



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Editor's letter	2
What is the LINK?	2
Service providers attend LINK meetings	3
Podiatry Services	5
NHS Trusts	5
LINK Event	6
New YouTube video	6
LINK attend events	6
Website updates	7
National Older People Day	7
Stockport Partnership Forum	8
Deaf Health Conference	8
Decommissioning	9
Choose Well	9
Age Concern Branding	10
Children's Dental Health	10
Enter & View Training	10
Upcoming Events	11
Useful Numbers	11
Contact the LINK	12



## LINK quiz service providers

The Stockport LINK has contacted local service providers Stockport Adult Social Care, NHS Stockport, Stockport Foundation Trust (Stepping Hill Hospital) and Pennine Care (Mental Health) inviting managers from all to visit LINK members once a month to discuss any new, upcoming or current services for feedback.

Visiting the Briefing Sessions in June and July were Nicola Baker from NHS Stockport and Stockport Managed Care who spoke about **The Real Cost of Services**, Susie Wright from Stockport Council who spoke about the **Health & Wellbeing Partnership**, Gill Frame from Community Health who spoke about **Transforming Community Services** and Cat Duncan-Rees from Stockport Council who spoke about **Right to Control and Reward & Recognition for Involvement**.

The briefing sessions are open to all LINK members and are publicised in advance of the meetings in this Newsletter. Any LINK member who wants to attend any of the open briefing sessions should call the LINK office or email us, details on the back page.

Find out more on page 3.



**Joyce Drummond**  
Editor and lead on  
Publicity & Promotion  
Subgroup

**Hello again, don't the months fly. I hope you have all been enjoying the hot weather, in the garden and sunbathing!**

We here at LINK have been busy. Our Core Group meetings have been extended to twice monthly. We have introduced Briefing Sessions where we invite service providers along to let us know what they are doing for Stockport. You can read more about this over the page.

On page 4 we explain changes in Health and Social care around Disability services and Transforming Community Health services.

On page 5 we discuss LINK involvement over the last months including holding a focus group on podiatry and Quality Accounts.

We are holding an engagement event in September as part of Engagement Month, more about that on page 6.

On page 7 we look at the LINK's online presence and on page 9 and 10 you can read about other services' changes.

We took part in Stockport Partnership Forum, which was held at the Alma Lodge Hotel. It was a very successful evening with many different generations attending, read more on page 8. Also, on page 8 you can read about the Deaf Health Community Conference.

As always page 11 has upcoming events in Stockport and we have introduced a Useful Contacts page.

And just something to make you smile. I was at the dentist waiting my turn and across the room was a magazine stand. As my eyes are not as they should be I just glanced from across the room and I noticed the colour of one magazine and thought it looked familiar. It was a copy of LINK News! I went straight to the receptionist and introduced myself and showed her the Editor's Page. She flipped through it and recognised other LINK members too! Not only is the Newsletter going around, but so are we!

Don't forget you can add us on facebook or follow us on twitter, just search 'Stockport LINK' on facebook and visit [www.twitter.com/StockportLINK](http://www.twitter.com/StockportLINK) on twitter.

*Joyce Drummond*

Editor and lead on Publicity  
& Promotion Sub-group

## What is the Stockport LINK?

The LINK is a network of many groups and individuals across Stockport coming together to feedback on health and social care services. We ask people what they think about local health and social care services and provide a chance to suggest and improve them.

Anybody can join the LINK, which is made up of Stockport residents and regularly gets feedback from the community. This means that the LINK focuses on what is important for the community.

The LINK have the power to ask providers and commissioners for information about services and expect a response, make recommendations to providers and commissioners and expect a response and refer matters to the Scrutiny Committee of the Local Authority.

If you want to join the LINK please call **0161 477 8479**. Signing up to the LINK in one way does not mean that somewhere along the way you can't decide to change or look at other opportunities. Members can be involved in more than one type of activity and as much or as little as they want.





## The Real Cost of Services

presented by Nicola Baker, Director Practice Based Commissioning, NHS Stockport and Stockport Managed Care

Stockport Managed Care provides a framework for clinicians to develop services in the community with the **focus on the individual**, help keep people **healthier longer**, **prevent ill health** and **remove health inequalities** and drive continual health improvement across the whole system securing **better value for money**.

The NHS are having to be careful with money, for example, the NHS no longer covers varicose veins on a cosmetic level, only on medical grounds. They have also been working on pharmaceuticals such as switching between similar drugs with different costs.

