

# STOIC MEETING – NOTES & INFORMATION

## Age Concern Hall, Linden Road, Romsey – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2010

The meeting started with introductions from two people who joined us for the afternoon.

- Sheelagh Kreft from the '**Community Innovations Team**', recently set up in Romsey in association with Test Valley Community Services and Hampshire County Council Adult Services. The team currently comprises a Social Worker, an Occupational Therapist and a Nurse. They are here to help older people maintain their independence by providing support, advice and guidance. The Team actively encourage referrals from people who could really do with some help. We are hoping that Sheelagh will be able to attend our May meeting to tell us more about the valuable work her team are doing.
- Jane Mielniczek has been appointed as a Hampshire County Council Development Worker to pull together and develop a **Hampshire-wide Association of Older People's Forums**. The objective being to maximise decision making influence at county, regional and national levels. I am sure Jane will attend another one of our meetings later this year.

Just before our guest speaker came on, Anne briefly covered a couple of items namely;

**Good Neighbour Award Scheme for 2010.** Nomination forms now available. Opportunity to nominate someone special, someone who makes a difference to the community (and to you). Closing date is Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June. Forms available from Paul Buxton (01794 521398) or downloaded from [www.hants.gov.uk/bettertime](http://www.hants.gov.uk/bettertime).

**STOIC Newsletter.** March edition now available and circulated at the meeting. We would really welcome your comments, ideas for improvements and of course input for the next newsletter due out in May. Please contact Veronica Lakey, Editor at [oakbank21@talktalk.net](mailto:oakbank21@talktalk.net) or Paul Buxton on 01794 521398.

We then proceeded with the main theme of the meeting and welcomed our speaker, Ian Bacchus from NHS Hampshire, who is the Project Manager for the **Hampshire Health Record**. This is the new computer-based record system that is being implemented in Hampshire to link up patient records across the county in order to improve accessibility and to enhance patient treatment and care. Currently GPs, hospitals and community-based health professionals all collect and record information on patients which is stored electronically on separate computers. Implementing new computer systems has now made it possible to combine patient data from all these stand alone systems allowing NHS Hampshire to create a single central record, the Hampshire Health Record. This consolidates information from GPs with care received from hospitals located across Hampshire. By including all such relevant data, e.g. patient history, medication, care plans, x-rays etc, it should enable NHS staff to provide people with the best possible care.

The main benefits of the new system are:

- gives health professionals the right information about patients at the right time
- provides the correct information to enable informed decisions about patient treatment more quickly
- reduces time wasted waiting for information enabling quicker treatment

However, it should be pointed out that at this stage several people in the audience expressed some concerns regarding security of the data and patient confidentiality and privacy. Ian responded by saying that rigorous processes are in place to ensure that people are only registered with limited access to view information that is only appropriate to their need. Also that the technology used is safe, secure and reliable. Audits and checks are carried out to ensure that this happens. As such the integrity of data stored is protected and seen only by the right people for the right reasons. People will always be asked for permission before their records are looked at, unless it's an emergency situation and unable to give consent. Individuals can ask who has seen their health record to check that no-one has accessed it without their permission. In fact staff can be disciplined or dismissed if data is viewed without justification and if privacy rules are broken. Users of the system are required to sign a data confidentiality document as part of their training. All activity history is logged and reviewed and all computers and servers are physically based in Southampton with data stored only on the local NHS network. The system only enables single records to be accessed at any one time which makes it more difficult to abuse patient confidentiality.

A public awareness campaign started last year (posters, leaflets in GP surgeries and hospitals, advertising in free papers etc) and will gain further momentum throughout this year via health workers, care workers and social services. Southampton General, Portsmouth and Winchester Hospitals are already connected in terms of data, with Salisbury, Basingstoke and Frimley Park joining in a couple of months. Bournemouth and Guildford will come on-line later in the year and Romsey Community Hospital will join during the summer. Currently 65% of GP practices are linked up and participating. The percentage is actually higher than this in our part of the county, more work has to be done in the North and East of Hampshire.

