



E-Bulletin from the National Association for Patient Participation: Issue 44: August 2010

The July bulletin can be viewed on the N.A.P.P. website. Apologies to those who did not receive it due to communication problems, in the wake of Audrey Hoggard's departure. The July issue can be downloaded from the N.A.P.P. website.

The Board is in the process of reappointing to fill the vacancy resulting from Graham's departure and will inform the membership of the new appointments as soon as possible.

308. 'Equity and excellence: Liberating the NHS'

You will be aware of the government's proposals contained in the White Paper '*Equity and excellence: Liberating the NHS*' www.dh.gov.uk/liberatingthenhs Representatives of the N.A.P.P. Board, with other interested parties, attended a briefing at the Department of Health on 30th July to debate the proposals. The main discussions centred on the establishment of Local HealthWatch which will evolve from LINKs, and HealthWatch England Following the meeting we received a consultation document '*Establishing HealthWatch*', in which PPGs are acknowledged. This document summarises the key proposals for patient and public involvement from the White Paper and two accompanying consultation papers, one of which, '*Liberating the NHS: commissioning for patients*' also acknowledges the role of PPG's (see item 312 later in this e-bulletin). www.vusra.org.uk/resources/HealthWatch.pdf .

Pages 6, 7 and 8 of '*Establishing HealthWatch*' list the consultation questions contained in the White Paper. Section 3, 'Key Issues and Questions to Consider', forms the basis of the consultation process. Points 2 and 3 (Page 18) and point 2 (Page 22) are particularly important for PPG's to consider in answering the consultation questions. It is critical that the unique contribution PPG's can make is highlighted through this consultation and that PPG's provide their perspective on how the new arrangements and relationships between PPG's, local HealthWatch and GP consortia may be effectively put into practice.

The consultation period on the White Paper ends on 11th October. N.A.P.P. is already engaged in compiling its response, but we need your perspective. We would urge you to send responses to edith.todd@napp.org.uk **by 18th September**. We need this lead time to collate responses and compile a representative view of the proposals. We see this as a major task for the board and that we need to ensure the voice of PPGs is heard. If you have any queries about making a response please contact edith.todd@napp.org.uk

309. PPG members needed to help give patients a stronger voice

The White Paper contains proposals to strengthen the voice of patients by giving people greater choice over services, a greater say in decisions about care and by creating a new champion for patients called HealthWatch. To help explore these policies in more detail, the Department of Health are looking for **patient members of PPGs** who would be interested in attending a **one day workshop** from 10.00a.m to 3.00p.m .in either **London on 27th September** or **Leeds on the 4th October**. These are **specifically for PPG members** and numbers are limited to no more than 20. Travel expenses will be reimbursed by the Department. If you are interested in attending, please email HealthWatch@dh.gsi.gov.uk to provide your name, contact details and indicate which workshop you would like to attend. Please copy to edith.todd@napp.org.uk To ensure that a good cross section of PPGs can have their say, we suggest that one delegate per PPG should attend.

310. Regional Voices Consultation Events on the Health White Paper in 9 locations

Further opportunities to learn more about the proposed changes through the White Paper as well as having the chance to attend three interactive consultation workshops during the day to discuss issues in depth and to provide feedback directly to those leading on the consultations from the Department of Health. Information on the content of the workshops and the booking form can be downloaded from www.regionalvoices.net/events for events, which are being held during September in Newcastle upon Tyne, Manchester (fully booked), Leeds, Nottingham, Birmingham, Cambridge, Lewisham, Winchester and Exeter. Again, places are limited and swift action recommended.

311. The Care Quality Commission

The Care Quality Commission recently wrote to N.A.P.P. regarding the start of a new system of health and adult social care regulation in England called the 'essential standards of quality and safety'. The new system is being gradually introduced starting with all NHS hospitals which entered the new system on 1 April 2010. We mentioned the benefits of the new standards in the Spring edition of our newsletter. The Care Quality Commission has now published a leaflet which informs patients what standards to expect from the regulation of their NHS hospital. This is available both in print or can be downloaded from their website at www.cqc.org.uk/nhsguide

312. Consultation on commissioning

In 'Liberating the NHS: Commissioning for Patients', the plans for commissioning to be transferred to GP Consortia are set out. Here you can view in more detail the plans for patients to be given greater prominence in the commissioning process. The document is available at http://www.dh.gov.uk/prod_consum_dh/groups/dh_digitalassets/@dh/@en/document_s/digitalasset/dh_117705.pdf

313. Mud, Sweat and Gears

A full account of Graham's parting endeavour can be found on the N.A.P.P. website at www.napp.org.uk/napp/cycle-tour/ and a comprehensive set of photographs can

be accessed at <http://logisticsd.pixa.us/>. If the site requests a username and password please contact danny.daniels@napp.org.uk .

A big thank you from the Board to all the participating PPGs who made both Graham and Danny most welcome.

314. Case Studies

Some interesting and informative case studies are about to go live on our sister website www.growingppgs.com in the next week. They feature :-

Kingsway PPG Medical Practice Manchester,
Friends of Parkfield Medical Centre PPG Potters Bar,
Bewsey Street PPG Warrington

Danny Daniels
Chair
National Association for Patient Participation

www.napp.org.uk

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