Stockport Managed Care leads on the following and hold boards, all chaired by a Stockport GP as part of a consortium: **Planned Care** (where a patient has an appointment to stay in hospital), **Urgent Care** (all unscheduled care for example A&E), **Long Term Conditions**, **End of Life Care**, **Cancer**, **Prescribing** and **Maternity Services**. In the last issue of LINK News, we reported on your LINK representatives on these boards, call the LINK if you feel your

representative should be aware of any issues around any of these areas.

Nicola also spoke about the Choose Well Campaign - a leaflet about this is enclosed. Nicola gave examples of costs for the NHS surrounding treating patients. The following costs show how important it is for the patient to make the right choice when deciding where to go to get treated.

### It costs the NHS:

**£6** for a patient to see a GP.

**£25** when a patient uses the Walk-In Centre

**£64** as soon as someone walks into A&E

**£114** for someone in A&E to have an x-ray

**£600** if a patient is admitted for a day (for example if they are unable to find an ambulance, cannot give an x-ray straight away or cannot get a social worker)

**£2000+** when a patient is admitted for a long stay.

## Transforming Community Health Services



Presented by Gill Frame, Director of Community Health Stockport PCT Provider Services.

In the following years, there will be an increase in services being provided jointly between service providers through integration of services.

For some time the Department of Health has been insisting on working towards separation of the two main parts of the Primary Care Trust (PCT) so that the **buying side** (*Commissioning*) is entirely separate from the **providing side** (*Community Health Stockport*).

[continued on page 4]

## Speakers in the coming months are:

**Monday 16th August: JSNA and Joint Strategic Assets Assessment**, how the LINK can contribute to a better understanding of the needs and assets of Stockport presented by Emma Dowsing, Policy Manager at Stockport Council

**Developments within Public Health**, presented by Dr. Steve Watkins, Director of Public Health (TBC).

The following Briefing Session will be on **Saturday 18th September** where the LINK will be joined by two more service providers. Call the LINK on **0161 477 8479** or email us at [links@pebbleenterprises.co.uk](mailto:links@pebbleenterprises.co.uk) in September to find out who.



## Service providers visit LINK continued

### [continued from page 3]

As a result the PCT has had to submit plans detailing how it will do this - **Transforming Community Services** - and do so within a tight Department of Health Schedule.

The plans are still at an early stage and can be revised if a better solution can be found.

LINK member Alan Watt said, *"Gill has done an excellent job in keeping the LINK advised on what is going on and LINK will be closely monitoring the situation. The people of Stockport should be aware of what is happening and have the opportunity to have their say. Strong arguments can be put forward to support the change but equally there are dangers. There is immense pressure on the PCT and Stockport Council to cut costs and we see it as a prime LINK responsibility to press that actions have the least impact on the front line provision of Health & Social Care to Stockport people who need it."*



If you have any views on this, please contact the LINK, our details are on the back page. For a full copy of Gill Frame's presentation on Transforming Community Health Services, visit the LINK website and go to the LINK Documents page, the presentation is under *other*. Or call the LINK on **0161 477 8479**.

### **The Health & Well Being Partnership Presented by Susie Wright, Policy Manager, Health & Well Being, Stockport Council.**



The Health & Well-being Partnership formally accountable to the Stockport Partnership. It is responsible for developing and publicising Stockport's ambitions for health and well-being, and contributing to improving the overall health of the people of

Stockport, whilst striving to reduce the inequalities in life expectancy that exist within the borough. Many service providers sit on the Partnership which makes it a perfect platform to bring important issues to the front. LINK members Mike Lappin and Loretta Alao represent the public on the board.

### **Update on Right to Control**

presented by Cat Duncan-Rees, Policy and Intelligence Manager, Stockport Council

**The Office for Disability Issues wants to test how these areas of support can work together, with less bureaucracy, so that disabled people can have greater choice, control and independence over their own lives. The areas coming together are:**

- Supporting People
- Disabled Facilities Grant
- Access To Work
- Work Choice
- Independent Living Fund
- Adult Community Services



The Right to Control is being tested in 8 'trailblazer' (pilot) sites in England. Five Greater Manchester councils are working with Job Centre Plus, Access to Work, Independent Living Fund, Breakthrough UK and Greater Manchester Coalition of Disabled People. The trailblazer will co-produce, with disabled people:

- A single assessment system
- A 'no wrong door' approach
- Multiple access point for services
- Independent advocacy and peer support
- The commissioning of a Greater Manchester Centre for Independent Living.

