

## **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**

This is the first in a series of newsletters, to keep you up to date on the progress of the public consultation on the development of the Wrington Vale Medical Practice (WVMP). In this issue we feed back to you answers to some of the frequently asked questions from the public received so far and the initial learning from the first Focus Group held on 'Access and Transport'.

The consultation process is helping us to listen to your views and hopes for the future of WVMP. It is also allowing you to challenge and question us and have your say on the future shape of WVMP. This will help to ensure that the eventual outcome is a fair reflection of what you are looking for from your GP practice when it comes to providing the best possible services to ensure the health and well-being of yourself and your family.

### **Cold weather and heated debate**

The chill wind and heavy rain of the past two months have neither cooled nor dampened the enthusiasm and commitment of everyone who has attended our public meetings and conversation cafes. 96 people attended our first public meetings at the Veterinary College in Langford. We have also held two Conversation Cafes, 65 people attended at Wrington and 32 people attended the other at Sandford.

Our website is providing regularly updated information which is attracting a growing number of visitors. As this newsletter went to press, it had received a total of 478 'hits' from members of the public.

**WE REALLY DO WANT AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE TO GIVE US THEIR VIEWS AND THERE ARE ONLY 10 WEEKS TO GO**

Several more public events are scheduled between now and March 2010, and we hope as many people as possible, who have not yet contributed, will attend these.

We are holding two more conversation cafes:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Venue</b>
02 February 2010	4:00 -6.00pm	Churchill War Memorial Hall, BS25 5NH
09 February 2010	6:30 -8:30pm	Blagdon Village Hall BS40 7TA

These events are ticketed due to the size of the venues, please contact us on 01275 546887 or email [consultation@nsomerset-pct.nhs.uk](mailto:consultation@nsomerset-pct.nhs.uk) if you want to come along. If events are over-subscribed, we will arrange more.

We are holding a further larger 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 .

**Travel and access – the major issues that you have raised to date**

26 people took part in our transport and access focus group on 15 December 2009. A vital aspect of any plan for the future of the practice will be transport, travel and accessibility and we took away from the session a clear picture of the issues concerning those attending the focus group:

- The feeling that the closure of Wrington Vale surgery would result in a large proportion of patients having to travel further to access their GP



- the feeling that there would be an increase in car journeys as those present felt that there is insufficient public transport services to the proposed new site
- The feeling that local roads would make it difficult to accommodate an increase in traffic and there were concerns around car parking at current and new proposed sites
- The feeling that the proposed site at Pudding Pie Lane would need pavements and traffic calming in place to address safety concerns

Potential solutions were difficult to identify in the Focus Group as it reflects the complexity of transport and access in rural villages. However there were a few suggestions which included:

- Building on the current voluntary transport scheme arrangements although there were concerns about the capacity of the voluntary groups and funding to support this.
- Ideas from the WVMO representative about ways in which they could support travel and access if the move to the proposed site was approved by providing support to book transport for patients and to provide funding to enhance access for patients such as a possible minibus service
- That the consultation team should meet with young families to discuss the particular issues that would affect them. To progress this NHS North Somerset is contacting Mother and Toddler groups in the area to arrange meetings. If you run such a group and would like us to attend, please contact the consultation team.
- Discussing plans with the North Somerset Council's Transport Team to see if buses could be rerouted or additional services laid on at times when people were most likely to want to access their GP.

### Consultation Report

NHS North Somerset is pleased to announce that an Independent Reviewer to produce the Formal Public Consultation Feedback report has been commissioned. Linda Shaw who brings with her an extensive experience of working with lay people, volunteers and community groups in North Somerset will be analysing and reviewing all the patient and public feedback received

throughout the formal consultation period and compiling the consultation report.

Linda comes from a very strong community and voluntary sector background. Her past achievements have included:

- Co-ordination of the North Somerset Local Compact Agreement between statutory public bodies and the voluntary sector.
- Leading and developing the strategic direction for Voluntary Action North Somerset which saw it become the local infrastructure organisation that supports the development of North Somerset voluntary organisations and community groups.

We will be delivering the first packages of information early in January 2010 so that the work on analysing this can begin. The information from the meetings undertaken so far has been sealed after the meetings and has not been reviewed by either NHS North Somerset or the practice. Feedback forms received so far will also be delivered to the Independent Reviewer. Feedback forms are confidential and all information will be anonymised – no individual or group will be identified by name.

### Additional Information and Frequently Asked Questions

On 26 November 2009 further information was published on our website around the planning constraints and opportunities associated with Wrington Surgery and Churchill surgery sites. Additional Financial Information relating to the proposed options was also published in direct response to requests from the public.

We publish the answers to the most frequently asked questions in the document entitled FAQ in the reference material. Examples of the questions that we have responded to are:

- What will happen if other options emerge during the consultation?
- What is the timescale for the decision-making following the consultation and who makes the decision?
- What are the planning constraints and issues associated with the Pudding Pie Lane site?

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This information can be found on the website or in hard copy in the reference packs available at the various community venues. If you would like to receive a hard copy of this information please contact the consultation team.

### Community Groups

We really want to come out and talk to local community groups that represent the views of a range of people who would be impacted by the development. Examples include Mother and Baby Groups, Friendship Groups, Church Groups and so on.

Please give us a ring on 01275 546887 if you would like us to come along and meet with you. 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.

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**

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