

Press Release

It's now or never for community services, says QNI Director



The Queen's
Nursing Institute

1 February 2010

The Queen's Nursing Institute (QNI) is inviting a wide range of community professionals to a workshop about the Transformational Guides project, currently being run by QNI with the Department of Health and the Allied Health Professionals Federation.

The free one-day workshop is being held at the National Council for Voluntary Organisations on 17 March and guest speakers include Deputy Chief Nursing Officer for England, Viv Bennett, and Lucy Botting from the Department of Health. Frontline nurses and allied health professionals will talk about how they have begun to transform services, and hear the results of the QNI survey on the 'transformational attributes' listed in the Guides.

Rosemary Cook CBE, Director of the QNI said, "This is a really important time for nurses and allied health professionals to influence how care is delivered to patients in the community. It really is 'now or never' – if we don't improve the way we deliver services now, we won't be ready for the increasing volume and complexity of care that is coming our way."

Groups of community nurses have trialled the six 'Transformational Guides' for primary care launched by the Department in June 2009 as part of the Transforming Community Services programme. The nurses have been 'road-testing' the Guides with colleagues, with the aim of improving services for patients in the community. Their experiences will be fed back to the QNI and the Department, enabling the guides to be refined and updated.

As part of the project, the QNI launched an online forum for nurses to share their ideas and experiences more easily. It now has a membership of over 250 professionals.

Ms Cook added, "This will be a really interesting and productive day, and I hope lots of nurses, from students to seasoned practitioners, will be able to join us, and make their views heard."

- ENDS -

Notes to editors

1. To find out more about the event and to register your interest please contact Alicia.snushall@qni.org.uk or call 020 7549 1400.

2. To read about the first Transformational Guide workshop that took place in September and to download the speakers' presentations, click here: <http://www.qni.org.uk/influencing-policy/transformational-guides.html>

3. The six areas of practice that the Guides relate to are:

Children and families
Health, wellbeing and inequalities
Acute care closer to home
Long-term conditions
Rehabilitation and neurology
End of life care.