

Friarwood PPG Meeting (8/2/11)

Attendee's

Patients: Gerald Limbert, Anne Tollick, Penny Manson, Janet Hardisty, Sarah Farrar, Lynda Bowler.

Practice staff: Kevin Duggan (Practice Manager), Liz de Dombal (GP), Jayne Wilson (Reception Manager).

PCT staff: Gisela Clark, Helen Butters

Minutes

- The meeting began with the Practice Manager (PM) thanking all the people around the table for attending the inaugural meeting of the Friarwood Surgery Patient Participation Group (PPG).
- Everybody was asked to introduce themselves in turn around the table to establish names and roles.
- The PCT staff from the Public and Patient Involvement (PPI) team was asked to explain the set up and purpose of the PPG.
- They explained that the PPG was intended to be '*the voice of patients and to be the interface between patients and the practice (PM/GPs)*'
- A number of patients voiced their opinions including comments like '*that the practice was valued and that she personally wanted to get involved to help protect the services already provided*'.
- PCT staff went on to explain that patient views on services provided were very important and would be even more so in the future with the proposed changes to commissioning.
- The PM gave a quick overview of the radical commissioning changes (due by 2013) that would see GPs holding the budgets and making local decisions of what and how services were to be provided.
- The PCT team went on to discuss possible items for discussion at future meetings, like analysing the quarterly Ipsos Mori GP Survey results and producing a quarterly newsletter to disseminate how the group were inputting suggestions to improving services etc. Also the group could represent the practice at other forums such as the PPG network and possibly visiting other groups to look for ideas/views.
- A discussion took place about some of services that were no longer provided such as a weight management group. One of the patients

spoke of the use PCT Health Trainers who gave good advice in another group she had been involved in.

- It was suggested that the group should meet again within a month to work to decide the Terms of Reference (i.e. appoint a chair; agree frequency of future meetings etc). The date was discussed and was agreed that the second meeting would be on **Monday 7th March at 6.30pm till no later than 8pm.**
- All attendee's were asked if they felt the group was worthwhile and something that they would like to be involved in, with the general consensus that it was interesting and would be great to see how it developed. The meeting was closed at just after 7pm.