

# NETWORK

## Raising Our Profile

Health & Social Care Voluntary Sector Forum • 20th April 2011

**This was a well attended meeting, with over 50 people, representing 42 groups and organisations.**



*Health & Social Care Voluntary Sector Forum*

Sue Howard welcomed everyone and emphasised that the role of NDVA would be crucial in 2011/12; she encouraged members to become more involved, for example by standing for membership of the NDVA Board.

David Timcke, NDVA's Chief Officer, reported that NDVA and Amber Valley CVS, co-hosts to Derbyshire LINK, were delighted to report that the contract with Derbyshire County Council had been extended to a 4th year and all parties concerned were keen to ensure our County is well prepared for the proposed change to 'Healthwatch' in 2012. David also informed the Forum that Tammi Wright, currently LINK's Project Co-ordinator, has been offered the post of LINK Project Leader following a rigorous interview.

Turning to February's lively Forum debate about members working more co-operatively and raising our public profile via the local media, David confirmed that he had issued a press release on behalf of Forum members soon after that meeting. He had then turned 'devil's advocate' by penning a "challenging" letter about the Voluntary Community Sector! (VCS) This letter appeared in the Derbyshire Times and

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# Health and Social Care Forum

generated a substantial follow up debate in the “Times Chat” pages, with some very well thought through and informative responses. This had the effect of keeping us all ‘in the spotlight’ for four consecutive weeks.

David informed the Forum that he had also drafted a letter to local editors highlighting how important we considered to be their support for the Sector. This was signed by those present at the April meeting and posted the following day.

Jacqui Willis updated the Forum on meetings of the Resources and Issues Group (RIG), to which any member of NDVA is welcome to attend. Following their recent visit to Westminster and meetings with some of our local MPs, RIG members recently met with Toby Perkins, MP for Chesterfield. Toby agreed that (anonymous) case studies were very useful in promoting and standing up for the VCS. Jacqui asked Forum members to let her have any good (or bad) stories so she is able to produce a monthly briefing paper which will be sent to all our local MPs. A follow up meeting with Natascha Engel MP will take place in July.

## Update - Derbyshire County Council Adult Care

The Forum welcomed James Matthews, Assistant Director, who was able to join us for a limited time.

With regard to grants awarded by Adult Care, James had good news for the Sector. Small organisations employing less than 4 (full time equivalent) staff will be receiving a 1% increase. Larger organisations will be asked to justify receiving a 1% increase; with level of reserves being taken into account.

There will be no uplift from NHS Derbyshire County (PCT); however, organisations that are jointly funded will have the opportunity to pitch for the DCC 1% increase.

The new structure of Adult Care is now complete. However, James reminded the Forum that the number of managers in the Department had been reduced by 40 and this would affect their capacity to respond. (NDVA has previously emailed details of the new structure to recipients of our ENews bulletin; to request a copy please contact us on 01246 555908)

James told the meeting about a change to the proposed assessment criteria; ‘higher moderate need’ has been added. This followed concerns that had been expressed about the wide gap between moderate and substantial. This news was warmly welcomed by the members of the Forum.

We were informed that Direct Payments staff are now managed by Mike Peers and that there are now 17,000 people receiving Direct Payments.

## Care Quality Commission (CQC)

Debbie Widdowson, Compliance Manager (East Midlands) gave a succinct and informative presentation on the work of CQC.

Debbie told the meeting that, prior to April 2010, health and social care had been

regulated by three bodies – CSCI (Commission for Social Care Inspection), Health Care Commission and the Mental Health Act Commission. Following an Act of Parliament, all three were brought together to assess organisations. The new system ensures all providers have the same assessment. In response to questions from the floor, Debbie informed the Forum that:



*Debbie Widdowson*

- CQC looks at the individual activities of providers and not their overall 'services' i.e. it is the individual activity that is registered.
- There are no current plans to register care groups that are currently unregistered
- CQC inspectors do have the right to 'enter and view' – whether they do depends on the available information and a judgement on the level of risk
- CQC does not respond to individual complaints but a review may be triggered if there are numerous complaints
- It is the responsibility of the service provider to respond to individual complaints.
- If a complaint remains unresolved after referral to the service provider it can be referred to the Parliamentary Ombudsman. If it then remains unresolved, CQC does then become involved
- CQC is answerable to and monitored by the Department of Health

A copy of Debbie's presentation is available via the NDVA office

## Changes in the NHS, GP Commissioning - Where are we now?

Sue Pogson, a manager with the Patient and Public Involvement / PALS Service, NHS Derbyshire County, provided a helpful and instructive overview of proposed changes and progress in working towards them.

