, older persons, physical & sensory impairment and substance misuse) and other useful organisations in the Nottingham area

[www.partnership-development-team.org.uk](http://www.partnership-development-team.org.uk)

# diary

date meeting start time

## january

Monday 7th	Carers Forum (Learning Disabilities – contact PDT for details)	10.30 am
Thursday 10th	Older Persons Strategic Modernisation Team	2 pm
Friday 11th	Learning Disability Development Group (formerly JCG)	11 am
Friday 11th	Learning Disability Partnership Board (City)	2 pm
Tuesday 15th	HIV & AIDS Joint Commissioning Group	2 pm

## february

Monday 4th	Carers Forum (Learning Disabilities – contact PDT for details)	10.30 am
Friday 8th	Physical & Sensory Impairment Joint Commissioning Group	10 am
Thursday 14th	Older Persons Strategic Modernisation Team	2 pm

## march

Monday 4th	Carers Forum (Learning Disabilities – contact PDT for details)	10.30 am
Wednesday 6th	Voluntary Sector Network (Learning Disability – see front page)	11 am
Thursday 14th	Learning Disability Partnership Board (County)	10.30 am
Thursday 14th	Older Persons Strategic Modernisation Team	2 pm

**NOTE: Details of meetings in faint type are for information only. If you wish to discuss any matters please do so via the appropriate contact details overleaf or via the Partnership Development Team**

*The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Partnership Development Team or their managing agent.*

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