

London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Councillor Peter Tobias
Chairman, Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee
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h&f
putting residents first

Mr Malcom Alexander
Chairman
Patients' Forum for the LAS
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22 March 2007

ACHCEW
LINKS

Dear Mr Alexander,

Re: Proposed formation of LINKs

Thank for your letter of 20 December 2006, please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to you.

I am aware of your concerns regarding the implementation of the LINKs proposals and I would like to assure you that the Health and Adult Social Care Committee fully understands this period of uncertainty for Patient and Public Involvement Forums and their future displacement as a result of forthcoming legislation.

LINKs is a proposal that is likely to be implemented in 2008 and the format and structure of this new organisation is very much an unknown. I would hope that the invaluable support that you and your fellow members have given to public healthcare will be self evident to those taking these decisions and that it will be possible for interested parties to transition to a new structure.

There is little information about the full implications of the new structure or how it will be implemented and I am observing closely the development process in early adopter areas such as the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. I would like to assure you and your members that as Chairman of HASCSC, I am committed to ensuring that the proposals will be carefully considered and monitored through our scrutiny process. LINKs is an item for scrutiny and is listed in our future Work Programme. I would welcome your continued participation and views during our consideration of this important development.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Tobias
Chairman
Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

