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Final week for maternity survey

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Final week for maternity survey

Posted on Monday 23rd November 2015

People living across West, North and East Cumbria who wish to complete a survey about maternity services have until noon on Monday 30 November 2015 to do so.

The survey is part of an engagement exercise which started on 2 November targeting women who have used maternity services in the last five years, their partners, families and birth supporters and those who may become pregnant in the future.

It is available on www.surveymonkey.com/r/maternityviews More than 860 responses have been received over the past three weeks.

People can also email comments to:

info@healthwatchcumbria.co.uk

The engagement has been led by Healthwatch Cumbria, working closely with the Maternity Services Liaison Committees (MSLCs) which include women who have used maternity services, to seek views about what is important at all stages of pregnancy.

In addition to the survey, representatives from Healthwatch, MSLCs and local NHS organisations have also been attending sessions for mums and children at a range of venues in towns and villages across the area. In places where there was little or no opportunity to attend existing sessions, they have held drop in events. Over the next few days the drop in sessions will take place as follows:

- **Tuesday 24 November from 1pm to 3pm at Appleby Public Hall, Boroughgate, near the Moot Hall, CA16 6XB**
- **Wednesday 25 November from 10am to 12 noon at The Rooms Penrith & St Andrews Café, St. Andrew's Place, Penrith, CA11 7XX.**
- **Wednesday 25 November from 1pm to 3pm at Workington Oval Centre, Salterbeck Dr, Salterbeck, Workington, Cumbria CA14 5HA**
- **Thursday 26 November from 11am to 1pm at Whitehaven Senhouse Centre, 3 Senhouse Street, Whitehaven CA28 7ES**
- **Thursday 26 November from 2.30 to 4.30 at Egremont Methodist Church, Main Street, Egremont, West Cumbria CA22 2DR.**

Sue Stevenson from Healthwatch said: "We have had a very good response to the survey so far and are hoping that over the next few days more people will take the opportunity to give us their views about what is important to them when they use maternity services. We are also looking forward to meeting more people at the drop in events.

"We are particularly keen to hear from women with experience of using these services in the last five years, their partners, families and birth supporters and those who may become pregnant in the future."

All feedback from the survey, attendance at mums and children groups and the drop in sessions will be evaluated independently by Healthwatch. It will then be handed to the implementation group set up in June 2015 following the independent review of maternity services carried out by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RCOG). The group is chaired by Dr David Rogers, medical director of NHS Cumbria Clinical Commissioning Group and includes Dr Anthony Falconer a former past president of the RCOG who led the independent review, Cath Broderick, chair of the RCOG Women's Network, senior local midwives, representatives from Healthwatch and members of Maternity Services Liaison Committees.

In line with the recommendation of the independent review, the implementation group has been developing a detailed feasibility report on the cost, viability and risks of proceeding with Option 1 (the independent review

team's preferred option) in the long term, including the amount of additional commissioned funding required and whether the model can be supported. The report following the review concluded that if this could not be demonstrated, then other options, as outlined in the report, should be considered.

Posted on Monday 23rd November 2015



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