

Issue 2 – January 2010

## **WRINGTON VALE MEDICAL PRACTICE DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER**

**Have your say....**

**Help us to improve primary and community health services in the rural areas of North Somerset**

Welcome to the second issue of the Wrington Vale Medical Practice (WVMP) Development Newsletter. Through this series of newsletters we aim to keep you up to date on the progress of the public consultation on the development of the WVMP. In this issue we will provide an update on the progress of the consultation and feed back to you some of the initial findings from the 'Village Cohesion/Sustainability Focus Group'.

**Only 6 weeks more of consultation – Make sure your views are heard**

The consultation ends on 13 March 2010 but there is still plenty of time for you to have your say on the future of WVMP. We want the eventual outcome to be a fair reflection of what the community are looking for from their GP practice and are encouraging as many people as possible to contribute their views.

There are still some public events scheduled and we hope many people who have not managed to attend previous meetings will come along.

Conversation Cafes:

- 2 February 2010 4.00-6.00 p.m. at Churchill War Memorial Hall, BS25 5SB



- 9 February 2010 6.30-8.30 p.m. at Blagdon Village Club, BS407TA

To get tickets for these please ring 01275 546887

There is also an open public meeting 6.30-8.30 pm on 18 February at Langford Veterinary School, BS40 5DU. This will be at a larger venue and we would encourage people to attend this event if you have not been able to get to any of the others. You won't need a ticket for this event but, due to venue capacity and health and safety reasons, a maximum of 200 people will be able to attend.

**PLEASE NOTE - The B3133 from Congresbury to Churchill will be closed from 1st February 2010 for two weeks. Access up to the vet's school will be allowed from the Congresbury end for a week and then the road is closed at a different point by the mushroom farm for two days. Please ensure that you adjust your travel plans to the public meetings accordingly. We will be continuing updating our website with up to date travel information.**

We have now also arranged visits to several local community groups including, Blagdon Mother & Toddler Group, Little Stars Mother & Toddler Group (Wrington), Wrington Luncheon Club and Blagdon Luncheon Club. This will provide us with the opportunity to come out and talk to residents that represent a variety of the views of people who would be impacted by the development.

If you would like us to visit a community group/school in your area please call us on 01275 546887. We won't take up much of your time, but your views are really important and will feature in the Consultation Report and our Equalities Impact Assessment.



## Monthly Update

Over the past month we held a further 2 Topic Focus Groups, covering 'Village Cohesion/Sustainability' and 'Improving Primary Health Services in rural areas'. The 'Village Cohesion/Sustainability' Topic Focus Group (see full round-up on page 5) held at Churchill War Memorial Hall on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010 had 27 attendees and highlighted a number of issues and ways in which the NHS can help.

The WVMP pages on our website have continued to receive a number of visitors throughout the month (total of 631 'hits') and will be updated frequently with the latest information throughout the consultation process.

## Project Board

It has been agreed that in order to complete the work of the project and in recognition of the value of service user involvement, the following will be invited to identify a representative to sit on the WVMP Project Board.

### 3 Service Users

1 each from the Consultation Reference Group, the Business Case Review Stakeholder Group and from LINK's

### Other members of the project board are:

Jeanette George – Director of Strategic Development (Chair)

Penny Hynds – Associate Director of Primary Care Commissioning

Mary Hutton – Director of Finance & Performance (or representative)

Becky Pollard – Interim Director of Public Health (or representative)

Julie Clatworthy – Director of Quality and Service Redesign (or representative)

David Fife – PEC Representative

A GP – TBC

### In Attendance

Jane Bryant – Project Manager Representative from Consultation Project Team



Barbara Hardy – Project Manager for the PCT for the Business Case Review  
Others may be asked to attend to contribute to particular items, such as Linda Shaw, the independent consultant to present the consultation report.

The Project Board will meet on a monthly basis until the conclusion of the project. Details of the dates of the meetings and project board minutes will be made available on the NHS North Somerset website and will be notified within the WVMP newsletter.

