

Good Scrutiny Awards 2010

Team of the Year



Liverpool Local Involvement Network (LINK)

The biggest LINK in the country has had a remarkable rise to prominence culminating in external recognition for its achievements. Facilitated by the Liverpool Charity and Voluntary Services Liverpool LINK has prospered under governance structures which encourage and support the involvement of local people whilst ensuring that individual views do not become dominant.

Impact

- The Support Team have ensured that the LINK has maintained its rapid development and have encouraged members to seek continuing development of both their own skills and of the LINK itself.
- Three well received reports have enabled the LINK to forge strategic relationships within the local partnership.
- One of the outcomes of the reports has been that one of the Neighbourhood Working Groups has changed the focus of one its priorities.
- The LINK has also completed two “enter and view” visits based on the protocol adopted during the setting up period.

Why shortlisted

- Having only been founded as a team in November 2008 the LINK had managed to run a service user event and draft governance and branding arrangements by December of the same year.
- The LINK now has a membership of over 2600 making it the largest LINK in the country.
- The provision of training has ensured that governance arrangements are “brought to life” and provide a robust yet inclusive framework for involvement.
- The quality of its work has attracted local partners to seek LINK views and members of the team have been invited to events to deliver and share good practice.

“ Liverpool LINK is exemplary in evidencing that people working together can make a difference. ”

Paul Greenwood, User, Carer and Public Engagement Programme Lead / Regional LINK lead

“ The time spent on developing the membership and relationships... has resulted in effective joint working which has influenced some of the key agendas and challenges in the city. ”

Cllr Ron Gould, Executive Member for Healthcare and Safeguarding