A copy of Sue's presentation is available via the NDVA office but key points included:

- Primary Care Trusts and Strategic Health Authorities to be phased out by 2013
- Derbyshire Community Health Services became an NHS Trust on 1 April

- GP groups will buy health services for patients
- Public health functions will move to local authorities
- Staff in PCT starting to be aligned to Consortia
- Proposals for 5 Consortia
  1. South Derbyshire, South Derbyshire Dales, Amber Valley and Derby City
  2. Erewash
  3. High Peak and Buxton
  4. North Derbyshire
  5. Independent cluster of practices

Consortia must -

- Involve patients and the public in developing, considering and making decisions on any proposals that would have a significant impact on service delivery or the range of health services available
- Have regard to the NHS Constitution
- Have regard to the need to reduce inequalities in access to health, promote patients and carer involvement in decisions about them and enable patients to make choices with respect to aspects of their health care



*Sue Pogson*

## Derbyshire Alcohol Advice Service (DAAS)

The '10 Minute Slot' saw Alison Scott, Deputy Manager of Chesterfield DAAS, giving a short, informative presentation on their services.

DAAS is the Countywide service (excluding Derby City) for alcohol provision. The Head Office is in Chesterfield and they run an



Alison Scott

outreach service across the county predominantly out of GP surgeries. They are a 'Tier Two' service offering counselling and

brief interventions to people experiencing problems related to alcohol. The work is offered on a one to one basis initially for 6 sessions and there is also support through group work. Help is also available for relatives and friends of drinkers through the RAFT (Relatives and Friends Together) service.

DAAS provides alcohol awareness training to 'Tier One' professionals who often have initial contact with people affected by alcohol. Professionals can refer people to the service but ideally it is best that the individual contacts the service themselves where possible. Where more help is needed, onward referral is offered to the 'Tier Three' alcohol service (Addaction).

DAAS has recently taken on 9 new volunteers. They have just completed an extensive in-house training course and have all been CRB checked.

**For information, training requests or to complete a referral please contact DAAS on 0845 308 4010. See [www.daas.uk.com](http://www.daas.uk.com)**

## Reform of Adult Social Care

**The government has signalled the biggest reform of adult care law in 60 years after a three-year review proposed sweeping changes to adult safeguarding and carers' rights, and the extension of direct payments to residential care.**

The Law Commission's proposals to simplify and modernise the law on adult care, published on 11 May (see website address opposite), will inform government legislation

next year. Although Ministers have yet to say which recommendations they will accept, Care Services Minister Paul Burstow said: "This report provides foundation for the most significant single reform of social care law in 60 years."

The report makes recommendations for a single, clear, modern statute and code of practice that would pave the way for a



Paul Burstow

## The Health and Social Care Bill -

### How real is the long term threat to the NHS?

**Alarm bells are being rung in some quarters, including various groups and organisations within the voluntary and community sector, regarding what the Health and Social Care Bill says about the secretary of state's duty in respect of the NHS.**

They argue that the Bill is fundamentally different from any Health Bill since 1946; it is a repealing Bill that dismantles the legal framework that underpins the NHS. It simply requires the secretary of state to promote - as distinct from the current duty to provide - a universal, comprehensive health service.

The "alarm bell ringers" argue that the current duty and power of the secretary of

state to provide a comprehensive health service is the lynchpin of the legal framework that ensures the NHS is:

- universal
- comprehensive
- publicly accountable
- free at the point of delivery.

- and that this change of duty opens the way for all other changes to the health service.

They suggest that the worst of the damage to the NHS can be prevented by protecting the duties and powers of the secretary of state. While the secretary of state has these duties, they will ensure the necessary systems are in place to fulfil them.

Although the focus of debate is on what the Bill is introducing (GP commissioning and 'any willing provider'), the "alarm bell ringers" argue that the greatest long term risk to the NHS is what is being taken away.

coherent social care system. Under the reforms proposed in the report, older people, disabled people, those with mental health problems and carers will, for the first time, be clear about their legal rights to care and support services. Local councils across England and Wales will have clear and concise rules to govern when they must provide services.

