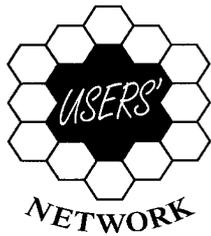


**WILTSHIRE
& SWINDON**



Wiltshire & Swindon Users' Network

News sheet - Summer 2010



Update from the Chair, Brian Warwick

As a user-led organisation, Wiltshire & Swindon Users' Network (WSUN) needs to be far more vocal in expressing the views of our members on issues that will have either a negative or a positive effect on their quality of life. I have serious concerns that we are presently not doing sufficient to identify the needs of disabled young people in their teens, twenties and thirties. One reason could be that we are not actively seeking their views and encouraging younger people to become more active in the work of the Network. A reason may be that we do not hold meetings at times to suit them. Many disabled people are in employment or attending further education, so perhaps early evening or Saturday meetings would be worth considering.

We do need younger people's views on issues such as accessibility, housing and Work Capability Assessments. So if you know of younger disabled people why not encourage them to get in touch with us so we can hear their views and discuss how the network can best be of service to them.

Brian Warwick, Chair



Update from the Head of Network Services, Louise Rendle

As you will see this news sheet is a much shorter communication than our usual summer newsletter. This is due to the change of date for our AGM, usually held in July, but this year being held on the 9th September.

We are busy writing the Annual Report and preparing for the AGM but wanted to keep in touch and share some dates for your diary.

We are also keen to find people who will be interested in joining our Management Committee as we have some vacancies available in September. The committee meet approximately once every two to three months so there is a time commitment but if you would like to find out more please contact me for an informal chat.

The summer period looks like it will be a busy time for the Network with lots happening, including large consultations about the formation of a Centre for Independent Living in Swindon and work for English Heritage about the new Visitor Centre at Stonehenge.

Let's hope that we have some time to enjoy the sunshine, I'm forever hopeful that we will see some this year.

Best wishes and hopefully I look forward to seeing you at AGM.

Louise Rendle, Head of Network Services

Dates for your diary

(please contact us for more details if you are interested in any of these events)

Quality Accounts Consultation, NHS - consultation for production of the quality accounts for Wiltshire	29th June 2010
Ladder of Involvement Consultation - Wiltshire Council	30th June 2010
East Wilts Learning Difficulties Group	June
Wiltshire Council Information and Advice Strategy	June onwards
Wiltshire Council & NHS Older People's District Groups	2 in June, 2 in July
AWP Steering Group for redesign of services	June & August
English Heritage—Stonehenge Working Group (looking nationally and locally at the reason why disabled visitors do not visit Stonehenge) 1-3 year project	July 2010 onwards
Wiltshire Council Sensory Impairment Formation of Consultation Group for Strategy	July
Development of Swindon Centre for Independent Living consultation: 4 Individual - 2 large consultations with 15 organisations -	Dates to be confirmed July through to September - 8th & 19th July
Age No Barrier Week (see our website for more details www.wsun.co.uk)	10-16 July 2010
Wiltshire & Swindon Users' Network's AGM	9th September
Wiltshire Council & NHS Involve Group	September
Wiltshire Council & NHS Our Time to Talk and User Friendly Group (mental health)	September

Wiltshire & Swindon Users' Network's Contact Details



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