

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

**Reading LINK e-bulletin 14
May 2010**

- **Reading LINK Community Survey**
 - **South Central Ambulance Service NHS Trust Single Equality Scheme Consultation – Give your views by phone**
 - **General Optical Council – Consultation Seminar 25th May 2010**
 - **General Optical Council seeking volunteers**
 - **Find out more about Reading LINK**
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Reading LINK Community Survey

The Reading LINK Community survey continues. Reading LINK are gathering wide public opinion about what people think about their local health and social care services and to help determine what the priorities are for Reading LINK to take forward. We are seeking views for anyone living in the Reading Borough Area. If you would like to complete a hard copy, please call the Reading LINK office on 0118 958 4849 to request a survey form or the survey is also available to complete on-line at <http://www.readinglinkcommunitysurvey.co.uk/>

If you organise or attend a group, where you think people may like an opportunity to complete the survey, someone from the Reading LINK can come along to assist with this – please contact Elaine Holloway at Reading LINK on 0118 9584849 or e-mail Elaine at elaine.holloway@rva.org.uk

South Central Ambulance Service NHS Trust Single Equality Scheme Consultation – Give your views by phone

The Reading Council for Racial Equality is helping the South Central Ambulance Service NHS Trust with their Single Equality Scheme Consultation. The Single Equality Scheme aims to bring together all the different equality strands and embrace actions to eliminate discrimination at all levels. We are currently conducting detailed interviews with organisations. The interview will probably take about 15 minutes over the telephone. We would be very grateful if you were willing to be interviewed so that we have as good a representation as possible from organisations working on health issues. If you would like to take part please contact Iran Mohammadi-Heuboeck at mohammadiran@hotmail.com or 07914946613. You would be interviewed at your agreed time. The consultation closes on 27th May 2010.

Berkshire West Stroke Collaborative - improving information for stroke patients

Berkshire West Stroke Collaborative wants to improve the information given to people who have had, or are at risk of having, a stroke. The first task is to review what information is currently made available, and identify any gaps. Interviews are under way with patients, families, carers, NHS staff, social care staff and voluntary groups involved in services for stroke patients/carers. If you have comments to make or ideas to suggest, please contact either Pauline Owen (07979 495 106 /

pauline.owen@concilio ltd.com <<mailto:pauline.owen@concilio ltd.com>>)
or Jane Brooks (07765 791 550 / jane.brooks@casarios.uk.com
<<mailto:jane.brooks@casarios.uk.com>>) who are conducting the project
for the Stroke Collaborative.

General Optical Council – Consultation Seminar 25th May 2010

General Optical Council are seeking patient & public input on whether a 'Licence to Practise' should form part of revalidation for opticians. For input into this consultation you are invited to attend the consultation seminar on 25th May 2010 2pm-4pm in the Sycamore Room at 33 Cavendish Square, London, W1G 0PW. Travel expenses can be reimbursed according to the GOC travel policy. To reserve a place complete the on-line form at <http://www.optical.org/en/utilities/licence-to-practise-seminars.cfm> or contact Grahame Tinsley on 020 7307 3477 or gtinsley@optical.org

General Optical Council seeking volunteers

GOC are looking for volunteers to join two new Stakeholder Reference Groups to help them in their work. Each group will be made up of 12 members. Patients and members of the public will form one group, and optical professionals will form the other. Once recruited, the groups will have the opportunity to offer feedback and suggestions on a wide variety of GOC projects and policies.

Volunteers will mainly offer their input from home, through online 'e-engagement' exercises via email, or in writing. There will also be occasional focus groups, and at least one all-day event for members each year, for which participants will be entitled to claim reasonable travel expenses and a £50 fee daily fee to compensate for time out of work or practice.

GOC welcome applications from everyone, regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, faith or disability. Volunteers will be recruited on the strength of their application form and personal statement, and/or will be interviewed by telephone. There will be no face to face interviews for the positions.

For more information and an application form call 020 7307 9471. The closing date for applications is 15 June 2010, and members will be required to attend a one-day launch event in London on 22 September 2010.

Find out more about Reading LINK

Visit our website by clicking here: <http://readinglink.org.uk/>

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