Included in the recommendations are:

- putting the individual's wellbeing at the heart of decision-making, using new

statutory principles

- giving carers new legal rights to services
- placing duties on councils and the NHS to work together
- building a single, streamlined assessment and eligibility framework
- protecting service users from abuse and neglect with a new legal framework, and -
- for the first time, giving adult safeguarding boards a statutory footing.

For details please go to: [www.justice.gov.uk/lawcommission/news/1461.htm](http://www.justice.gov.uk/lawcommission/news/1461.htm)

# NOTICE BOARD NOTICE BOARD NOTICE BOARD

## Notice of NDVA Annual General Meeting

### THE BIG EVENT!

**Wednesday  
6th July 2011**

NDVA AGM, Health & Social Care Forum and Networking Event at the Bakewell Agricultural Business Centre – all rolled into one exciting day!

An insert in this issue of Network provides more details about the Day together with an invitation to have an information stall at the Networking Event. We are also inviting nominations from signed up members of NDVA to join the Board of Directors.

If your copy of Network does not have these inserts, please do contact us straight away – [info@ndva.org.uk](mailto:info@ndva.org.uk) or telephone 01246 555908

Make a note in your diary now! You may also wish to make a note of the October Forum which will be on Wednesday 12th October.

## VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

### Dronfield

Dronfield District Visually Impaired Group is looking for a volunteer to help at their fortnightly meetings. Preferably a younger to middle aged person with own transport, resident in the Dronfield or Chesterfield area.

**Please contact the Secretary on 01246 414868**

### Chesterfield

NDVA has two volunteering opportunities.

The first is to provide general office support including filing, envelope stuffing (we do a lot of that!) and general administration. Most of this will be undertaken as part of a small, friendly team and would be ideal for anyone wishing to regain his / her confidence and skills before seeking or returning to paid employment.

The second is to help develop our use of IT as a two-way communication tool. We would be particularly interested in hearing from anyone who has experience in the design and development of websites and use of social media in promoting our activities and building our supporter base.

**For further information or to arrange an informal chat please contact us on 01246 555908**

### Ashgate Hospice Walkers and Volunteers Wanted Midnight Walk - 25th June, 2011

6.5 or 13 mile Ladies only sponsored walk from Dronfield to Ashgate Hospice and back.

Register online at [www.ashgatehospicevents.co.uk](http://www.ashgatehospicevents.co.uk) or call the Fundraising Team on (01246) 567250.

We also need volunteers to help marshal and register the participants etc.

## Cardiac / Stroke / Diabetes Self-Care Event

29th June 2011 from 1.30 to 4.30 pm  
at the B2Net Stadium, Chesterfield

Derbyshire LINK, with representatives from Heart Support Groups from North Derbyshire and supported by the North Trent Network of Cardiac Care, are hosting a self-care event for people with or at risk of cardiac or stroke problems.

The three main guest speakers will be:

- Professor Patrick Doherty, NHS Clinical lead for Cardiac Rehabilitation
- Dr. Clare Hawley, Associate Specialist in Cardiology, Chesterfield Royal Hospital
- Pam Purdue, Patient and Public Involvement Manager, Derbyshire County PCT

The impact on the lives of patients and their families of a cardiac event can be devastating but there is widespread evidence to demonstrate that there are clear benefits for people who partake in activities which lead to long term lifestyle change.

This event is being driven by members of patient support groups from Chesterfield and the surrounding areas. It is these active volunteers who commit many hours to assisting others to demystify rehabilitation and live a healthier and fulfilling life. It is they who make an incalculable impact on local health and social care services by promoting healthier living and encouraging people to take control of their own health.

**For further information / to book a place, please contact Tanya Nolan, Derbyshire LINK on (01246) 558924**

## Extra Time

Chesterfield FC Community Trust has launched a new social and gentle exercise club for men and women aged 60 and over.

Participants can do as much or as little as they want but activities include

- Meet and greet with tea, coffee and biscuits
- Gentle exercise sessions
- Dancing
- Heritage and history discussions
- Regular guest speakers
- Fun activities such as bingo, dominoes and quizzes
- Other activities chosen by you!