Disabled people will be able to access Right to Control in the form of a cash payment, a service or a combination of both. The Right to Control will go live in December 2010. It will be available to new adult customers. However, existing customers whose circumstances change significantly may also qualify.

### **Voice Policy Development on Reward & Recognition**

**Also presented by Cat Duncan-Rees, Policy and Intelligence Manager, Stockport Council** Stockport Engaging Communities Partnership has worked alongside the public in creation of services to ensure that the public are involved from the very beginning.

Cat asked for the LINKs views on a new draft policy created by the Partnership alongside the public on rewarding and recognising involvement. For a copy of the draft policy, then contact the LINK Office - details on the back page.

## LINK focus group on podiatry



**Morag Bardsley (Head of Podiatry, Stockport Primary Care Trust) contacted the Stockport LINK asking for our comments on a new idea around the Podiatry service. The Stockport LINK agreed to set up a focus group to discuss this with Morag.**

After talking to experts about infection control risks, the podiatry service has decided that the most economical way to avoid passing germs on from one patient to another when having their nails trimmed is to give some patients their own nail nippers and file. This cuts down on the use of single use sterile instruments that we have been using and then throwing away, or having a steriliser in every surgery. If patients have their own instruments, there is no risk of passing an infection between patients.

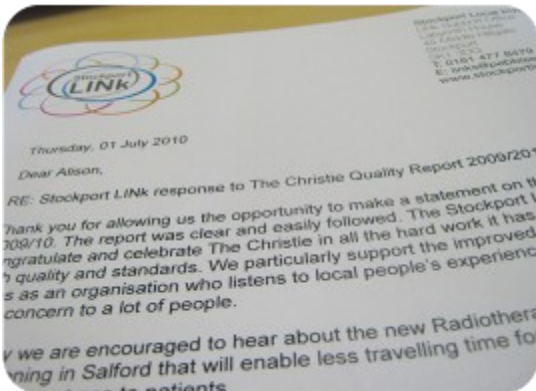
The podiatry service has developed this idea after consulting with other podiatry services in the UK, as well as the infection control nurse here in Stockport. Sterile single use instruments & dressings will of course still be used on patients who have infections or other serious medical problems, or who are having minor surgical procedures.

The focus group unanimously agreed that this was a good idea and was an example of service providers acting using common sense and offered Morag the LINKs support.

The new system is being introduced in August and guidance leaflets have been produced for patients who will bring their instruments with them to their podiatry appointments. The group offered the services of the LINK Plain English Reading Group to read through the guidance leaflet. Other podiatry services around the North West are interested in how Stockport get on with this new system which will save the service thousands of pounds as well as cutting down the large amounts of waste generated by using single-use instruments.

Copies of the report will be available on our website under *LINK Documents > Reports* or you can call the LINK on **0161 477 8479** to request a copy.

## NHS Trusts look to the LINK



**In July NHS healthcare services contacted the LINK for their input on their Quality Accounts.**

A Quality Account is a report about the quality of services provided by an NHS healthcare service. The report is published annually by each NHS healthcare Trust and available to the public. Quality Accounts aim to enhance accountability to the public and engage the leaders of an organisation in their quality improvement agenda.

As part of the regulations of providing Quality Accounts, NHS Trusts must give their local LINK the opportunity to comment on their Quality Accounts before publication. LINKs in turn have the opportunity on a voluntary basis to review and supply a statement for inclusion in the Trusts Quality Account.

The Stockport LINK have so far commented on Quality Accounts from:

- Stockport NHS Foundation Trust (Stepping Hill)
- NHS Stockport (Primary Care Trust)
- Stockport Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust (Mental Health Services)
- The Christie NHS Foundation Trust.

Copies of all the Quality Accounts will be available on our website under *Key Documents* and copies of the LINKs responses will be available under *LINK Documents > Other* or you can call the LINK on **0161 477 8479** to request a copy.

6

## Come and have your say at LINK event



In September, Stockport LINK and the Health & Well Being Partnership are hosting a consultation event to find out your views on local services.

