

# Connecting Healthcare In Communities

Primary Health Care  
Partnership Councils



## **Communiqué for Health Service Providers**

***November 08***

Thank you for your patience over the past two months as Queensland Health has been in the process of a major change process. The CHIC Implementation Team understands that the recent changes have raised genuine concern regarding the future direction and support of the CHIC Initiative and recognises that local partnering processes have been delayed awaiting signed contracts.

Pr Andrew Wilson would like to take this opportunity to express Queensland Health's continuing support for the \$34Million CHIC Initiative and the continued belief that the Partnership Councils remain a significant approach to partnering, service integration and coordination in the primary health care sector.

First and foremost, changes in Queensland Health and the consolidation and boundary changes of some Districts will not impact on the existing Partnership Councils memberships. In fact, the new Metro South and Metro North District boundaries more closely aligned with existing Partnership Councils.

Existing levels of Partnering and Service Delivery funding will remain as previously committed for the Partnership Councils.

In accordance with the tenets of the reform process the Statewide CHIC Coordinator and Admin support for CHIC will remain in Policy Branch and will receive the direct support of one Area CHIC Coordinator. The funding for the two remaining Area CHIC Coordinator roles has been divided to each of the Queensland Health Districts. Statewide members have expressed concern at this reduced level of support available to the Partnership Councils. Policy Branch will bolster its' capacity to provide appropriate ongoing support for the CHIC Initiative.

Former Area governance/advisory groups are being given the opportunity to review their role, function and memberships to ensure these groups continue to provide appropriate governance, support, information sharing and decision making for the Partnership Councils, which they represent. The CHIC Implementation Team will continue to provide support to these groups.

The Statewide Partnership members recognise the PC's are in varying stages of development, with differing levels of sophistication and varying capacity. The Statewide Partnership will review the existing fund holding mechanisms to support a process which aims to keep funding decisions at 'arms length' from the core partnering and collaborative processes, whilst being mindful of trust, influence and power imbalance issues. A move towards uniformity of these funding mechanisms will be of great benefit in contract management and accountability processes.

The development, implementation, governance, leadership and evaluation of the CHIC Initiative continue to be an iterative learning experience wholly supported by Queensland Health and key stakeholders in the primary health care sector.

# Connecting Healthcare In Communities

Primary Health Care  
Partnership Councils



## [www.chicpartnerships.com.au](http://www.chicpartnerships.com.au)

- Evaluation newsletter and fact sheets
- Details of funded Service Delivery and Innovation submissions from the Partnership Councils
- Links to online evaluation facilities

## Progress Update

Outstanding Partnering and Service Delivery funding agreements have now been signed and PCs are expected to continue to progress with the business of partnership development and integrated service delivery and innovation.

## Next Steps

- Baseline evaluation report due late December.
- Provision of expert collaborative and capacity building support and professional development opportunities for all PCs and key partners throughout 2009.
- Service Delivery and Innovation submissions for the remainder of 08/09 funding.
- Implementation of the many shared Service Delivery and Innovation Projects.

## Upcoming Events

Victorian Primary Care Partnerships Conference 17 & 18<sup>th</sup> Nov.

Statewide CHIC Partnership Council December – Date to be advised.

Statewide CHIC and GPQ Conference 5-7th March 09 Brisbane Convention Centre

## For Further Information

Sean Lowry

Ph: 3237 1473

[Sean\\_Lowry@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:Sean_Lowry@health.qld.gov.au)

Rosemary Schmidt

Ph: 4019 6410

[Rosemary\\_Schmidt@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:Rosemary_Schmidt@health.qld.gov.au)