## Activities are free of charge!

The Club meets every Wednesday from 10.000 am to 12 noon at The Parish Centre, Stonegravels, 91 Sheffield Road, Chesterfield S41 7JH

**Further information from  
01246 209765 (option 1) or email  
rachelbooth@chesterfield-fc.co.uk**

## NDVA Small Grants and 'TEUIF' Funding: supporting local groups

**NDVA manages a small grants scheme which offers financial support towards the running costs of health and social care related voluntary groups in north Derbyshire, with priority given to those having limited financial resources. Funding is provided by NHS Derbyshire County (PCT) and Derbyshire County Council.**

We also manage the 'Travel Expenses & User Involvement Fund' (TEUIF), which is designed to cover out of pocket expenses of service users, carers and voluntary group representatives who participate in a variety of planning groups and consultation

exercises relating to health issues in Derbyshire.

In 2010 / 2011, TEUIF and small grants totalling £30,300 were awarded to 50 groups and organisations. In addition, two new groups received £200 to help them in 'getting off the ground'.

Further information about these grants can be seen on our website [www.ndva.org.uk](http://www.ndva.org.uk) - or contact us on 01246 555908

Deadlines for submitting small grant applications:

- 10th June 2011
- 16th September 2011
- 30th December 2011

## Derbyshire County NHS Primary Care Trust

### Voluntary Sector Development Fund

**Applications are now being sought for grants from the Voluntary Sector Development Fund.**

Due to the current economic climate it is recognised that many organisations are finding it hard to find funding to allow them to redesign and/or develop new services.

This is an opportunity to apply for non-recurrent funding for amounts up to £5,000.

Applications should be received no later than 29th July 2011. For further details and an application form please contact the following:

#### **For General (non Mental Health):**

- Amanda Bradley, Commissioning Officer, NHS Derbyshire County  
Tollbar House, 1 Derby Road, Ilkeston, Derbyshire, DE7 5FE  
Telephone: 0115 9316129  
Email: [Amanda.bradley@derbyshirecountypct.nhs.uk](mailto:Amanda.bradley@derbyshirecountypct.nhs.uk)

#### **For Mental Health:**

- Georgina Horobin, Commissioning Manager, Mental Health NHS Derbyshire County  
Park Hill, Hilton Road, Eggington, Derbyshire, DE65 6GU  
Telephone: 01283 731346  
Email: [Georgina.Horobin@derbyshirecountypct.nhs](mailto:Georgina.Horobin@derbyshirecountypct.nhs)

## Coalfields Regeneration Trust funding

**CRT is nearing the completion of a total refresh of its grant awards schemes and will have 2 awards for groups to apply for in this new round: Level 1 for grants between £500-£5,000 and a Level 2 award for grants between £10,000 and £100,000.**

Grants are available for both capital and revenue projects – providing projects can demonstrate a clear ability to address one or more of the following key themes:

- providing access to employment and volunteering
- providing additional education and skills outside of statutory provision
- providing improved access to healthy living opportunities
- providing access to new services and opportunities in remote communities

The regional eligible areas map has been extended in the new round to encompass a far wider catchment of areas and projects.

**To find out more and discuss the prospects of funding for particular projects please contact the regional CRT office (01246) 820970**

## Derbyshire Health & Housing Group Funding 2011-2012

Derbyshire County PCT is working in partnership with local authorities, voluntary sector and housing organisations to provide funding to address the needs of vulnerable people and communities across the county to help develop:

- New innovative/sustainable projects
- Start up funding for small bids under £5k and larger bids under £15K
- Projects that are strategically relevant
- Added value to services
- Working in partnership with other agencies

Does your project link into the aims and objectives of any of the following strategies:

- Local Housing and Health Strategies
- Homelessness Strategy
- Inequalities
- Health Delivery Plans / Choosing Health
- Supporting People Strategy
- Sustainable community Strategies.
- Mental Health and Wellbeing Etc.

