

## Issue for consideration of Priorities Panel

*For official use only:*

Issue ID Number: **017**

Date received by Operational Director  
**02/09/2009**

Date to Priorities Panel  
**26/11/2009**

*Office use:*

Name:  
(JJ, RA, KT, All)

Date completed and initials:

<b>Date of referral to LINK</b>	02/09/2009
<b>Date issue arose</b>	02/09/2009
<b>Title (Headline/short title of issue)</b>	Lack of investment in community hospitals in Kent
<b>Nature of interest/standing of person in relation to issue:</b>	
Recipient of service <input type="checkbox"/> Family <input type="checkbox"/> Friend <input type="checkbox"/> Advocate/Campaigner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X Other <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>If other, please state what their standing is in relation to the issue:</b>	
<b>Is the person raising the issue a:</b>	
LINK participant?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X
Member of the public?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Priorities Panel Member?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Governor Group Member	<input type="checkbox"/>
LINK Development Worker	<input type="checkbox"/>
Part of an organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>

<p>LINK Authorised Visitor <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>LINK Authorised Representative <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>KMN other <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p><b>If raising issue on behalf of an organisation, state name and brief details of what they do</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Summarise issue (no more than 100 words). If necessary, a more detailed account may be included below with additional pages attached if necessary</b></p>	<p>The 2005 Labour Manifesto promised a new generation of state of the art community hospitals. Our Health, our care, our say (Jan 2006), reiterated the manifesto commitment and pledged £750 million capital for community hospitals over 5 years from 2006-7. Since 'Our health, our care our say,' around £250 million has been allocated to 28 schemes, but only one is in Kent and that is East Kent. The rest of Kent has not had a single scheme approved. Could this be due to a lack of initiative by PCT's in Kent as they have failed to actually apply for this money for schemes in their area?</p> <p>The government is clearly conducting a go-slow on its rate of approved schemes. To spend the allocated £750 million in the 5 year period would require £150 million a year expenditure on average. At this rate, schemes worth £450 million would have been spent to-date, rather than the £250 million actual spend.</p> <p>On the one hand the government is pushing for the provision of services more local to the community, but on the other hand it is allocated capital expenditure well below its 5 year plan.</p> <p>Local to me in West Kent we have community hospitals that are desperate for capital works to go ahead, but the PCT seems unwilling to take action and submit schemes for funding. A 'wake up' call to PCT's in Kent to take up this opportunity for funding would be helpful.</p>

<p><b>Please use this space to give a detailed account of the issue to be raised with the Priorities Panel. (N.B: Form will expand to accommodate additional text – other documentation can be appended, as necessary)</b></p> <p>N/A</p>
<p><b>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)?</b></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>If yes, give details of actions already taken including contact details of others dealing with the issue:</b></p>
<p><b>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?</b></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>If yes, what is that circumstance and what is the timescale by which action has to be taken?</b></p>
<p><b>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?</b></p> <p>Holding PCT to account for their lack of investment in community hospitals, particularly in West Kent</p>
<p><b>What would be a good outcome from the perspective of the person raising the issue?</b></p> <p>Increased investment in community hospitals</p>
<p><b>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.</b></p> <p>As above – Government policy statements</p>
<p><b>How widely does this issue affect other people?</b></p> <p>All users of community hospitals throughout Kent</p>

**In what ways are other people affected by this issue.**

Having to travel to services that are centralised when there is no need.

**Signed:** Graham Hills

**Date:** 18 November 2009

**Your LINK for improving health and social care**

[www.thekentlink.co.uk](http://www.thekentlink.co.uk)

**ID 017: Community Hospitals**



a LOCAL INVOLVEMENT NETWORK

No	Recommended action	Tick	If additional information required, please specify	Additional comments, if any
1.	No further action			
2.	Watching brief			
3.	Letter to trust / social care calling for comment before taking any further			
4.	Urgent action as issue concerns patient / client safety			
5.	Further information required, please specify			
6.	Consult / survey participants to check level of interest / concern before proceeding to any other action			
7.	Start discussion on LINK website / through LINK Bulletin			
8.	Question to Citizen Jury			
9.	Topic for local meeting			
10.	Urgent unscheduled visit – specify purpose of visit in comments column			
11.	Refer to regulator, eg Care Quality Commission, Ofsted, Health and Safety Executive, Royal Colleges, etc –please specify			
12.	Potential to develop as possible LINK project			
13.	Any other recommended actions			