

Your LINK for improving health and social care

www.thekentlink.co.uk



28 January 2008

Phillip Greenhill
Managing Director
NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent Community Services
Trinity House
Eureka Park
110-120 Upper Pemberton
Kennington
Ashford TN25 4AZ

Dear Phillip

Support for application for trust status

I was pleased to learn that NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent Community Services has been given the go ahead by the Department of Health to apply for trust status. Although the Kent Local Involvement Network (LINK) has only been operational for just over a year it has been encouraged by the attempts of the provider arm of NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent Primary Care Trust to work with the LINK and to engage with its local community in improving its services. In this context the LINK has worked with you and your colleagues in the following areas:

- Involving over 300 users and carers of your services to help shape the strategy for commissioning community services in East Kent
- The very successful competition to identify community and voluntary sector organisations that have helped shape services through user involvement
- Being involved in the review of your strategy for involving user and carers.

In the relatively short time the LINK has been in operation those of us working with your services have come to appreciate the commitment you have in putting the users of your services at the heart of its decision making processes and in helping to improve services based on users' experiences of those services.

On behalf of the LINK I wish you well with your application and look forward working with your services in the future.

Yours sincerely



Graham Hills
Operational Director, the Kent LINK