Does your Project Plan promote housing and care needs of vulnerable people such as:

- Young people with chaotic lifestyles
- Teenage parents
- Victims of domestic violence
- Energy efficiency
- Homelessness
- Alcohol and drug misuse
- Mental health
- Ex offenders at risk of re offending
- Older people

**For an electronic application form and guidance notes please contact: [jane.horton@derbyshirecountypct.nhs.uk](mailto:jane.horton@derbyshirecountypct.nhs.uk) or [sarah.hanel@derbyshirecountypct.nhs.uk](mailto:sarah.hanel@derbyshirecountypct.nhs.uk)  
Tel: 01283 731329 or 01773 525099 ext 5614**

## Mental Health Liaison Service

### JOINT COUNTY-WIDE FORUM

On March 29th the Joint County-wide Forum was held in partnership with Southern Derbyshire Voluntary Sector Mental Health Forum at Coney Green (see photo). Once again the event was very well attended by the voluntary sector right across Derbyshire as well as commissioner representatives from both PCTs and local authorities.

The minutes are currently being finalised by SDVSMHF and will be distributed via the VSMHN e-mail network. These events have been a good opportunity for organisations to speak directly to the commissioners. The next event will be held on 27th September.

### “NO HEALTH WITHOUT MENTAL HEALTH”

In February this year the Government produced “No Health Without Mental Health” which it describes as a “cross-governmental health outcomes strategy for people of all ages”. This supersedes New Horizons, which in turn superseded the NSF for mental health. It is quite a weighty tome, but Roger Kerry has been studying it and here are some items that he thinks stand out and give support to our position as a local voluntary sector.

When talking about voluntary groups it states “Local voluntary and community organisations can draw on the wealth of experience of their local communities in meeting need” and there does seem to be an acknowledgement of the contribution the voluntary sector can make

throughout the document. This is encouraging, but as we all know lofty sentiments do not secure the position of our organisations and more importantly protect the services to our service users.

The Mental Health Liaison Service will be trying to have the same role of promoting our local providers within the new commissioning structures as it did with DCC and PCT commissioners and in that there is also some encouragement in “No Health Without Mental Health”. When talking about the local authority Health and Wellbeing Boards it states “Boards may also choose to invite participation from local representatives of the voluntary sector” NDVA is lobbying for a place on the Board to represent our sector. It also says when talking about GP Consortia that “There will be opportunities for the voluntary and community sector and for-profit organisations to provide specialist commissioning advice on mental health to GP Consortia”. The NHS Confederation in its document “Public health and Well-being/The Local Perspective puts it more strongly saying “because the voluntary sector is essential for reaching vulnerable groups, it should have a designated member on the health and well-being boards, as well as on GP Consortia Boards”.

Roger will be working hard in the coming months along with colleagues at NDVA for the Mental Health Liaison Project to represent our local sector.

## MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS TRAINING

The project to provide mental health awareness training designed and provided by the local voluntary sector is continuing apace. On 6th May five more people completed the training for trainers course and there is a full programme through the summer.

*Any organisation that would like to arrange training for staff, volunteers or others should contact Ruth Stretton of SDVSMHF on 01773 599995 e-mail [ruth.stretton@sdvsmhf.org.uk](mailto:ruth.stretton@sdvsmhf.org.uk)*

## VOLUNTARY SECTOR MENTAL HEALTH NETWORK (VSMHN)

As some of you will know the May meeting of the VSMHN was cancelled. This was because Roger had only just returned to work after five weeks off with a broken shoulder. Just to say the meeting on July 13th will be going ahead. Roger would also like to thank VSMHN members and other colleagues for their kind e-mails following his accident.



*Joint Country-wide Forum*

## News from Derbyshire LINK

**Derbyshire LINK is hosted by NDVA and Amber Valley CVS. We currently have 1064 individual members on our database and 242 Groups who represent members or service users. This gives us a potential reach of almost 46,000 to a network of individuals.**

In March there were 43000 'hits' on the Derbyshire LINK website.

**Social Networks:** We have a regular updates to Facebook and blog from a volunteer.

In March LINK gathered 33 'issues' and 19 compliments about health care and related topics.

We currently have 19 volunteers (in addition to our Steering Group members) and new volunteering enquiries continue to be received.

**Steering Group Activity & Involvement:**

The LINK sub groups continue to meet and move forward towards submission of reports following focus group working.

New priorities based on issues gathered during last 3 months have been identified as Personalisation, Provision of information, Quality of Care,

Communications. Three Steering Group members have been identified to lead on three of these topics with Development Worker assigned to each group.

