

# **Patient and public involvement in health policy and services:** **Implications of the 'Big Society' – one-day symposium**

**10:00-16:30, 9 May 2012**

**Room G20, 22-28 Princess Road West, Leicester**

**You are warmly invited to a symposium on the future of patient and public involvement in health care. This free one-day event will provide a forum for hearing new ideas, sharing knowledge and forging networks with other service users, health-care professionals and academics interested in patient and public participation.**

With the election of the coalition government in 2010, patient and public involvement (PPI) in healthcare is at something of a crossroads. On the one hand, the empowering rhetoric of the 'Big Society' offers opportunities for those leading PPI initiatives. On the other, the current policy scene, and especially the current reorganisation of the National Health Service, also poses considerable challenges and uncertainty for involvement structures and initiatives. The question of whether new policy imperatives will ensure more effective PPI in healthcare remains an open and crucial one.

This one-day symposium will offer a chance to take stock of these developments, hear from leading researchers in the field, and consider the prospects for PPI in the current health care context. With time for research presentations, open discussions and informal networking, it will bring together academics, practitioners and patient, service user and carer representatives. It will provide a unique opportunity for setting out a research and practice agenda for the future that addresses critical questions about the place of PPI in current policy changes.

- **Confirmed speakers include**
  - **Marian Barnes** (Professor of Social Policy, University of Brighton)
  - **Andy Gibson** (Research Fellow in Patient and Public Involvement, Peninsula Medical School)
  - **Kath Maguire** (service user researcher)
  - **Jennie Popay** (Professor of Sociology and Public Health, Lancaster University)
  - **Carlo Ruzza** (Professor of Political Sociology, University of Leicester)
  - **Sophie Staniszewska** (Senior Research Fellow in Patient and Public Involvement and Patient Experiences, University of Warwick)
  - **Andy Thompson** (Professor of Public Policy and Citizenship, University of Edinburgh)
- **The venue is just eight minutes' walk from Leicester railway station**
- **Lunch and refreshments will be provided**
- **Funded places (covering travel expenses up to £70) are available for postgraduate students and individuals from outside academia** (e.g. service users, practitioners, third-sector representatives). Funded places will be allocated at random to eligible individuals who apply for them: please apply by 30 March 2012 stating you would like to be considered for a funded place
- **Registration is free but places are limited: book early to avoid disappointment**

For more information, please contact Graham Martin: [graham.martin@le.ac.uk](mailto:graham.martin@le.ac.uk)

To book a place, please contact Lisa Hallam: [lh214@le.ac.uk](mailto:lh214@le.ac.uk)

**This event is funded by the Foundation for the Sociology of Health and Illness and the Research Unit on Civil Society, University of Leicester**