LINK members and the public are invited to come along and take part in the consultation. Whether you are interested in older peoples, younger peoples or family services; services for carers; black & minority ethnic (BME) services; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) services or services for those with disabilities, this event will give you the chance to be listened to and feed back your issues to the appropriate people.

The event will be held on **Thursday 23rd September** and will run all day in a central location in Stockport. To open the event presentations will be given including interactive quizzes and videos. After lunch, guests will have the chance to feedback their views in groups, depending on their particular interests. The Stockport LINK and the Health & Well Being Partnership are keen to hear your views on local Health & Social Care services.

If you are interested in attending the event, have a suggestion for a discussion topic, want to learn more about how the LINK works, have your say on the services that affect you or want more information, then call the LINK Support Office on **0161 477 8479** or email [kirsty@pebbleenterprises.co.uk](mailto:kirsty@pebbleenterprises.co.uk) to book your place.

## LINK Publicity & Promotion team film video

The LINK Publicity & Promotion team have filmed a video on their activities over a two week period.

The video follows Publicity & Promotion group members while they help to promote the LINK. Join Joyce, Lead of the Publicity & Promotion group as she visits Stockport College to take part in Intergenerational Day and as she edits the Newsletter. Les tells us about his work on the Right To Control communication strategy while David records the audio versions of LINK materials and Kirsty visits groups to tell them about the LINK.



You can watch the video at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=3z-mpWi4XxE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3z-mpWi4XxE) or by searching for 'Stockport LINK Publicity & Promotion Team' on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

## LINK members get out and about



We have been in many places over June and July. Pat, Michelle and myself attended the Age Concern SOAP (Supporting Older Adults Project) event in Stockport Precinct which was well attended we had a lot of feedback forms and chatted to a lot of people. Pat and myself also went along to Stockport Day Centre in June for *Cream Tea & Conversation* hosted by Age Concern Stockport and the Day Centre. We got many visitors to our table, most were LINK members which was interesting and a good indication of the popularity of the LINK.

I went along with John Leach, the Chair of the LINK to the Davenport Ladies Tuesday Club to talk about Stockport LINK in July. He presented it well, explained various things and was very charming. John also visited Bethany Community Church to talk to the group there.

**| Joyce Drummond**

# Stockport LINK goes digital



Following feedback from LINK members, the Stockport LINK website [www.stockport.co.uk](http://www.stockport.co.uk) has received some updates.



The site was launched on 1st October 2008 as part of the official opening of the Stockport LINK. Within the last year, the work of the LINK has increased massively and the website has been key, along with this Newsletter in informing members of what is happening at the LINK.

Following discussions with LINK members, several changes have been made to the site, while still ensuring that the pages are accessible for as many people as possible. The **news section** of the front page has been expanded, meaning that visitors to the site do not have to click through to view the latest LINK news, this is updated once a week and is now accompanied by a picture. Photos in the **photo gallery** are now clickable, meaning that visitors to the site can see photos of what LINK members have been doing. We have made joining the LINK even easier, with a new button to click to **join the LINK** on the front page.

Our **LINK Documents** page is even easier to navigate, with documents organised into **Minutes, Newsletters, Reports and Other** which includes LINK Governance, presentations and audio versions. You can also now visit our Twitter, Facebook page and YouTube channel directly from the LINK main page by clicking on the logos at the bottom of the navigation.

If you have any comments about the LINK website, let us know by clicking '*contact us*' on the website or emailing us at [links@pebbleenterprises.co.uk](mailto:links@pebbleenterprises.co.uk)

## National Older People Day Event



On 1st October the '*All Together Now*' Event is being held in Stockport Town Hall, celebrating National Older People Day. The All Our Tomorrows Partnership brings together senior representatives from voluntary, community and statutory organisations to work together to address issues which affect people over 50 in Stockport. It is part of the Health and Wellbeing Partnership, one of a family of partnerships in Stockport. The '*All Together Now*' Event, which will take place at the Town Hall at 10am to 3.30 pm on Friday 1st October 2010, and will be an opportunity to celebrating National Older People's Day. You can take the opportunity to:

- Have your say about local support in later life
- Help shape the future for older people in Stockport
- Learn about the All Our Tomorrow partnership
- Find about what information and support is available

All are welcome to this free event. Please book early as places are available on a first come first served basis. To find out more please contact Lesley Abraham at Age Concern Stockport on **0161 480 1211**. Information on the partnership can be found at [www.stockportaot.org.uk](http://www.stockportaot.org.uk)





## LINK helps build a society for all ages

On Thursday 17th June, the Stockport Partnership Forum hosted a consultation evening for the people of Stockport on 'Building a Society for All Ages'. The event was held in the Alma Lodge Hotel, Stockport and was well attended by LINK members, members of the public, students and health & social care staff.