### **Business Case Review**

In response to the general concern around the amount and level of details available for any options that might be considered it has been agreed that an in-depth business case review is required to inform the PCT Board decision.

In order to achieve this, an independent consultant, Barbara Hardy, has been appointed and a project team and group of stakeholders have been identified to inform and support this work.

The in-depth review of WVMP's business case will not be complete until May/June as it is important it takes account of the feedback during the consultation phase and also that any new or different options that have arisen are fully assessed alongside those we are consulting on.

Regular updates will be made available throughout the consultation via the NHS North Somerset website and WVMP newsletter.

The revised (and improved) business case will be considered by the Project Board before a recommendation is made to the PCT Board.

### **Transport to support Patients – statement from the practice**

Should the final decision be to move the Practice onto one site at the current suggested location in Pudding Pie Lane, then the Practice would co-ordinate and pay for a transport solution that would especially consider Wrington



village residents who would be the biggest part of the Practice population affected by the change. We would pay for a daily weekday morning minibus to bring in patients from Wrington and then take them back to a central point in Wrington after they have had their appointment. Those patients who could not travel to us we would continue to visit as we have always done.

### **Village Cohesion/Sustainability- the major issues that you have raised to date**

27 people took part in our village cohesion/sustainability focus group on 19 January 2010 at Churchill War Memorial Hall. As part of the pre-consultation phase people identified that it is important to ensure that any plan for the future of the practice considers the effect on village cohesion/sustainability across the Wrington Vale Medical practice area.

We took away a number of issues and ways in which the NHS can help from those attending the focus group. These included:

- The feeling that a single site option could be seen as a threat to individual villages but excellent services from one site could bring the villages together.
- The feeling that because Wrington has a GP surgery it brings people into the village. The dental surgery, pharmacy, post office, bank and shops could be impacted if the GP surgery moves out of the village.
- North Somerset Council's Draft Core Strategy, which is currently being consulted upon, states that Wrington and Churchill should be a designated service village. The concern was the possible relocation of the GP surgery may adversely impact this and subsequent development in the village.
- Sustainability in terms of the environmental impact/carbon footprint of any proposed building and transport implications
- Social interaction within the community may not happen if the service is not localised.



Ways in which the NHS can help with this issue were difficult to identify in the Focus Group as it reflects the fact that the NHS is not directly responsible for village cohesion/sustainability. However there were a few suggestions which included:

- In order to fulfil the NHS North Somerset responsibility it should provide healthcare to all residents. It was suggested that if this is not practical from a financial point of view for a practice to provide services then NHS North Somerset should step in and subsidise the service.
- Extend the surgery in Churchill, or on a single site, and run a branch surgery in Wrington (only open a few days a week) from a different site to retain the sustainability of Wrington village.
- NHS North Somerset committed to explore the issue regarding Service Village status in collaboration with North Somerset Council.

### How to have your say...

If you cannot attend any of the Consultation Meetings, you can still have your say by:

- emailing [consultation@nsomerset-pct.nhs.uk](mailto:consultation@nsomerset-pct.nhs.uk)
- ringing us directly on 01275 546887 for a feedback form to be sent to you
- Writing to the Wrington Vale Consultation Team, NHS North Somerset, Waverley House, Old Church Road, Clevedon, BS21 6NN

You can also access the feedback form, along with a number of other documents relating to this development, on our website at: [www.northsomerset.nhs.uk/WringtonChurchill/ConsInfo](http://www.northsomerset.nhs.uk/WringtonChurchill/ConsInfo) or in hard copy at Wrington and Churchill surgeries. Your views really count, so please complete the feedback form and send it to us. We want to hear from as wide a range of people as possible.

**IF YOU REQUIRE THIS DOCUMENT IN LARGE PRINT OR IN ANY OTHER FORMAT PLEASE RING 01275 546887**

