

We've gone live!

Our CCG of course went live at the start of this month and we are now very much operating as a fully-fledged operation in our own right...although in truth we have been for some time anyway.

We have a very strong team in place and I remain tremendously excited about the task and challenges ahead. We had a boost on the eve of going 'live' with news that the NHS Commissioning Board had removed the one remaining threshold in place as part of our authorisation process. Now it's very much a case of full steam ahead.

I'd like to again thank every one of you for your great support along the road. We continue to go out and about in the community to meet more of you – and if our paths haven't crossed yet, I hope they will soon!

Best wishes, Dr Jim Hogan – Chief Clinical Officer.



Linda joins our top team

Dr Linda Collie – who practices at Baffins Surgery - has been appointed to join our governing body.

Linda won the election after colleagues citywide voted in the independently-run election, which followed Dr John Thornton's resignation at the end of last year.

For the full story, click [here](#)



Breast-screening rates rise again

Breast-screening rates for women in our key target group have risen for a fifth year in a row, bucking national and regional trends.

Coverage in the city for women aged 53 to 70 increased 0.6% from 2011/12 – at a time when the rates for England and the region fell slightly.

Nearly three quarters of women in the target age group are now taking up their invitations to be screened, with the figures rising from 66.6% in 2007 to 73.2% last year.

For the full story, click [here](#)



Any questions?

We are again giving people the chance to question us about our aims, objectives, priorities and work planning health services for Portsmouth.

Our next governing body meeting is at 1-3pm on Wednesday 17 April in the Entertainments Hall at St James' Hospital. That will be followed by a 45-minute session, starting at 3.15pm, when we will try to answer any questions from the floor.

For the full story, and to see the questions and answers from the previous meeting, click [here](#)



Fall in diabetic foot amputations

Recently-published statistics reveal a big decrease in the number of diabetic patients in Portsmouth needing major amputations in the last three years.

A 25% fall was welcomed as a major improvement in the way diabetic patients with foot disease are being treated by the NHS across Portsmouth and south east Hampshire.

For the full story, click [here](#)



New website

Our new website is up-and-running. Please see what you think by visiting www.portsmouthccg.nhs.uk

It's still a work in progress, but we'd welcome your views at enquiries@portsmouthccg.nhs.uk



Stakeholder event on 8 May

Reducing the impact of health inequalities will be the theme for our next major stakeholder event, which will be at St James' Hospital on Wednesday 8 May.

We are inviting third and voluntary sector organisations, and will ask their ideas about how they can help. A number of themed round-table discussions will include mental health and access to services and screening.

As many of you know, men in our most deprived areas die nearly 11 years earlier than their counterparts in the more affluent areas. If you work for a voluntary organisation which hasn't yet been invited, please email enquiries@portsmouthccg.nhs.uk



Choose Well

There are many choices available to you if you need NHS medical treatment in Portsmouth. You don't have to go to the Emergency Department at Queen Alexandra Hospital, Cosham. Please click [here](#) for details.



To contact us, please enquiries@portsmouthccg.nhs.uk