People do have a choice to opt-on. This is easy to arrange and ensures no combining or sharing of data. The new system has been pilot tested with GPs in the Southampton and Winchester areas and their feedback has generally been very positive i.e. better, more comprehensive data and speed of access. It's now being rolled-out to GP practices in other areas. User surveys across clinical staff have also been very favourable in terms of time savings, instant access to data and 24 hour availability. Overall the project is widely supported by hospital trusts and PCTs who between them provide the bulk of funding for the project, which by the way only has 4 full-time staff.

Anne Meader spent some time talking about CAF (Common Assessment Framework) which lays the foundations for the work on the Hampshire Health Record. The introduction of CAF by the Department of Health aims to change the way that information is collected and shared for everyone. It's all about 'Choice and control for the individual'.

Anne then offered the opportunity to the audience of participating in an ongoing pilot scheme by taking away and completing a 'Health & Social Care Personal Profile'. This document once completed gives a very useful personal record about the individual. It includes personal information (e.g. name, address, contact numbers etc), any medical conditions, medication details, GP/hospital contacts, ICE details and so on. Valuable information, all in the one place, for the individual to keep and use and will be useful when dealing with health and social care professionals. Blank forms and guidance were given out at the meeting on request. Note: feedback requested by 8<sup>th</sup> August (details at the back of the form). This data may form the basis for electronic load input later on. Next year it's planned that individuals will be able to access their own data electronically and remotely, subject of course to appropriate safeguards in place.

## **A.O.B.**

### **'Better Balance for Life' events**

Louisa mentioned a couple of free events/workshops being organised by Hampshire County Council to inform people how exercise can help prevent falls. Local fitness groups will be giving demonstrations and also stands giving out valuable hints and tips on how to reduce the risk of falls.

- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March at The Lights, Andover 10.30-12.30
- Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at Lyndhurst Community Centre 10.30-12.30

### **Romsey 'Stay Safe Day'**

Paul advised of the above event at Romsey Town Hall on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March (10.00-14.00) being organised by Hampshire Police. Come along and find out how to protect your home from fire or learn about ways to secure your property. Representatives from the Police, Fire, Testway Housing and Trading Standards will be there to advise and answer your questions.

### **Romsey Community Street Audit**

Veronica talked about the ongoing programme of 'street audits' taking place in Romsey. This was through personal involvement in the Tadburn area audit last year and shared with us observations made and photographs taken from the actual audit itself. It becomes clear that this sort of activity is a very important tool in getting things recorded and brought to the attention of the relevant authorities to get fixes made and improvements carried out to make our streets, pavements and footpaths safer for everyone. Please contact Veronica for more information.

### **Older Peoples' International Day – 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010 (Crosfield Hall)**

STOIC organised event to help celebrate UK Older People's Day and the contribution older people make to society. We have so far held a couple of sub-committee meetings with another one planned at the end of this month. We are still very much in the planning stage but have lots of good ideas for the event which we will share with you at the May STOIC meeting.

### **'Inter-generation Scrabble'**

Anne mentioned this fascinating event that takes place every second Friday of the month (school term time) at the Carers Cafe, 9 Love Lane, Romsey. Older people and younger people (from local schools) are brought together to take part in a number of joint games and activities, which are not only good fun but provide a very interesting opportunity for different generations to meet and talk to each other.

### **Vacancies of our Committee**

We still have a couple of vacancies and would appreciate any volunteers i.e. for a new Vice-Chairman or Treasurer and a fund-raiser.

**Our next STOIC meeting will take place on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at the Age Concern Hall, Romsey from 2.05 to 4.00pm.** The theme of the meeting to be advised.

### **Remainder of dates for 2010** (Fridays at 2.05pm)

14<sup>th</sup> May      10<sup>th</sup> September      9<sup>th</sup> July      12<sup>th</sup> November