

HEALTH AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY PANEL	Agenda Item No. 4
25 NOVEMBER 2008	Public Report

Report of the Director of Strategic Resources

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PETERBOROUGH LOCAL INVOLVEMENT NETWORK (LINK) – PRESENTATION BY THE SHAW TRUST

1. PURPOSE

To advise the Panel of the progress made in establishing a Local Involvement Network (LINK) in Peterborough.

2. LINKS TO CORPORATE PLAN, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

This report links to the Council's corporate priority to 'achieve the best possible health and well being'.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 received royal Assent in October 2007. Under the Act Patients' Forums were abolished from March 2008 and Local Involvement Networks established from April 2008.
- 3.2 The purpose of LINKs is to help strengthen the system that enables communities to influence the care they receive. Backed by legislation in the Act, LINKs will:
 - provide everyone in the community – from individuals to voluntary groups - with the chance to say what they think about local health and social care services – what is working and what is not.
 - give people the chance to influence how services are planned and run.
 - feedback to services what people have said about services so that things can be improved,
 - refer items to local Overview and Scrutiny Committees
- 3.3 Each Local Authority was allocated funds from the Department of Health to procure a host organisation - this funding is not ring-fenced but part of the Area Based Grant. The host would be responsible for setting up the LINK.
- 3.4 In September 2008, The Shaw Trust was appointed as the host organisation for the Peterborough LINK.
- 3.5 Lesley Knapton and Dinah Shaw of The Shaw Trust will attend the meeting to give a presentation to Panel members regarding progress made in the establishment of the Peterborough LINK.

4. NEXT STEPS

That Members will note the information regarding the Peterborough LINK

5. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007