

**Get involved! Help improve health and social care services in Reading.**

**Reading LINK e-bulletin 7  
October 2009**

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**Reading LINK held it's first AGM on 20th October**

Reading LINK held its first AGM on 20th October 2009, an opportunity to meet many of you and report the progress made by the LINK during its first year. Janet Brown from Age Concern Reading, presented a case study of how the issue of toe nail cutting for the elderly was referred to Reading LINK. She outlined the work carried out, with the outcome that NHS Berkshire West are now undertaking a review of foot care services, which will include toenail cutting. Helen Mackenzie, Deputy Chief Executive, NHS Berkshire West spoke about the importance of the PCT hearing the local voice when they are planning services. LINK plays an important part in this as getting people involved does make a difference.

**Introducing the New Reading LINK Board**

The New Reading LINK board was appointed at the AGM on 20th October, as follows:

- **Sheila Booth**
- **John Fisher**
- **Harriet Hall**
- **Tony Hall**
- **Mary Jacobs**
- **John Rogers**
- **Nina Sethi**
- **John Shaw**
- **David Shepherd**
- **Malcolm Stone**
- **Janet Wignall**

**NHS Berkshire West seeking Patient Representative in tender process for Dermatology Services**

A Patient Representative is required to be present throughout the tender process, commencing in November 2009 and continuing through to early 2010.

If you would like more information or would be interested please contact Cath Price, NHS Berkshire West on 0118 9822 962 or via e-mail [cath.price@berkshire.nhs.uk](mailto:cath.price@berkshire.nhs.uk) by 6th November 2009.

**Proposals for Improving Heart Services – Update**

Between August 17th and October 2nd NHS Berkshire West conducted a pre- engagement exercise with key stakeholders about South Central Cardiovascular (CV) Network's proposals for the establishment of emergency angioplasty services (PPCI) in the region.

More than 100 organisations and individuals were engaged either by e mail, phone, leaflet or by attending meetings and presenting on the proposals.

The feedback, which almost unanimously called for PPCI services to remain in Reading, was forwarded to the CV Network who will use the information to further refine and shape the proposals before they go to public consultation in December 2009.

If you have any comments or questions, please contact the Patient and Public Engagement Team at [PPI.Team@berkshire.nhs.uk](mailto:PPI.Team@berkshire.nhs.uk).

**Find out more about Reading LINK**

If you would like a representative from Reading LINK to come along to one of your group meetings or events or you would like to find out more, please do contact us:

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