

Sydenham Green Patients' Forum

Notes of meeting held on 21st November, 2012.

Present: 9 Patients and 2 Practice members, Kevin Trowell (Guest Speaker from LINK).

Presentation by Guest Speaker – Kevin Trowell (LINK):

KT provided the forum with an outline of his role as an outreach worker across Lewisham and the 45 practices therein.

Link will become a new organisation called Healthwatch with effect from end March 2013.

KT told the forum about the consultation meetings that have been set up, as part of the TSA consultation process, about the proposed closure of Lewisham Hospital A&E/Maternity units. Lewisham Link is co-ordinating the collection of feedback from across the borough to feed into the consultation process. A meeting has been arranged for 6th December 2012 @ 7.30pm at Sydenham School in Dartmouth Road. KT stressed that it is important the community understands the proposals being made and the impact they will have on Emergency and Maternity care in Lewisham. If Lewisham A&E were to be closed, although this would not happen immediately, it would mean that the nearest A&E department would be at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Woolwich.

KT told the Forum about a document that is available online called 'This is Me' which enables a patient to set out their preferences for treatment by the NHS. If these forms were promoted more and used more by patients it would provide the NHS with invaluable information to aid patient care.

Action : Ensure that copies of the minutes from recent Patients' Forum meetings are uploaded onto the practice site so that KT and LINK colleagues can view them.

Owner PJ

Action : Any Patients' Forum members who are interested in volunteering for Link should contact KT direct on kevin.trowell@parkwoodhealthcare.co.uk

Owners Patients' Forum Members

Action : Suggestions for questions we would like to ask patients via Lewisham Link should be directed to PM

Owners Patients' Forum Members

Kevin was thanked for his presentation. A short meeting of the Forum continued after his departure.

1. Apologies: from 4 patients

2. Minutes of meeting held on 19th September, 2012 were agreed as correct.

3. Matters arising:

It was with great regret that JS advised the Forum that BMc, a Patients' Forum member, had recently died.

Suggestion Box – JB confirmed that the Patients' Forum suggestion box is now being checked regularly and that amongst the feedback from Patients a request had been made to replace the chairs in the surgery. PJ confirmed that work is ongoing to progress the replacement of these chairs but, to date, the source of funding remains uncertain.

Sinks –PJ advised that two of the sinks in two of the Nurses rooms will be replaced but he remains uncertain as to how much funding is available.

4. NHS changes/Practice report including report on proposals for closure of Lewisham A&E

Action : Members of the Patients' Forum were asked to feedback their views on the potential closure of Lewisham Hospital A&E/Maternity units direct to Lewisham Link and the TSA at tsaconsultation@nhs.net

Owners Patients' Forum Members

Action : Return any completed petitions regarding the proposed closed of Lewisham Hospital A&E/Maternity units so that NG-L can delivered at the meeting on 28th November 2012

Owners Patients' Forum Members

5. Email contact details: ID confirmed that sydenhamgreen.org.uk had been set up and this facility includes 5 email addresses that can be created for the forum to use. It was agreed we would use forum@sydenhamgreen.org.uk so that patients can email the Forum direct to raise any issues/suggestions/requests. Ian was thanked for his work and for offering to administer the Emails.

6. Date and time of next meeting: Wednesday 16th January 2013 at 7pm.