The event was brought about by a Stockport Council study that found that people are living longer. In Stockport there are approximately 52,800 people aged 65+ in the borough, which is 18% of the population and rising. It is projected that there will be an increase of approximately 50% in the number of people aged 85+ by 2019 and a significant proportion of this age group currently live in nursing and residential homes.

The event was introduced by Catherine Morris from Age Concern Stockport, who guided the guests through two short videos and a quiz. Catherine said, "The event reiterated and supported the work of the All Our Tomorrows partnership, demonstrating the commitment to a multi-agency approach between the voluntary,

community and statutory sectors when valuing older people in our community. It was wonderful to see such a wide range of ages engaging and providing their ideas and views on the opportunities that an ageing population brings to towns such as Stockport."



The consultation was split into two questions. First guests were asked "What opportunities are presented by people living longer?" Answers ranged from a rise in people willing to volunteer to more time to relax. The second question raised at the consultation was, "What

practical things can you do to make these a reality?" Answers ranged from the need for accessible meeting places to a change in the law for the retirement age.

LINK member Tony Johnson said, "I would like to see how this consultation will impact on services. There needs to be definite outcomes and we need to ensure that we are involved in any services level changes".

Once a report has been written, you can contact the LINK office on **0161 477 8479** or email us at [links@pebbleenterprises.co.uk](mailto:links@pebbleenterprises.co.uk) to request a copy.

## Deaf community group demand fair access

On 30th June LINK Development Officer Kirsty attended the Deaf Health Community 2010 Conference, 'Better Access = Better Health' held at Stockport Masonic Guildhall.

The aim of the Deaf Health Community is:

- To get better access and health in the Deaf community, and better understanding and awareness for Deaf people
- To provide, to gain and to share knowledge and information about health for Deaf people.
- To break down barriers such as stigmatisation, isolation and vulnerability
- To safeguard respect, dignity and equality for Deaf people
- To reduce mental health problems amongst Deaf people related to unknown health issues.
- To work together/participate with other medical organisations/professionals to improve mutual relationship and understanding

- To educate/inform schools, colleges, universities, companies, training centres and all other kind of organisations regarding deaf people's needs
- To assist professionals in medical and social areas recognising Deaf people's needs to access of available information and communication.



# Stockport LINK talk decommissioning



On 9th July 2010, members of the Stockport LINK met with NHS Stockport to discuss financial pressures on the NHS. In order to make savings, NHS Stockport intend to decommission 3 pilot services and urgently review 2 others.

## Family Nurse Partnership

This service is a national pilot aiming to work with particularly vulnerable families and was due to run until October 2011. The service costs are more than the normal Health Visiting service which remains in place and there is no UK evidence to date to suggest this service produces any additional health benefits. It is suggested that the service runs until January when case loads will be picked up by Health Visitors and other statutory agencies.

## Active Case Management

The aim of the service was to keep people out of hospital, but there is no evidence that this has been successful. The Active Case Managers play a co-ordination role between the patient and the GP. GPs will now retain the case and as for all other patients coordinate care themselves.

## Community Falls Service

There is already a hospital falls service provided at Stepping Hill and a community falls service was set up to complement this service by keeping patients out of hospital. However the reality is that the service is under utilised and most patients end up at the hospital falls service anyway, thus duplicating effort and expense.

## Parkinson's Disease Nurse

There is an urgent review being carried out on this service. NHS Stockport is liaising with the Foundation Trust and The Parkinson's Disease Society to find a better way forward instead of decommissioning. It is likely that this issue will be resolved by the end of July.

## Early Intervention Service (EIS)

This was another pilot service which was set up to treat people in the community to take patients away from the hospital. However numbers in the hospital have not reduced. Again NHS Stockport is liaising with the Foundation Trust as part of an urgent review to be completed by the end of July.

**In summary 43 members of clinical and administration staff will be effected.** It is the intention that every effort will be made to redeploy or retrain these staff elsewhere within the NHS. NHS Stockport is in close consultation with staff and unions to minimise the risks. PCT's nationally have been asked to reduce management costs by 33%, NHS Stockport has been given its share of this target, but this decommissioning of services does not in anyway replace the need to proceed with the management cost reductions. It is 'as well as' rather than 'instead of'. NHS Stockport will inform the LINK of this in more detail following the publication of the White Paper.

