



Priorities Panel

The LINK's annual work programme was agreed at its annual meeting held in May this year. But that is not all that the LINK works on. There are always issues, concerns, topics arising in health and social care. The LINK needed a mechanism for making decisions and prioritising actions on such matters that are referred to the LINK. This is where the Priorities Panel comes in. Members of this Panel were selected by an independent Selection Panel.

To date the Panel has considered over 30 issues that have been raised by members of the public, LINK participants or organisations. Decisions are made according to agreed criteria and a weighted scoring system. Decisions and actions arising range from taking no further action to initiating a full LINK project.

These are early days but so far the Panel have requested additional information on a number of the issues, made two referrals to the Governors, where LINK resources may be required or there is a LINK governance issue.

Here are the names of the current Kent LINK Priorities Panel Members:

Ram Appadoo David Dye Robin Ridsdill-Smith
Fretha Biggs Lyn Gallimore Douglas Tutton
Ray Harris John Forrest Junetta Whorwell

Authorised Visitors

In many ways this is the most transparent and vulnerable role undertaken by LINK participants. It is also the most clearly defined LINK role in the legislation. Only participants who have been authorised by a nominated person in the LINK can visit NHS / social care premises.

The Kent LINK has adopted a rigorous process for authorisation of LINK Visitors with all applicants having to:

- ▲ attend and pass a selection process
 - ▲ obtain two satisfactory references
 - ▲ undertake a CRB / POVA check
 - ▲ all finish the required training
- ★ ...only then will they be authorised.

Here are the names of the current Kent LINK Authorised Visitors:

Hazel Brain Tony Wellsted Pat Still John Larcombe
James Hancock John Hobart Ian Younger
Madeline Rogers Kenneth Ingleton David Morris

Interested in becoming a member of any of these Panels?

Check out the back page for details on how you can get more **involved** in the Kent LINK!

