



bulletin

Member's Update Issue 7 12 September 2002

Bulletin is a regular update for members on the work being carried out by the Welsh NHS Confederation on their behalf. It complements *Interchange Alert*, published by our London office, which gives members an overview of the Confederation's work at UK-wide level. If you have any queries about either publication, please contact kevin.sullivan@confed.wales.nhs.uk.

Welsh members to highlight work at UK Social Services conference

This major UK-wide conference takes place in Cardiff on 16-18 October. For details go to www.adss.org. On 17 October the Confederation is hosting a session giving some NHS perspectives on the future of social care, based on policy work being conducted by the Institute for Public Policy Research. Both speakers at the session come from Welsh member organisations: **Dr Pradeep Khanna**, a consultant from Gwent Health-care Trust, and **Rachel Marsh**, Director of Community and Therapy Services from Bro Morgannwg Trust.

Ideas Forums ready to roll 26 September

Our new Ideas Forums will get under way on 26 September, with four groups meeting under the headings of primary care, acute care, mental health and partnerships. The Forums are aimed at gathering innovative ideas and solutions to key health challenges and bring together members, academics and representatives from partner organisations in the commercial and voluntary sectors.

There are still a few spaces available on the Mental Health Forum. For further information contact Jonathan Davies, policy manager, on 01656 753647 jonathan.davies@confed.wales.nhs.uk

Meeting with Ann Lloyd, Director of NHS Wales

Richard Thomas discussed a number of issues in his regular meeting with Ann Lloyd. These included NHS plan implementation and the restructuring of NHS Wales, and developments in primary care and information and IT. These issues are also being taken forward in meetings with other key decision-makers at the National Assembly.

Award competition to celebrate excellence in health management - open to all members

Have you been involved in a management initiative which has made a real contribution to delivering efficient and effective healthcare in Wales? If so, look out for details of the Welsh NHS Confederation management award. This award, organised in collaboration with GlaxoSmithKline, aims to recognise excellence in management in NHS Wales and underline the contribution made by management to improving healthcare. This is in line with our key objective, outlined in our business plan, of promoting the role of management. Entries are welcome from groups within all member organisations in all parts of the NHS. The award, provided by GlaxoSmithKline, will support training and development programmes for members of the winning team, and has a value of £4000. The winner will be announced, and the award presented, at the annual conference dinner in the Hilton Hotel, Cardiff, on Thursday 7 November. Details to follow soon



Annual conference - over three-quarters of places gone

If you haven't already done so, you are strongly advised to book your places for our annual conference, [The Welsh Connection 2002: Management Learning across Boundaries](#), as quickly as possible. Over 75% of the places are now sold. The conference takes place on Thursday 7-Friday 8 November at the Hilton Hotel in central Cardiff. To download the programme and booking form go to www.nhsconfed.org/wales. Queries: 01656 753028, info@confed.wales.nhs.uk

Information and IT - key messages

Over the next few weeks we will be starting to publicise key messages on information and IT, to coincide with the likely release of the Assembly's consultation document on this issue. We have already begun to meet with representatives from member organisations and with key decision-makers and civil servants, so that we can identify a clear set of key messages on this vital issue. Senior civil servants working in this area will be speaking at the next meeting of the Confederation management committee. We strongly encourage members with views on what we should be saying on this issue to contact us as soon as possible:
jonathan.davies@confed.wales.nhs.uk

GMS contract - Wales strongly represented in detailed discussions

The second major phase of the GMS contract negotiating process is getting under way. A range of working groups have been set up to look in detail at the various areas covered in the framework document. These working groups include representatives from the NHS Confederation membership and from the General Medical Council. We have worked closely with the National Assembly to ensure that there is significant Welsh input into this second stage of the process, with 7 of the 48 NHS Confederation representatives on the working groups coming from Welsh member organisations.

We are also planning a briefing for LHB chairs on the contract to ensure that they have an opportunity to feed in their views.

For information on the contract negotiations go to www.nhsconfed.org/gmscontract or contact Carolyn Jones on 0207 959 7231
carolyn.jones@nhsconfed.org

Management matters - good HR practice linked to better patient care

A new briefing from the NHS Confederation features new research underlining the importance of investing in high-quality management as a way of improving patient care. The research was conducted by Professor Michael West from Aston Business School and points to a correlation between effective people management and improved health outcomes. The briefing is called Good HR, Better patient care, and is based on Professor West's presentation at the Confed annual conference earlier this year. Members have been sent copies but if you have not received your copy go to the publications section of our website www.nhsconfed.org. Don't forget that Professor West is one of the keynote speakers at the Welsh conference, Management learning across boundaries, in November

Dates for your diary:

25-27 June UK Confed conference: Connecting 2003, Glasgow,

7-8 November 2002 The Welsh Connection 2002 "Management Learning Across Boundaries" at The Hilton Hotel Cardiff - for details contact info@confed.wales.nhs.uk

26 September 2002 Ideas Forums, for details contact jonathan.davies@confed.wales.nhs.uk