

## Issue for consideration of Priorities Panel

*For official use only:*

Issue ID Number: ID 036

Date received by Operational Director:

23/03/10

Date to Priorities Panel:

14/04/10

*Office use:*

Name:

(JJ, RA, KT, All)

Date completed and initials:

Date of referral to LINK	03/02/10
Date issue arose	____/____/____
Title (Headline / short title of issue)	<b>FEEDBACK ON BREAST AND CERVICAL SCREENING SERVICES IN WEST KENT</b>
Nature of interest / standing of person in relation to issue:	
<p>Recipient of service      Family      Friend      Advocate / Campaigner</p> <p>Other <b>X</b></p> <p>If other, please state what their standing is in relation to the issue: Provider of service</p>	
Is the person raising the issue a:	
<p style="padding-left: 40px;">LINK participant?</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Member of the public?</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Priorities Panel Member?</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Governor Group Member</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">LINK Development Worker</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Part of an organisation      <b>X</b></p>	

<p>If raising issue on behalf of an organisation, state name and brief details of what they do</p>	<p>NHS West Kent, the local Primary Care Trust commissioning health and care services including cancer screening programmes for the population.</p>
<p>Summarise issue (no more than 100 words). If necessary, a more detailed account may be submitted on page three with additional pages attached if necessary</p>	<p>NHS West Kent is concerned that some women may not be taking up screening opportunities which could help to detect cancer at the earliest opportunity. They would like the LINK to do some work with groups of women to find out about the barriers to accessing screening programmes for cervical cancer and breast cancer and what suggestions they have to remedy this.</p>
<p>Please use this space to give a detailed account of the issue to be raised with the Priorities Panel. (NB Form will expand to accommodate additional text – other documentation can be appended, as necessary)</p> <p>One of the means of early detection and prevention of cancer is through screening. If detected early, the chances of a longer survival and even cure is improved greatly.</p> <p>A recent review of cervical screening uptake in West Kent revealed that about 18% to 30% did not attend for their appointments in some areas, particularly in Maidstone, Dartford and Gravesham. Most of those who did not attend are aged 25 – 29yrs old.</p> <p>Research also suggests that women of Ethnic Minority origin are less likely to attend cancer screening programmes.</p> <p>60% of cancers occur in those over 65yrs, making these women another high risk group. Breast cancer accounts for the largest number of deaths from cancer in women. In West Kent that is about 123/100,000 women.</p> <p>Targeted work is needed with groups of women of a variety of age groups to establish if there are any barriers which are preventing them accessing screening and, if so, what can be done to eliminate these barriers.</p>	
<p>Is the issue currently under investigation, via a complaint or inquiry or being dealt with by somebody else (this includes being part of a wider campaign on the issue)?</p> <p>Yes <span style="margin-left: 200px;">No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></span></p> <p>If yes, give details of actions already taken including contact details of others dealing with the issue:</p>	

<p>Is there a timescale / deadline / circumstance affecting this issue which may mean the LINK will have to act quickly, eg closure of a unit, change of service, a particular urgency?</p>	
<p>Yes</p>	<p>No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>If yes, what is that circumstance and what is the timescale by which action has to be taken?</p>	
<p>What expectation does the person raising the issue have of the LINK, ie what does that person want the LINK to do / what action does it want it to take?</p> <p>For the LINK to carry out focus groups with women from a variety of age groups especially in Maidstone, Dartford and Gravesham to ask what barriers encountered in the uptake of cancer screening services for both breast cancer and cervical cancer and what suggestions they have to remedy this. NHS West Kent will provide questions to facilitate discussion at these groups.</p>	
<p>What would be a good outcome from the perspective of the person raising the issue?</p> <p>Improved uptake of cervical and breast cancer screening, especially from women in the age groups and geographic locations mentioned above.</p>	
<p>What evidence does the person raising the issue have to support the case they are putting for the LINK to take action? List or attach evidence and sources, if available.</p> <p>NHS West Kent review of cervical screening services which flagged up the issues with lack of uptake of particular demographics (see summary attached).</p>	
<p>How widely does this issue affect other people?</p> <p>If not addressed, the issue could widen the inequality gap within areas and age bands in West Kent.</p>	
<p>In what ways are other people affected by this issue.</p> <p>Cervical and breast cancer affects mainly women who constitute about half the population but this also has an implication for those left behind (men, women and children) after a death or those who have to care for a woman with cancer so there is the potential for the whole community to be affected.</p>	
<p>Signed Sophie Swain</p>	
<p>Date 23/03/10</p>	

## Percentage of women invited for a cervical screen who did not attend 2008/09, Practice Based Commissioning Groups, NHS West Kent