# Meet the NDVA staff

## Meet the NDVA Staff

**We are based on the top floor of the Market Hall in Chesterfield, in a small open plan office rented from Chesterfield Borough Council. We also have a small meeting room and kitchenette (which doubles as a filing room and stationery store!)**

NDVA 'core activities' are undertaken by:



*David Timcke*

### **David Timcke, Chief Officer**

David's time is split between managing NDVA and co-hosting Derbyshire LINK.

### **Sue Thickett, Administration**

Sue has been with NDVA since its early days – so she has a whole stack of knowledge and knows a lot of people! In addition to office administration, Sue maintains our QuickBooks financial system. She works half time.



*Sue Thickett*

### **Jacqui Willis, Liaison Officer**

Jacqui's role is to help in ensuring NDVA passes on to our member groups and organisations information about what is happening in the 'big



*Jacqui Willis*

world' of health and social care – via the Forum, 'ENews' and this newsletter. Jacqui works two days weekly for NDVA (she also works part time as a LINK Community Involvement Worker).

NDVA also has a separately funded Mental Health Liaison Service staffed by:



*Roger Kerry*

### **Roger Kerry, Development Worker**

Roger is tasked with developing and supporting mental health liaison meetings and networking in general. He is employed half time by NDVA.

### **Bryony White, Administration**

Bryony supports Roger by providing general administrative support, taking notes at meetings, etc. She also helps with general NDVA tasks, including QuickBooks, when time permits. Like Sue and Roger, her post is half time.



*Bryony White*

Other staff based at the NDVA office are engaged on Derbyshire LINK activities.

They are: **Sharon Buels, LINK Administrator, Tanya Nolan and Amy White, Community Involvement Workers (Also Jacqui Willis in her LINK role - see above)**



Supporting Derbyshire's health related voluntary organisations  
and liaising with health & social care agencies

**FREE**  
**NETWORKING EVENT**  
&  
**Health and Social Care**  
**Voluntary Sector Forum**

The Agricultural Business Centre  
Agricultural Way, Bakewell, Derbyshire DE45 1AH

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2011**

Forum: 09.30am – 12 noon

Networking Event: 12 noon – 2.30pm

**For further information or to request a booking form  
for a stand at the Networking Event contact NDVA**

**Telephone: 01246 555908 or**

**Email: [info@ndva.org.uk](mailto:info@ndva.org.uk)**

# Derbyshire LINK Extra

## Coming Soon

**Watch out for our LINK Community Involvement Workers, who will be seeking your views on local health services:**

Sunday 26th June 12 noon to 5.00 pm  
Heanor Festival Fun Day  
Heanor Market Place

Sunday 17th July from 10.00 am  
Ashbourne Highland Gathering  
Ashbourne Recreation Park

Thursday 21st July 10.00 am to 3.00 pm  
Holywell Medical Practice Road Show  
Community Hall, Staveley

## Seeking Your Views – Derbyshire LINK Foot care Questionnaire

Our Community Services Sub Group is currently focusing on foot care; its aim is to show the importance of healthy feet in the 'Prevention Health & Social Care' Strategy.

As part of the research process, we are inviting anyone who has difficulty managing their own foot care to complete a short questionnaire, which can be found on the Derbyshire LINK, Amber Valley CVS and NDVA websites – and are currently available in a number of randomly selected Medical Centres / GP Practices across Derbyshire.

**To take part please go to [www.derbyshirelink.org.uk](http://www.derbyshirelink.org.uk)**

## Congratulations to Tammi!

Tammi Wright has been appointed to the post of LINK Project Leader following an in-depth interview with David Briggs (LINK Steering Group Chair), Malcolm Gee (AVCVS Trustee) and David Timcke (NDVA Chief Officer). "The interview panel was impressed

by Tammi's knowledge, commitment to LINK and her responses to some robust questioning during a lengthy interview", said David Timcke.

Tammi has been working as the LINK Co-ordinator for the last 2½ years and said that she is looking forward to working alongside our enthusiastic staff team in moving Derbyshire LINK forward in this exciting transition year



*Tammi Wright*

## Healthwatch Transition Plan

Current Government reforms intend that Healthwatch will be the independent consumer champion for the public – locally and nationally – to promote better outcomes in health for all and in social care for adults.

Healthwatch will continue LINK functions of providing intelligence, including evidence from people's views and experiences, to influence the policy, planning, commissioning and delivery of health and social care – as LINK has done for the past three years.

