



# **London NHS Travel Network**

# London NHS Travel Network Programme Manager

- In post since April 2009.
- Overall remit:
  - Increase the use of sustainable transport;
  - Improve travel related access to services;
  - Improve health.
- Across staff, patients, and visitors.
- The post is jointly funded by Transport for London (TfL) and the London Forum for PCTs. In the past we have also received funding from Regional Public Health Group – London.
- Based in a variety of locations, most recently a Primary Care Trust (PCT). [gemma.hagen@londonhp.nhs.uk](mailto:gemma.hagen@londonhp.nhs.uk)

# Background to the London NHS Travel Network

- In 2003 – 2004 a number of central London trusts received assistance with the development of their travel plans through a project funded by TfL.
- In 2005 the first network group was established in South West London.
- Following a networking event in St Thomas' Hospital in November 2005, the model used in South West London was replicated across the capital in 2006.
- Four more groups were established, based on the old Strategic Health Authority (SHA) boundaries, namely in North East, North West, Central and South East London.
- Also at this time, a Steering Group was established with members drawn from the five sub-regional groups, both from trusts and SHAs, and supported by the Department of Health's London Regional Public Health Group.

# New direction for the pan-London Network

- In 2009 the remit of London NHS Travel Plan Network was broadened to become the London NHS Travel Network.
- Opportunity to respond to the growing consensus that transport, climate change and public health are interlinked.
- Role of the Network extends beyond travel planning to areas such as Patient Transport Services (PTS), service reconfiguration, commissioning of new and existing services and the achievement of policy aims and objectives linked to public health (closer working with PCTs).

# Draft Steering Group Terms of Reference

- To act as an interface for relevant stakeholders in health and travel, and act as a forum for discussion of issues of common interest;
- To act as a high-level source of advice, information on best practice and contact information in relation to sustainable transport issues;
- To act as a high-level source of advice and contact information for the NHS on matters relating to the relocation / reconfiguration of healthcare services, to enable organisations to assess and address transport issues at an early stage;
- To help NHS organisations to commission better, cost-effective and sustainable transport services;
- To act as a support mechanism for the development of travel plans.

# Draft objectives for the LNTN

The overarching objective of the Network is to increase the sustainability of travel in the NHS in London, thereby reducing carbon emissions, improving health and improving travel related access to services.

- **Objective 1:** Raise awareness of the interface between health, travel and sustainability at all levels in the NHS in London and drive the integration of travel into the NHS's wider agenda.
- **Objective 2:** Facilitate collaborative working within and across NHS organisations and among all key players in the health and travel sectors in London in terms of the implementation of initiatives, commissioning of research and uptake of best practice.
- **Objective 3:** Actively promote measures to increase the sustainability of travel in the NHS in London and provide information, expertise and support to individuals working in this field.
- **Objective 4:** Enable relevant stakeholders to effectively engage on the reconfiguration of healthcare services at an early stage and give due consideration to the impact on travel and accessibility, as well as the travel needs of the health service.
- **Objective 5:** Enable NHS organisations to commission cost-effective and sustainable transport services.
- **Objective 6:** Develop and maintain the Network's infrastructure to operate effectively across health and travel stakeholders.

# Network Achievements

- The Network is unique to London and considered by all stakeholders to be an extremely successful programme.
- In 7 years, and with minimal NHS financial outlay, the Network has secured close to £1 million of non-NHS funding and engaged with over 70 NHS organisations.
- 45 small projects and practical initiatives in active and sustainable travel at individual NHS organisations aimed at staff, patients and visitors (2009-2012).
- development and execution of the London NHS Cycling Strategy in collaboration with and supported by the Mayor of London; currently in stage 3 with over 40 NHS organisations receiving certificates in previous stages (2009-2012).

# Network Achievements Continued...

- Access to training and development for NHS staff in Travel Planning (2009) and Transport Planning and Public Health Tutorials (2012) alongside workshops on travel-related access for the purposes of healthcare reconfiguration (2012).
- Travel Carbon Footprint system developed in association with South West London Shared Services Partnership, enabling NHS organisations to obtain an accurate picture of the contribution of staff travel to an organisations carbon footprint (2010).
- Commissioned research into Patient Transport Services focusing on consolidation and partnership working at a regional level (June 2008).
- Development of NHS-specific guidance on implementing the government's tax-free cycle purchase scheme (2007).



# Network Achievements Continued...

- Coordinated, and submitted to TfL expressions of interest (EoI) from 30 PCTs and acute trusts covering 40 sites for TfL's 'Corporate' travel plan development offer (October 2006).
- Coordinated conferences that were free to NHS participants and sponsored by interested suppliers (November 2006, May 2007, March 2009, March 2010, & March 2011).
- Quarterly meetings with NHS and borough Network members allowing an opportunity to network and share knowledge and expertise (2009-2012).
- Development of a dedicated website  
[www.nhslondontravelplans.org.uk](http://www.nhslondontravelplans.org.uk)

# Current priorities and work in progress for the Network

- TfL/NHS London Workshop on Access
- Transport planning for healthier lifestyles: a best practice guide'
- Walkivator training with the YMCA
- Mapping Initiatives in Sustainable Travel (MIST) database, recording all Network funded initiatives
- **Mapping Initiatives in Sustainable Travel (MIST) Database**