

News release

Tuesday September 13, 2011
For immediate release

AGM – Time to hear how the reforms affect you

People interested in health issues are being reminded to have their say on the way local services are run as part of this year's Annual General Meeting of the new PCT Cluster, made up of NHS Leicester City and NHS Leicestershire County and Rutland..

The event - which is open to staff, patients and the public – will take place at The King Power Stadium (formerly the Walkers Stadium) on Tuesday September 20, 2011.

People who attend will have the opportunity to find out how the health reforms affect them, ask questions on the reforms as well as anything to do with the local NHS - from quality issues to performance, finance and plans for the future.

The GP chairs of the new Clinical Commissioning Groups, which will be responsible for planning and buying many of the health services needed by people in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, will also be on hand to provide an outline of their immediate plans and to answer any questions. They will be joined by representatives on University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust, Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust and East Midlands Ambulance Service as well representatives of the PCT Cluster.

Catherine Griffiths, chief executive of the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland PCT Cluster, said: "The AGM is the ideal time for members of the public, partners and stakeholders to ask those burning questions about their local NHS – whichever bit it relates to. It's great to have representatives from all of the local NHS organisations on hand to answer questions from the floor, whether they relate to GP services, dentistry, hospital care, community services or mental health. It's also a chance for us to talk about the challenges and opportunities facing the NHS both nationally and locally during a period of unprecedented change."

The well-being market will start at 4pm and close at 6pm. The formal AGM will start at 6pm and run until 8pm.

This year the event will be supported by an interactive health market where attendees can pick up information on nutrition, physical activity, older person's issues, cancer screening and long term conditions. There will also be the opportunity to complete a free health MOT, including free diabetes checks and blood pressure monitoring.

People who attend the event are invited to submit any detailed questions in advance so that a full answer can be provided on the evening. To ask a question in advance please log onto www.leicestercity.nhs.uk/AGM2011 or www.lcr.nhs.uk/AGM2011. Alternatively there will be a forum for questions on the night.

ENDS

For interviews or more information please contact senior media officer Caroline Higgs on 0116 295 7663 or caroline.higgs@lcr.nhs.uk or media officer Liz Thomas on 0116 295 4123 or liz.thomas@leicestercity.nhs.uk

Notes to editor:

In October 2010 NHS Leicester City and NHS Leicestershire County and Rutland joined forces to form a 'cluster', in line with the requirements of the Department of Health. Although we share one Cluster Board and our staff work across the city and county boundaries, we have not legally merged, and retain our separate statutory duties. Together we serve a population of more than a million people. Cluster formation is an interim stage in the reform of the NHS, involving ongoing transfer of most local commissioning functions to GP-led clinical commissioning groups, in line with the Health and Social Care Bill, now before Parliament and the House of Lords.