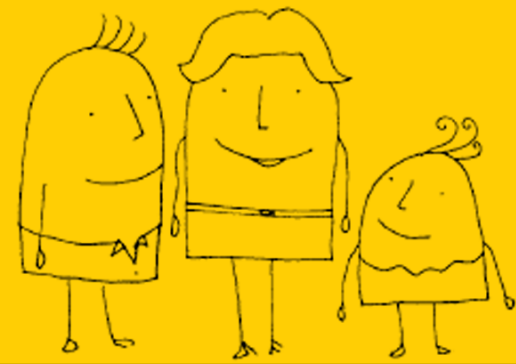


Patient and Client Council Membership Scheme UPDATES



Issue 1

Online Version

December 2011

This month the Patient and Client Council's Membership Team have met with some of our members through focus groups across Northern Ireland to get their views on our Membership Scheme and how they see it progressing in the future. I am pleased to say that we now have over 3,500 members and this number is growing by the day. It shows us that people genuinely value the Health Service and given the climate we live in, want to have a say in how services will be run in future.

The Patient and Client Council is partnering with Northern Ireland's leading cancer charity Action Cancer in promoting *Action Man* 'pop-up' clinics. The drop-in style clinics will offer a quick 15 minute check-up including blood pressure, cholesterol and lung capacity checks, alongside dietary and smoking cessation advice. There will be information on Action Cancer's support services for people who have been affected by a cancer diagnosis and 'taster' complementary therapy sessions will also be available. (Please see below for details)



BBC Sports Presenter Stephen Watson with Arlene from Action Cancer

COLIN GLEN

Venue: Brooke Activity Centre

On: Thursday 1st December, 12:30 – 20:00

THE MEADOWS NEWRY

Venue: Whitegate Centre

On: Friday 2nd December, 12:30 – 20:00

DUNCLUG BALLYMENA

Venue: Ballymena North Business & Recreation Centre

On: Wednesday 7th December, 12:30 – 20:00

ARDOYNE & SHANKILL

Venue: Flax Centre

On: Thursday 8th December, 12:30 – 20:00

For more information on the Action Man events, please contact Action Cancer on **tel:** 028 9080 3344



Promoting Involvement

Are you interested in understanding how Health and Social Care works?

Would you like to gain skills to help you get your point across at meetings?

Do you want to understand how you can contribute to groups effectively?

The Patient and Client Council would like to offer a one day workshop in the New Year for its members. The workshop would include:

- Information about Health and Social Care structures and how decisions are made.

- The background to the Personal and Public Involvement Policy.
- An opportunity to build confidence and skills for getting involved in health and social care.

The workshop is likely to be of interest to people who want to 'get started' with involvement and understand the basics about how Health and Social Care works and makes decisions.

To express an interest in the workshop or to get further information, contact Stella Cunningham:

email: stella.cunningham@hscni.net

tel: 028 38 349900

Get Involved!



Do you, or someone you know have a Rare Disease?

If so, the Patient and Client Council would like to hear from you!

The Patient and Client Council, along with the Northern Ireland Rare Disease Partnership are doing a survey to find out about your experience of diagnosis.

You can fill out the questionnaire online by going to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/raredisease>

For any questions, or to request a hard copy, please contact Sarah McCandless on:

email: sarah.mccandless@hscni.net

tel: 0800 917 0222

Workshop on Mental Health Social Work: The Next Ten Years 2012-2022

The Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety are developing a paper to identify and address the issues affecting mental health social work now and in the future.

You are invited to attend a workshop to shape and develop this work, details are as follows:

Date: Tuesday 13th December

Time: 11:00am to 12:30pm

Venue: Council Room
NIPEC, Centre House
79 Chichester Street
Belfast, BT1 4JE

Discussion will be based on two key questions:

- What are the key tasks of the mental health social worker?
- What are the main challenges for mental health social work into the future?

Places must be booked in advance, space is limited. Please contact Lindsay Smyth on:

email: lindsay.smyth@hscni.net

tel: (028) 90 321 230

Consultation on 'Our Plan 2012-2015'

The Patient and Client Council has developed a draft Corporate Strategy entitled 'Our Plan 2012-2015'. The draft plan has been approved by the Patient and Client Council Board to go out for a period of consultation before it is finalised.

'Our Plan for 2012-2015' is a high level document, setting the role, direction and priorities for the Patient and Client Council over the next three years. The goals set out in this document will be supported by annual plans detailing how these will be achieved.

The Patient and Client Council would welcome your comments on 'Our Plan 2012-2015' and have provided a set of key questions to guide your consideration of the document. Your comments are not restricted to answering our key questions. To take part in the consultation, please visit:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ourplan2012>

For any questions, or for a hard copy of the questionnaire, please contact Helen Mallen:

email: helen.mallen@hscni.net

tel: 0800 917 0222



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@patientclient**

If you have questions or would like more information about this newsletter or the Membership Scheme please contact:

Matthew Weatherall
Membership Scheme Co-Ordinator

email: matthew.weatherall@hscni.net

tel: 0800 917 0222