If you are concerned about any of the issues raised in this statement please contact the LINK office on **0161 477 8479** who will forward your concerns or views to NHS Stockport.

## NHS Stockport urges you to Choose Well

If you become unwell or are injured make sure you choose the right NHS service.





## Age Concern Stockport new branding

April 2010 saw the formal launch of Age UK - the new national charity combining Age Concern England and Help the Aged.

Age Concern Stockport will continue as an independent charity working with and for older people in Stockport. However Age Concern Stockport benefit from a close relationship with Age UK and are currently discussing with them their offer of a brand partnership. That is sharing the name and quality standards whilst remaining local and independent.

Age Concern Stockport may decide to change their name to Age UK Stockport over the next few months. However if they do they will remain a local and independent charity providing many great services and working together in many positive partnerships locally.

The Trustees of Age Concern Stockport will consider all the details and implications of the brand partnership offer. They have already consulted with staff and other internal stakeholders and with members.

If Age Concern Stockport decide to enter into a new brand partnership with Age UK it will be because they think that, whilst remaining independent, their future and all importantly that of older people in Stockport will benefit by also having these strong national links.

Any questions please contact Margaret Brade directly on **0161 480 1211** or email [bradem@ageconcernstockport.org.uk](mailto:bradem@ageconcernstockport.org.uk)



## Dental Health Care is Child's Play



**A project to promote children's oral health care through play has been expanded by the charity Action for Sick Children.**

The North West has particularly bad statistics with regard to dental care. Many children go through the unnecessary pain of having decayed milk teeth extracted.

The Dental Play Box scheme supports the Early Years Foundation Stage and involves a visit from a play facilitator. It is a free service available to schools, clubs, nurseries and other pre-school settings. The main aim of the visit is to explore through play the importance of looking after your teeth and visiting the dentist. A box of resources, which include role play uniforms, hand puppets, games, stories, toothbrushes and a Teachers Pack is left for a week after the session for the children to play with.

To arrange a visit contact the Dental Play box team at [enquiries@actionforsickchildren.org](mailto:enquiries@actionforsickchildren.org) or phone **01663 763 004**.



## Next LINK Enter & View Training announced

**The next Enter & View training has been announced.** Under powers given to them by the Department of Health, the LINK have the right to visit any place where care is provided, for example care homes, hospital wards, GPs and opticians. LINK members have to undertake training in order to Enter & View. This comes in the form of Enter and View Training, a Criminal Record Bureau check and Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults training. Any LINK member can take part in training and join the LINK Enter & View Team on visiting places of care. The next training is taking place **10.30am - 3.30pm on 7th September** in a venue in the centre of Stockport. Refreshments and lunch is provided. To book your place, call the LINK on **0161 477 8479**.



# Upcoming Events



## LINK Core Group dates

**About:** The LINK Core Group meet monthly to progress the work of the LINK.  
**Time:** 10am - 12.30pm on Thursday 2nd September & Friday 8th October.  
**Place:** Walthew House, Stockport  
**Contact:** Call the LINK on **0161 477 8479** if you would like to attend. And don't forget that the LINK also holds Briefing Sessions (info on page 3)

## Dementia Patient & Carers Event

**About:** The Foundation Trust (Stepping Hill) is holding an engagement event on dementia care so that patients and carers views and opinions can shape future services.  
**Time:** 6pm - 8pm on Wednesday 18th Aug.  
**Place:** Stepping Hill Hospital  
**Contact:** Email Annette Donegani at [annette.donegani@stockport.nhs.uk](mailto:annette.donegani@stockport.nhs.uk) or call on **0161 419 5637** to book your place.

## Manchester Pride 2010

**About:** Manchester Pride is Manchester's annual Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) festival.  
**Time:** 27th - 30th August, all day.  
**Place:** Manchester  
**Contact:** Visit [www.manchesterpride.com](http://www.manchesterpride.com) for more information.

## Stockport LINK Event

**About:** Come along to have your say on local health & social care services.  
**Time:** All day on Thursday 23rd Sept.  
**Contact:** Call the LINK on **0161 477 8479** for more information and to reserve your place.

