

## Darlington LINK “Speak Your Mind” Event 14/10/09

Darlington LINK “Speak Your Mind” event was held at the Dolphin Centre and attracted over 40 people. The event was organised so that people of Darlington could voice their opinion about Health and Social Care Services in Darlington. The morning was split into two sessions, the first to establish the main areas of concerns and the second session to breakdown these areas of concerns so LINK can work towards changing and improving these aspects of Health and Social Care.



We also had stall holders from other organisations giving out information and leaflets about their services. These included Mental Health Northeast, ICAS Independent Complaints and Advocacy Service, PALS Patient Advice and Liaison Service, GOLD Growing old Living in Darlington, Advocacy Together and Darlington LINK.

### Overview

During the first session the groups gave the facilitators their personal views and opinions of health and social care; they were then asked as a group to identify two main issues so that this could be fed back to the rest of the group. Each group identified two key areas and they were then asked to vote on these areas so that two key priority areas could be established and LINK would be able to add these too their work plan.

- 1) Appropriate, Relevant, Information and Support for all
- 2) Equality agenda, Inclusion for all

Session two the facilitators then asked their groups to break down these key issues and establish one key change that needs to be made and a 1<sup>st</sup> step that LINK needed to make in order for this to happen.

### Next Steps

Darlington LINK will now take all the information that was gathered, set up two task groups to work on the key areas from the event. The other information will be kept and as the LINK establishes itself more and the work plan developed these other areas will be explored.

For more information or to get involved contact Darlington LINK 01325380145  
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