



Newsletter

Issue 2: OCTOBER 2010

Friends of Chiswick Health Centre

.....
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
CHISWICK TOWN HALL, HOGARTH ROOM
SATURDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2010 : 10.30 am to Midday
.....

Dear Neighbours and Friends, Welcome to our second Newsletter!

Such a lot has happened since our last communication in June 2010. We have 71 new members. We have met with Hounslow PCT, Hounslow and Richmond Community Healthcare Alliance and Mary Macleod MP and they have taken our concerns on board.

In addition, there have been two major issues that will affect the way our GPs treat us as patients in our local community

Firstly, it has been announced that some hospital based services (dermatology, diabetes and sexual healthcare) will be devolved back to local GPs, allowing only a core service to operate from hospitals. The core services remaining at the hospital are to be put out to tender. The preferred provider policy favouring NHS bodies has now been abolished, leaving the operation of these services potentially open to the private sector.

Secondly, on 15th July 2010, the government announced that it was planning a major shake up of the NHS system in England. GPs will be given much more responsibility for spending much of the NHS budget. The proposal is to transfer much of that budget responsibility to GPs working in consortia across the country, with the initiative for spending that funding going directly to GPs. Primary care trusts are to be abolished within three years

ACTION PLAN

- As a Group, the Friends of CHC, will formally respond to the NHS White Paper, voicing amongst our concerns;
 - What is to be our preferred Hospital
 - what is optimum size of consortia, who is our preferred consortium and what choices of consortia can we join ?
 - How is future commissioning of services to be carried out?
- Have your say and Feedback on white paper implications via www.hounslowpct.nhs.uk/hpct.consultations.html. **Deadline : 11th of October 2010**
- We need your feedback regarding the White Paper, , e-mail us on fchc@hotmail.co.uk
- Lobby your MP, voice your concerns over the decline in services of your local Chiswick Heath Centre. For a Pro forma letter , e-mail us on fchc@hotmail.co.uk
- Help others currently struggling, Eg the West Middlesex Hospital dermatology department who are currently in danger of being outsourced. For a Pro forma letter , contact us on fchc@hotmail.co.uk
- Please attend our AGM on **SATURDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2010 at 10.30am, Chiswick Town Hall**

The FCHC Executive Committee:

Chairman - Paul Hopper, Secretary - Daniella Dean, Treasurer - Geeta Howles,

Members - Neil Dacey, Nigel Woolner, Beryl Cross, Kevin & Margo Whiston, Jane Blackenhagen, Jane Thomson, Mike Ambrose, John Todd

THE REFURBISHED CHISWICK HEALTH CENTRE TREATMENT ROOM & SERVICES

The CHC treatment room is currently available in the morning. Originally only complex wound care was offered. However, now simple wound care and suture removals are also offered. Should you wish an arrangement outside of these hours, you would probably have to go to the Heart of Hounslow polyclinic (**6 miles away – a 40 minute bus ride**).

The Friends are concerned about the changes in service at CHC over recent years, and have identified the following -

SERVICES WE HAVE LOST FROM CHISWICK HEALTH CENTRE

1. Integrated counselling services
2. Social workers for patients aged over 65
3. Incontinence clinics
4. Dieticians
5. Rheumatology Consultations
6. Urology specialists
7. Epilepsy supervision

SERVICES THAT HAVE BEEN REDUCED AT CHISWICK HEALTH CENTRE

1. Treatment Room (staff have been decommissioned)
2. Phlebotomy (improved services but demand still exceeds staffing provision)
3. Health Visitors and District Nurses
4. Family Planning (Reduced from three clinics to one)
5. Antenatal services

ANSWERS FROM THE FIRST PUBLIC MEETING (19th APRIL 2010)

Late in August 2010, we received 'answers' from Simon Evan-Evans, Director of Corporate Affairs of Hounslow PCT. However, they were not deemed to be helpful or appropriate. If you would like a copy of the response, please e-mail us on **fchc@hotmail.co.uk**



**please share your experiences with us or let us have your contact details
if you are interested in staying in touch.....**

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

We do need funds to help support us in our cause to champion the Health centre and are asking for a £10 annual and voluntary contribution. We are incurring costs, printing our newsletter and for hiring rooms large enough for us all to meet and debate the issues concerning our Health centre. If you could help, please make a cheque out to Friends of Chiswick Health Centre.

Send to: Friends of Chiswick Health Centre, Fishers Lane, Chiswick, W4 1RX

Hand to: Your GP/Dentist Practice Reception or place in box by community reception.

email us your contact details and experiences on **fchc@hotmail.co.uk**

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