



Your voice on local health and social care

## ***Have Your Voice Heard By LINKs***

Anyone in the Island community can now have their say about health services and social care services delivered by the Local Authority by participating in the LINKs programme. LINKs stands for Local Involvement Networks and has been set up as a national programme that gives every person the opportunity to have their say about how the services are developed and delivered at the local level.

People can decide for themselves how much or little they want to be involved but to be able to contribute people must register an interest, even if it is to make a one off comment about the impact the health or social services have had on their lives.

LINKs is supported by the charity Help and Care and the local office is based in Quay Street , Newport. The Locality Manager, Tash Koerner and Development Officer, Steve D’Giacoma are spearheading the initiative and will support the LINKs once the core group (called a Stewardship Group) has been established.

Anyone interested in joining the Stewardship Group can self-nominate and nominations close on the 12<sup>th</sup> March '09. Anyone who wants to register an interest can do so at anytime over the life of LINKs – currently funded until 2011.

To register your interest either:

- Go on line to [www.makesachange.org.uk](http://www.makesachange.org.uk)
- Call on 0300 111 0102 (a dedicated charity line at local call costs from mobile or land-line)
- Ask for a free post registration form
- E-mail to [isleofwightlink@makesachange.org.uk](mailto:isleofwightlink@makesachange.org.uk)

LINKs is supported by legislation that requires all Authorities with responsibilities for social care to participate and respond to the community’s expectations of health and social care services.