



BEDFORDSHIRE HEALTHCARE REVIEW

Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) have been consulting with various groups over the past few months about the future direction of healthcare services in Bedfordshire.

This is not just looking at Bedford Hospital but all healthcare services in Bedfordshire including GP's, community services as well as the hospital.

BBPCF has been involved in all the deliberations and discussions and we should have some options soon that will start the next stage - consultation.

The CCG want to hear from our members what they think of the proposals before the official consultation starts, unfortunately the timescales mean that this will be over the summer.

We have a meeting on Weds 13th August (see over for details) to discuss the options proposed - if you are unable to attend and would like to feedback another way, please contact Lynn or Karen.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES ACT

The countdown to September

There has been a lot of activity recently from the Department for Education (DfE) with various guidance and advice being published. If you suffer from insomnia, like the technical stuff or need some bedtime reading here are some links to the documents;

- [Code of Practice](#)
- [Guidance on transition from statements to EHC Plans](#)
- [Guidance for Local Authorities](#)
- [Supporting students with medical conditions](#)

There are also some good publications and factsheets from the Council for Disabled Children that explain the reforms and how they might improve the lives of children & young people with SEND:

- [Health Briefing - How to use the Children & Families Act to improve outcomes](#)
- [An Overview of the Children & Families Act](#)
- [FAQ's on the Children & Families Act](#)
- [Factsheet on What parent carers need to know and do](#)
- [Links between the Children & Families Act and the Care Act \(particularly useful for those with older young people\)](#)

And see over the page for what has been happening in Bedford Borough.



Children & Families Act - what is happening in Bedford Borough?

In case you don't know...

National Network of Parent Carer Forums (NNPCF)

BBPCF is not the only parent carer forum. Not only are there similar forums in Central Beds (called SNAP) and in Luton (LPCF), there are forums in almost all local authority areas.

There is also the **National Network of Parent Carer Forums (NNPCF)** which represents parent carers at national level. This means that when you feedback and give us your views, they are not just used locally to influence change but are also fed into the Regional and National networks.

If you would like to know more about how the NNPCF works and what they do have a look at their new website:

<http://www.nnpcf.org.uk/>

Dates for Your Diary:

BBPCF Forum Meetings

Kings House, Amptill Rd.

Fri 11th July 9.30-12.30

Direct Payments & Wheelchair Services

Wed 13th August 7-9.30pm

Feedback on Healthcare Review - CCG

Mon 22nd Sept - 9.30-12.30

There is a lot of work going on behind the scenes at Bedford Borough Council, Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group and other service providers across Bedford Borough, in order to be ready for all the changes that come into force in September 2014.

BBPCF is involved in this process and we are part of the 'working groups' that are looking at how Bedford Borough will be implementing the changes. Currently there are 4 groups running

- Single Plan - looking at what the paperwork and the assessment process might look like, piloting the system and looking at an electronic 'live' version of the Single Plan
- Local Offer - looking at how to get all the information together, discussing what is included, how it should look (probably online), consulting with parent carers.
- Steering Group - an overview of everything and pulling all the different bits together!!
- Health Steering Group - lead by the CCG to co-ordinate all the health related changes within the SEN system, such as joint commissioning and the new duty on CCG's to provide the health elements of a Single Plan

There is still time for you to get involved - it is not going to be a 'done deal' come September - it is more likely to be an ongoing process of change. And there is still a lot of work to be done. We have the opportunity to shape the way the changes are being put into practice and hopefully we will have a new SEN system that works for our children!!

Contact: Lynn Hoppenbrouwers, Parent Participation Project Manager or Karen Russell - Parent Participation Worker

E-mail : lynn.fun@hotmail.co.uk

karenrussell.bbpcf@gmail.com

Tel : 07943 524553



[Parent Carer Forum—Bedford Borough](#)



[BedsBoroughPCF](#)