There will also be some new functions locally such as provision of information and advice to help people access and make choices about services, access to independent complaints and advocacy to support people if they need help to complain about services.

Derbyshire LINK will be shaping itself in the coming year to transition to the local Healthwatch

A copy of the Healthwatch Transition Plan can be found in the news section of the LINK website – [www.derbyshirelink.org.uk](http://www.derbyshirelink.org.uk)

## Early Implementers of Health & Wellbeing Boards Announced

Local Authorities throughout England, including Derby City and Derbyshire County Council, have signed up to join a network of early implementers of Health and Wellbeing Boards. The Boards will remove divisions between the NHS and local authorities to ensure a more joined up service from the NHS and local councils in the future.

The early implementers will create 'shadow' Health and Wellbeing Boards which will be a strategic forum where elected representatives (including representatives from Healthwatch) will plan the right services for their area – across the NHS, public health, social care and children's services.

A Joint Strategic Needs Assessment will be undertaken by local authorities, GP Consortia and others through the Health and Wellbeing Boards. This will be a comprehensive analysis of the current and future needs for health and social care of their area. This strategy will be considered when developing commissioning plans and will have to consider the flexibilities in the Health Act for joint working across a wide range of providers.

## LINK Steering Group (volunteers)

The Steering Group are currently looking for volunteers in Bolsover, Derbyshire Dales, Erewash and South Derbyshire. If you live or work in any of these areas and would like to be involved please contact Elaine Broadhurst on 01773 512076 for further information.

## Be a LINK Champion!

'Empowering the Community' in promoting the work of Derbyshire LINK by attending

meetings of voluntary and community groups and organisations, helping to make them aware of the opportunity to have a say on health and social care issues in Derbyshire (e.g. hospitals, care homes and day centres) to help influence them for the better.

Volunteers need to have an interest in local health and care issues, good communication skills, commitment to equal opportunities and an interest in raising awareness of Derbyshire LINK with seldom heard groups. It is essential volunteers are able to complete the written feedback forms provided for any meeting they attend as Champion.

**Please contact Elaine Broadhurst on 01773 512076 for further information.**

## Are you a Team Player?

Could you attend local events with LINK staff and volunteers? You would be helping set up stands, give out leaflets, talk to members of the public about Derbyshire LINK and its role, giving them an opportunity to air their views on health and social care issues in their areas.

We are always looking for willing pairs of hands and value the contribution our volunteers make. **Please contact Elaine Broadhurst on 01773 512076 for further information.**

## Membership of Derbyshire LINK

Membership is open to organisations and individuals.

See [www.derbyshirelink.org.uk](http://www.derbyshirelink.org.uk) or telephone 01246 558924.

Find us on Facebook!

Derbyshire LINK is co-hosted by NDVA and Amber Valley CVS. With acknowledgements to 'Monitor' – the Derbyshire LINK newsletter.

# NETWORK NETWORK NETWORK

**NETWORK is available in large print or on tape on request. It is also available on the NDVA website. Please contact NDVA if you prefer to receive Network in either of these versions.**

The next distribution date for 'Network' newsletter is 8 August 2011. If you would like an article included, please ring or e-mail NDVA to discuss and send copy to us by 8 July 2011.

**Office 1, The Market Hall, Chesterfield, S40 1AR**  
**Telephone: 01246 555908 Email: [info@ndva.org.uk](mailto:info@ndva.org.uk)**

**Website: [www.ndva.org.uk](http://www.ndva.org.uk)**

Registered Charity number 1134329

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**Derbyshire LINK Website: [www.derbyshirelink.org.uk](http://www.derbyshirelink.org.uk)**

**Email: [info@derbyshirelink.org.uk](mailto:info@derbyshirelink.org.uk)**

## **NDVA Directors** **as from 21st April 2010**

Sue Howard  
Teddi Carlson  
Roland Brown  
Heather Fawbert  
Jackie King-Owen  
Ann Sullivan  
John Wardle

## **NDVA Staff**

David Timcke, Chief Officer  
Sue Thickett, Administrative Assistant  
Jacqui Willis, Liaison Officer  
Roger Kerry, Mental Health Liaison Worker  
Bryony White, Mental Health Administrative Assistant  
Tammi Wright, Derbyshire LINK Project Leader  
Sharon Buels, Derbyshire LINK Administrative Support