



Registered Charity No. 292157

## **E-Bulletin from the National Association for Patient Participation Issue Number 52 April 2011**

### **1. Audrey Hoggard**

Please note that Audrey stepped down as Trustee in June 2010. Audrey felt that her commitments to her family in America necessitating long periods of time in the States were not compatible with her role as Hon Secretary to the Board. Please direct all administrative communications to Edith Todd at [edith.todd@napp.org.uk](mailto:edith.todd@napp.org.uk). Thank you.

### **2. Guidance published on the new Patient Participation DES: Important Development**

The Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) Guidance for 2011/12 outlines changes to QOF payments under the GMS contract for 2011/12 and replaces all guidance issued in previous years.

The Patient Participation Directed Enhanced Service (DES) Guidance, for 2011/12 - 2012/13 is a new initiative that aims to promote the engagement of patients through patient reference groups and a local patient survey. Full details can be found by following this link:-

<http://www.nhsemployers.org/PayAndContracts/GeneralMedicalServicesContract/LatestNews-GMS/Pages/NewQOFGuidancePublished.aspx>

### **3. Government's Listening Exercise: How can we make the NHS properly accountable to the public and make sure that patient involvement is at the heart of its decision making?**

**The government is interested in your views on this area, including:**

- How can we ensure commissioning decisions are made transparent to the public, and that commissioning consortia engage fully with patients, carers and communities?
- How can we best ensure that the NHS commissioning budget, held by the new NHS Commissioning Board, is allocated transparently and used with proper accountability to the public at local level, and Parliament at a national level?
- Are we doing enough to make sure the NHS at local level has the freedom it needs to take locally-based decisions? [www.heathandcare.dh.gov.uk](http://www.heathandcare.dh.gov.uk)

#### 4. **DH Financial Assistance Fund:-**

In March, N.A.P.P. was fortunate to receive £13000 from the Department of Health. This funding was designed for organisations, which needed money immediately to continue their valuable work in the financial year ending March 2011. The money was received as part of a £3.6 million financial Assistance Fund set up by the Department of Health to support charities experiencing loss of income in the wake of the White Paper. This complements the £100 million transition fund announced by the Prime Minister to help organisations from April 2011 onwards.

To qualify for funding, organisations had to demonstrate that they had robust plans in place for future funding and

- Contribute to the delivery of DH objectives which no other organisation could provide in the short to medium term
- or
- Deliver health and/or social care activity and/or support which no other organisation could provide in the short term; and that there would be a considerable knock-on effect on other front line services if the organisation ceased to exist.

This vital funding helped to meet increased demands in responding to DH and other consultations and the need to develop new support to enable practices, consortia and PCTs to establish effective patient engagement. These activities generated no income during that financial year, but should contribute to income generation this year.

#### 5. **N.A.P.P. Spring Newsletter**

The Spring issue of the N.A.P.P. Newsletter is now online with the hard copy version soon to be distributed. There is an absence of news from our affiliates which is disappointing as the majority of articles tend to be on national news and information.. Important as those matters are we would like to feature more news from our affiliated PPGs. Please send to the editor Danny Daniels at [danny.daniels@napp.org.uk](mailto:danny.daniels@napp.org.uk) news concerning your group on your activities – past and forthcoming. Photographs are always welcome.

#### 6. **HealthWatch transition plan**

This [document](#) highlights key issues for local involvement networks (LINKs), their host organisations and local authorities during 2011/12, prior to the establishment of HealthWatch.

#### 7. **Don't forget the Conference!**

**“Patients Matter”** There are still places available for June 11th, but you do need to **register as soon as possible** to ensure your attendance. The programme and registration form are attached. Call 01932 242350 or email [admin@napp.org.uk](mailto:admin@napp.org.uk) .

*Danny Daniels*

*Vice Chair*

*April 2011*