

LINK

Peterborough Local Involvement Network

Peterborough LINK
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28 September 2011

Submission to the Commission

Peterborough PCT Consultation on Urgent and Primary Care

LINK members were involved and consulted during the development of the strategy.

LINK were instrumental in persuading the PCT to take a strategic and holistic view of services after the flawed approach to the potential closure of the Parnwell surgery. The timing, location and number of meetings were influenced by the LINK Vice-Chair so as to be available to as many members of the public as possible.

The PCT gave a presentation at the Peterborough LINK public Management Committee meeting. We were provided with detailed information on the Consultation and the process. Further, a number of questions regarding the process, availability and equality were covered with sound answers.

Peterborough LINK sent out an abridged version of the consultation to 300 of its members. Details on completing the full consultation questionnaire was highlighted **see appendix 1**

Following collation of the responses from our membership, we submitted our findings including comments highlighting particular areas of concern and/or duplication. **See appendix 2**

Although non English language versions of the consultation document were not available at the start of the consultation, interpreters were available at all meetings and additional meetings were scheduled after the documents had been made available.

LINK was involved in examining the 'themes' that came from the consultation and indeed Vice Chair, Gordon Lacey and non exec director Chris Campling produced a list of themes from the meetings we had chaired and ensured that all of these were reflected in the outcome document that went to the board meeting.

Alma Road Surgery and several other practices presented petitions to NHS Peterborough and these were recorded. Due to lack of information, how these were conducted and/or how 'double voting' was avoided is unclear. Further, the material used were leading in the sense that they were entitled 'save our surgery' etc. Alma

Road Surgery completed three separate campaigns – it is again unclear how controls were in place to avoid duplication of votes

However, we understand that all petitions received were noted in the Board report.

In regards to public engagement Peterborough LINK can confirm that the process and method was sound. Further consultation meetings and developments were highlighted extensively in the media.

Yours sincerely

David Whiles
Chair, Peterborough LINK

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