

Townlands Hospital and Community Services Project



Newsletter

Issue 1 May 2008

Welcome to the first issue of the Henley Hospital and Community Services Project Newsletter, which we hope you will find informative and interesting. By means of this newsletter, we hope to keep all local people and interested groups/organisations updated on progress on a regular basis—look out for the next issue in June 2008.

Good news about Townlands Hospital development

Oxfordshire Primary Care Trust has started the work to redevelop the hospital services. It is several years now since the NHS looked at this and, for various reasons, there have been delays. However, now a dedicated project group has been set up, which includes local people – from Town and District Councils, the Townlands Steering Group and the League of Friends, local GPs and a number of senior managers from the PCT to push the work forward.

They hope to be ready to meet with local people and local interest groups throughout the late summer and this will be announced in the local press and through posters in the town, nearer the time. They want as many people as possible to be involved with the plans as they develop, working towards a new service for Henley as quickly as possible. Knowing the pressure on the existing buildings at Townlands, we hope you will be encouraged by this news.

Townlands Steering Group

The Townlands Steering Group (TSG) was set up in 2003 to protect Townlands Hospital from closure but also to contribute to plans to redevelop the site so that the health services needed by the community could be provided in a modern context. We're delighted that our efforts are now focussed on working with the PCT and other stakeholders on the redevelopment plan as a part of PCT committee: the Henley Hospital and Community Services Project Group. Members of the TSG sit on the main group, of which I am vice chairman but also, all the key sub-groups which are looking at: services to be provided in the redeveloped site; finance and communications.

The Townlands debate has moved from the uncertainty of the last 25 years to today where the question is "how" not "if" health services at Townlands will be provided in future. The TSG will be playing a full role in the development of these plans. We will also be helping to explain to everyone who uses Townlands about the plans and listening to your views on the plans.

Ian Reissmann, Chair of the TSG

Public and staff engagement

As part of this process the PCT will be undertaking a comprehensive communications and engagement programme to involve as many people and organisations as possible in the discussions of the options for development and then considering everything that local people say and feel before decisions are made.

Project Team

A project team is leading this review. The project team is meeting monthly. The purpose of this group is to provide a clear overview of the project, to review and redesign (where necessary) services that are currently provided from Townlands Hospital in Henley, to describe how this may be done, and when, and show how this relates to changes and developments generally for the PCT.

Members of the project team include:

- ◆ Ann Nash, Project Lead
- ◆ Representatives from the PCT and Social and Community Services
- ◆ Sue Reid, Assistant Chief Executive, South Oxfordshire District Council (Chair of the Project Team)
- ◆ Gerry Andrews, Chair of Townlands Hospital League of Friends
- ◆ Andrew Colling, Service Manager (Contracts), South Oxfordshire District Council
- ◆ Ian Reissman, Henley Town Council and Chair of Townlands Steering Group
- ◆ Dr Lisa Silver, GP, Nettlebed Surgery
- ◆ Dr Peter Ashby, retired GP and member of the Townlands Steering Group
- ◆ Dr Christopher Langley, GP, Henley
- ◆ Dr Sandy Terris, GP, Henley

Receive your newsletter by email

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Contact us...

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† This newsletter is distributed to the following stakeholders: PCT staff, local MPs, local NHS trusts, Henley Town Council, South Oxfordshire District Council, the Local Practice Based Commissioning Consortium, the Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board, South Central Strategic Health Authority, Oxfordshire Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee, patients and public in the Henley locality – including the interim Local Involvement Network (LINKs) (run by the former Patient and Public Involvement Forum) and LINKs when it is established, relevant community and voluntary groups and the media.

www.oxfordshirepct.nhs.uk

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