



Patient Advice & Liaison Service (PALS)
Freephone: 0800 013 0500

Dear Colleague

Re: Momentum: pathways to Healthcare- consultation

Momentum: pathways to healthcare is about designing a health care system which provides health services in or as near to peoples' homes as possible, with only things which need to be done in hospital taking place there.

Following 13 years of reviews of health services, supported by the secretary of state, our aim is to provide patient centred and clinically driven services from modern facilities fit for the 21st century. To achieve this we want to improve primary and community services and build a modern hospital on a new site to replace the existing two out of date hospital buildings to serve the populations of Hartlepool, Stockton, Sedgfield and Easington.

For the past 12 months we have undertaken a great deal of planning work for the programme, including working with patients, carers and their representatives, health professionals and managers to discuss what the future health services for people living in Hartlepool, Stockton, Sedgfield and Easington might look like.

We are now approaching the next important stage for these developments which is the formal consultation. This will begin on Monday 2 June 2008 for a 13 week period and will be supported by a consultation document, leaflet, questionnaire, summit events and public meetings. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you and/ or your organisation to become involved in the consultation and tell us your thoughts and views on our proposals.

Leading up to the consultation period, there will be a series of roadshows in shopping centres across the area from 20th May 2008 - 1 June 2008. This will give people the opportunity to see a short film about the consultation, hear about the proposals and comment.

Details of Roadshows are:

During the consultation period there will be various ways for you to have your say. A number of

Date(s)	Location
20 May 2008- 22 May 2008	Castle Dene Shopping Centre, Peterlee
23 May 2008	Outside Parish Hall (Farmer's Market), Sedgfield
24 May 2008- 28 May 2008	Middleton Grange Shopping Centre, Hartlepool
29 May 2008- 1 May 2008	Castlegate Shopping Centre, Stockton

public events have been scheduled which are detailed below, subject to NHS Joint Committee approval on 19 May.

Summit Events

We are planning to hold 4 summit events; 2 at the start of the consultation process and 2 towards the end.

Summit Events will be an opportunity for anyone wishing to take part in informed discussion of key issues regarding the momentum proposals.

If you would like to express an interest in attending a summit event please choose one of the following options:

- e-mail us at summit@momentum-consultation.org.uk
- Call our freephone number 08005 999 487

Date and Time	Venue
Friday 13 th June, 10am- 3pm	Hill Carter Hotel, Hartlepool
Monday 16 th June 10am- 3pm	Swallow Hotel, Stockton
Wednesday 27 th August 10am- 3pm	Hill Carter Hotel, Hartlepool
Friday 29 th August 10am- 3pm	Durham University, Queens Campus, Stockton

Public Meetings

There will be a number of public meetings across the area. This will give you the opportunity to hear from us about the proposals and ask any questions you might have.

Date & Time	Venue
Tuesday 24 th June 6-8pm	Palm Court Suite, The Staincliffe Hotel, Hartlepool
Friday 27 th June 2-4pm	Watson Hall, Thornaby Pavillion, Stockton
Monday 7 th July 1-3pm	Sedgefield Parish Hall, Sedgefield
Wednesday 9 th July 1-3pm	Peterlee Leisure Centre, Peterlee
Monday 21 st July 10am-12pm	Historic Quay, Hartlepool
Wednesday 23 th July 6-8pm	Billingham Forum, Billingham
Monday 18 th August 10am-12pm	Stockton Baptist Tabernacle, Stockton
Wednesday 20 th August 2-4pm	Hartlepool Borough Hall, Hartlepool

Communication Methods

You will be able to give your views in writing, by telephone, by e-mail and by completing a questionnaire. There will also be a website dedicated to *Momentum: pathways to healthcare* which will have information and background to the project, details of the consultation and an online questionnaire.

I will contact you again from 20 May 2008 to give you more information about the consultation.

I hope that you will take this opportunity to give us your thoughts and views to help us design a first class healthcare system for people living in our area.

I look forward to hearing from you

Yours Sincerely



Carole Langrick
Director of Strategic Service Development