

Subj: Bid for Funds - National Association of Patients' Forums
Date: 25/02/2008
To:
CC:

Patient & Public Involvement Forums
National Association of Patients Forums
(National Association of LINKs Members from April 1st 2008)

Meredith Vivian
Patient and Public Empowerment Team
Commissioning and System Management
Department of Health
Skipton House
SE1 6LH

February 27th 2008

Dear Meredith,

As you know the NAPF was formed in May 2007 to bring together members of Forums across England. Our key roles have including lobbying the Government during the passage of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Bill and advising members of Forums on their possible roles in LINKs from April 1st 2008. We are also building a national organisation of Forum members that we hope will continue in a lobbying and advisory capacity when LINKs are formed. We are committed to highly effective local community involvement and accountability in health and social care services. To achieve this we want to ensure that a significant number of the 5000 trained and experienced volunteers who have been members of Forums over the past few years, move into the new system and have a real impact on its effectiveness. We believe that through effective strategic collaborations it would be possible to create a significant advance in public involvement in

public services and in the short to medium term deal more effectively with issues like the Darzi review of the NHS.

We are committed to developing effective local, regional and national democratic structures for LINKs, which would create the capacity to influence health and social care policy, services quality and commissioning.

We attach a bid for start-up funds for the National Association of LINKs members, which we have agreed will be launched on April 1st 2008. We look forward to discussing the detail of this bid with you in the near future.

Best wishes

Malcolm Alexander
Marsden
Chair
Chair

Ruth

Vice