



Leicester City Clinical Commissioning Group

For immediate release

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New city health body appoints lay members

The GP-led group that will soon be responsible for planning and buying most of the health services needed by people in Leicester has taken another important step in its development by appointing three public representatives to sit on its Board.

Leicester City Clinical Commissioning Group has appointed Nick Carter, Mehrunnisa Lalani and Daxa Patel as Independent Lay Members. The roles will see them hold the clinicians and managers on the Board to account while also ensuring that the CCG board sets challenging targets for improving the quality of health and health services in the city.

Nick Carter, who is a former editor of the Leicester Mercury and Executive Chairman of Prospect Leicestershire Ltd is also vice chair of the Leicester Stronger Communities Partnership. He will also act as vice chair of the CCG Board.

Daxa Patel is the former chair of Leicester City Primary Care Trust and was most recently a non-executive director of the new PCT cluster made up of NHS Leicester City and NHS Leicestershire County and Rutland. Before that she was extensively involved in local community organisations in the city and also held several positions within higher education at De Montfort University.

Mehrunnisa Lalani has a background in equality and diversity, HR and Organisational Development, and is currently director of inclusion for the Law Society. She also has a background in the NHS, having previously served as a non-executive director of the former Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland Strategic Health Authority.

Co-chair of the CCG Professor Azhar Farooqi said: "I'm delighted that we've been able to bring in such high calibre individuals who all possess outstanding track records in their own fields. All three have lived and worked in the city and understand the culture and diversity that makes Leicester so special, while also recognising the challenges it brings in terms of health inequalities. I'm looking forward to working with them all as we enter this exciting period."

More than 50 people applied for the three posts, and the appointments were made after a thorough selection and interview process. The appointments have initially been made for the period through until the CCG is 'authorised' by the Government to become a formal statutory NHS organisation – expected to be by 1 April 2013.

All three will be remunerated at a rate of £7,882 per annum for a minimum commitment of 2.5 days per month in line with Appointments Commission guidelines for NHS non-executive directors.

The CCG is also in the process of appointing a financially qualified accountant to become an Independent Lay Member with responsibility for audit.

ENDS

**For interviews or more information please contact senior media officer
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Notes to editors:

Leicester City Clinical Commissioning Group was formed earlier this year as part of the changes proposed to the NHS under the Health and Social Care bill. Clinical Commissioning Groups were formerly known as GP consortia. Leicester City CCG represents 65 GP practices and serves a patient population of 360,000 patients.