

## First meeting of the Future Forum

The NHS Future Forum met for the first time on 20 April. The forum is a group of clinicians, patient representatives, voluntary sector representatives and others from the health field, who will oversee the NHS listening exercise. It will drive the process of engagement with staff, patients and communities over the coming weeks. The group will be chaired by Professor Steve Field, immediate past Chairman at the Royal College of GPs. Representatives from our region are Bill McCarthy, Chief Executive, NHS Yorkshire and the Humber; Tom Riordan, Chief Executive, Leeds City Council; Chris Long, Chief Executive, NHS Hull and Hilary Chapman, Chief Nurse, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals.

The Forum's first task will be to report to the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Health on what they have heard on the following four themes:

- the role of choice and competition for improving quality
- how to ensure public accountability and patient involvement in the new system
- how new arrangements for education and training can support the modernisation process
- how advice from across a range of healthcare professions can improve patient care.

During the next six weeks members of the Forum will be listening to what people have to say about all aspects of modernisation. At the end of this period they will produce an independent report with recommendations for changes to the Health and Social Care Bill. Further details can be found at: <http://healthandcare.dh.gov.uk/category/future-forum/> or you can email your views direct to [bill.mccarthy@yorksandhumber.nhs.uk](mailto:bill.mccarthy@yorksandhumber.nhs.uk)

## Support from the RCGP commissioning centre – expressions of interest

The NHS Institute, working in partnership with the RCGP Centre for Commissioning, has refined the support it offers for those involved in GP commissioning. The NHS Institute would now like to offer this support, free of charge, to a small number of GP consortia who will work as Phase 1 delivery sites, to further refine this support before it is offered nationally. This will enable consortia to be one of the first to receive support from the centre for commissioning and to contribute to the development of national support programme for GP commissioners.

The [information sheet](#) has more details of what is involved. If you would like to receive support from the NHS Institute, please complete the [expression of interest form](#) and return to Christina Walding [christina.walding@institute.nhs.uk](mailto:christina.walding@institute.nhs.uk) by Monday 9th May. Once all applications we have been received the NHS Institute will select the GP consortiums who they will work with. For more information please contact [christina.walding@institute.nhs.uk](mailto:christina.walding@institute.nhs.uk) tel 07702 718388.

## Leadership for commissioning

The National Leadership Council is working with GP stakeholder organisations, regional commissioning directors and others to develop and commission a comprehensive package of high quality support that will build clinical leadership and clinical commissioning capacity. This offer, available to from August 2011, will complement the development support that is being offered at a regional and local level.

### **The initial offer, available now:**

The National Leadership Council is offering access to personal coaching for all GP leaders of pathfinder consortia and also team coaching for emergent consortia leadership teams. The offer is for up to 4 funded coaching sessions for each GP leader and/or one team coaching session. More information is available in the downloadable [Coaching for Pathfinders](#) document and from <http://www.nhsleadership.org.uk/workstreams-commissioning.asp>

## Modernisation of Health and Care website

The Department of Health has set up a dedicated website with all the latest news and useful information about the NHS modernisation and the listening exercise. This can be found at: <http://healthandcare.dh.gov.uk/>

### Pathfinder Learning Network (PLN)

The Pathfinder Learning Network provides support, resources and information for GP pathfinder consortia and the wider health community interested in the pathfinder programme <http://healthandcare.dh.gov.uk/category/pathfinder-learning-network/>. The PLN includes:

- GP pathfinder consortia case studies: <http://healthandcare.dh.gov.uk/resources-pathfinders/case-studies/>
- A map of GP pathfinder consortia showing where all the pathfinders are located: <http://healthandcare.dh.gov.uk/gp-consortia-map/>
- A calendar of events that are relevant to pathfinder GP consortia and those interested in commissioning <http://healthandcare.dh.gov.uk/learning-network-events/calendar/>

### GP pathfinder consortia bulletin – new

The first edition of a regular bulletin for all colleagues in pathfinder consortia: <http://healthandcare.dh.gov.uk/pathfinder-bulletin-april11/>

## EASTER/PUBLIC HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER

Please note that due to the Easter/Public Holiday there will be no newsletter next week. The next edition will be on 6 May.

## The Yorkshire and Humber Clinical Skills Project Team

The clinical skills project team were established in 2010 to take forward the regional clinical skills strategy. The focus of the project is to improve patient safety through quality assured clinical skills and simulation training.

The clinical skills team are a 'free resource' available to assist and support GP consortia in the new and changing NHS. One area of support they offer is to assist GP consortia who wish to engage with clinical skills and simulation training centres, thereby improving patient care and reducing risk.

Each team member covers a specific geographical area and is a lead for various, specific streams of work including;

- training needs analysis
- development and implementation of a quality assurance framework for trainers and assessors of clinical skills
- supporting and audit of new facilities
- sharing of good practice
- addressing inequity of clinical skills provision
- integrating general practice, mental health, learning disabilities and allied health professionals with mainstream clinical skills training and facilities

The clinical skills project team are funded by NHS Yorkshire and the Humber and hosted by Leeds Metropolitan University. Please contact Joanne Barrott, Regional Manager for a copy of the clinical skills and simulation strategy, more information and to find out your local clinical skills lead. [J.Barrott@leedsmet.ac.uk](mailto:J.Barrott@leedsmet.ac.uk)

Further information can be found at:

[http://www.yorksandhumber.nhs.uk/what\\_we\\_do/workforce\\_education\\_and\\_training/education\\_and\\_training/clinical\\_skills/clinical\\_skills\\_strategy1/](http://www.yorksandhumber.nhs.uk/what_we_do/workforce_education_and_training/education_and_training/clinical_skills/clinical_skills_strategy1/)