## Stepping Hill Open Day

**About:** Stockport NHS Foundation Trust is opening its doors for entertainment, children's activities, hospital tours, seminars, stalls and their AGM.  
**Time:** 12pm – 4pm on Saturday 25th Sept.  
**Place:** Stepping Hill Hospital, Stockport  
**Contact:** Visit [www.stockport.nhs.uk](http://www.stockport.nhs.uk) for more information.

## Stockport's Learning Disability Annual Consultation Event

**About:** The 2010 theme for Stockport's Learning Disability Annual Consultation Event is 'Health'.  
**Time:** 10am-4pm on Wednesday 13th Oct  
**Place:** Alma Lodge Hotel, Stockport  
**Contact:** Call **0161 474 3567** or email [consultation.help@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:consultation.help@stockport.gov.uk) with 'Email Me' on the subject line.

## National Older People's Day

**About:** Join All Our Tomorrows to celebrate National Older People's Day.  
**Time:** 10.00am and 3.30pm on 1st October  
**Place:** Stockport Town Hall  
**Contact:** Lesley Abraham on **0161 480 1211** to book your place.

## Useful Contacts



**Stockport Local Involvement Network (LINK) Support office:** To request a feedback form, let us know of any issues with health or social care services or to join the LINK.  
**Contact details on back page.**

**For Local Advice And Guidance (FLAG):** Free, independent and impartial support and signposting to Stockport adult health and social care services. Call **0161 474 1042** or visit [www.stockportflag.org.uk](http://www.stockportflag.org.uk) for more information.



**My Care, My Choice**

**My Care, My Choice:** Stockport Council's new adult social care website aiming to help people to live as independently as possible within the community and have a wide range of information. Call **0161 217 6029** or visit the website on [www.mycaremychoice.org.uk](http://www.mycaremychoice.org.uk)



**NHS Direct:** For confidential health advice and information around the clock call NHS Direct on **0845 46 47** or visit [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

# Contact the LINK

## Stockport LINK Support Team

Labyrinth House, 45 Middle Hillgate,  
Stockport SK1 3DG

**Phone:** 0161 477 8479

**Email:** links@pebbleenterprises.co.uk

**Web:** www.stockportlink.co.uk



Maria Kildunne: LINK Development Manager

Kirsty Bagnall: LINK Development Officer

Michelle Sheridan: LINK Support Administrator

**If you would like to find out more information about joining the LINK,** please get in contact and we will send you information or a membership pack.

**If you are a LINK member** and would like more information about writing an article for the next LINK News then let us know.

**If you need this Newsletter in large print, audio tape/CD, braille or .pdf format please contact the LINK Support Team on 0161 477 8479.**

如果你需要他人為你解釋這小冊子/單張的內容，我們可以提供免費的傳譯服務，請致電 0161 477 9000 史托波特傳譯部。

If you need this newsletter in another language, a free interpreting service is available from Stockport Council. Please telephone Stockport Interpreting Unit on **0161 477 9000** or email eds.admin@stockport.gov.uk

W przypadku gdybyś potrzebował pomocy odnośnie tej broszurki/ulotki, dostępne są usługi tłumaczeniowe. Prosimy dzwonić do Interpreting Unit pod numer 0161 477 9000.

যদি এই পুস্তিকা/প্রচার পত্রটি সম্পর্কে আপনার কোন সাহায্য দরকার হয় তবে বিনা খরচে আপনার জন্য দোভাষীর ব্যবস্থা করা হতে পারে। মেহেরবানী করে স্টকপোর্ট ইন্টারপ্রিটিং ইউনিটে ফোন করুন টেলিফোন নম্বর, 0161 477 9000.

اگر آپ کو اس کتابچے/الغٹ کے بارے میں مدد کی ضرورت ہے تو مفت ترجمانی کی سروس دستیاب ہے۔ براہ مہربانی انٹرپرائزنگ یونٹ کو 0161 477 9000 پر فون کریں۔

خدمات ترجمہ رایگان این نشریہ/کتابچہ در صورت نیاز موجود میباشد. لطفا با شماره تلفن 0161 477 9000 با واحد ترجمہ (اینترپرائزنگ یونیت) ما تماس بگیرید.

تنوفر خدمة ترجمة شفوية انا تطلب مساعدة في فهم هذا الكتيب/النشرة. نرجو الاتصال اربن رينيول على رقم الهاتف: 0161 477 9000