

Essex & Southend Local Involvement Networks (LINKs)

Weekly e-bulletin

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'Commissioners told to work with LINKs': This guide, see: http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_111457 is for health and social care managers and explains more about LINKs. It outlines how, through proactive engagement you can better understand the needs of your community. Working with your LINK should be a key part of commissioning, running and reviewing health and social care services.

'Anonymous but not invisible': At the invitation of Susan Kramer MP, Alcoholics Anonymous is to hold its 6th Annual Presentation at the House of Commons on 16 March @ 6.30pm. There is no charge for this event but for security reasons each person wishing to attend must pre-register. For full details please see the attached PDF.

'User Led Organisations: 2010 and Beyond' Conference: 12 March 2010, 10.30am-4.00pm at the London Hilton Metropole, Edgware Road, London W2 1JU. The success and sustainability of User-Led Organisations (ULOs) is a vital part of the transformation of Adult Social Care and the wider personalisation agenda. The Department of Health (DH), working closely with its colleagues in the government regions has been leading the delivery of Recommendation 4.3 of the Improving the Life Chances of disabled People report: that each Local Authority with social services responsibilities should have a User-Led Organisation in place by 2010. This conference is an opportunity to learn about and celebrate the successes achieved by ULOs throughout the duration of the DH's work. If you would like to attend please complete the booking form attached and return it by 15 February 2010 to tamsin.retzlaff@dh.gsi.gov.uk. Details of the conference will be sent to each delegate by the end of February 2010.

Brain Scans: Scientist have been able to question a brain-injured man who was thought to be in a vegetative state, by reading his brain activity. The research, carried out in Cambridge and Belgium, involved a new brain scanning technique. Awareness was detected in three other patients diagnosed as vegetative.

To read more follow this link: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/8497359.stm>

Assisted Suicides: Sir Terry Pratchett set out his ideas in Monday's annual Richard Dimbleby Lecture and says that he is ready to be a test case for assisted suicide 'tribunals' which could give people legal permission to end their lives. If you missed this lecture and want to know more follow this link: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/8490062.stm>

