

HRW GP INFORMATION SHARING PROJECT

Throughout the area there are a significant number of voluntary sector organisations that support some of your patients for a variety of needs. This project aims to increase the sharing of information with GPs regarding which patients are accessing voluntary sector services.

The project developed an easy consent form which allows voluntary organisations to inform GP's about how they are working with a patient and what support services are being provided. Many of the organisations work directly in health and social care, others work with vulnerable people and disadvantaged groups in local communities.

This project is to be rolled out across HRWCCG with the planned start date of September/October 2013 with a selection of voluntary sector providers.

A list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) is provided for your information:

1. How will our patients benefit?

Health professionals will see the full range of services and support a patient is receiving. As GP practices become more aware of services available to patients and carers, they may identify other patients requiring this support.

2. What type of services do the voluntary sector provide?

Voluntary organisations provide a range of services for patients and their carers, from mental health support, respite care, dementia support, supported living, care in the home, parent and young family support, lunch clubs, befriending and carers support. This list is not exhaustive. Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Local Support & Development Organisations listed below are the umbrella bodies for the voluntary sector within each district and act as the key point of contact for the sector. They have established that there is a keen interest within voluntary organisations to take part in this project.

3. Who will we receive information on?

GP Practices will receive information from those voluntary sector organisations who agree to be a part of this project, they include many of the key voluntary organisations operating in the CCG area.

When the project begins, the GP Practices will either receive information on all of the people who are receiving services and support from a voluntary organisation (subject to the patient's agreement) or just the new people who

receive a service. It is likely to be a slow trickle of information as permissions will be needed.

4. Has the Information Sharing project been subject to Information Governance processes?

All 'consent to share data with GP Practice' forms are signed by the patient to ensure that they have given their permission for the information to be shared. In order to ensure confidentiality, hard copies of the information consent forms are posted to a named person in the GP Practices.

5. Does the information become out of date?

Voluntary organisations who sign up to this scheme have agreed to inform GP Practices if one of their patients no longer receives support or a service.

6. What do GP Practices need to do?

GP Practices will need to agree a named person within their practice (often the Practice Manager) who will accept information and agree to ensure that patient's data is updated onto the patient's record on the IT system. Who do I contact for further information?

You can contact any of the three Local Support and Development Organisations listed below

We hope you will express your interest in taking the project forward and can see the benefits of working with voluntary organisations who have a broader range of approaches to improving health, we look forward to working with you.

Hazel Kirby
Northallerton & District VSA
Community House
10 South Parade
Northallerton
N Yorkshire DL7 8SE

Judith Bromfield
Richmondshire CVS
Community House
6 Flints Terrace
Richmond
N Yorkshire DL10 7AH

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