

Health briefing

Area Panel 4

March 2005

Welcome to the March Health briefing

Central and Greater Derby Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) work together to improve the health of people across the city, and make sure the health services they need are available. Their job is to:

- work out what is needed to improve local people's health
- provide some services themselves – such as community services including clinics, district nurses, children's services and health visitors
- buy some services from others – such as larger hospitals and specialist treatments.

The PCTs will be providing a local Health Briefing for each Area Panel meeting. If you have any questions you can either direct them through the Area Panel manager, Richard Smail on 01332 258505 or contact us direct: Debbie Jackson, Associate Director, Central and Greater Derby PCTs, Derwent Court, Stuart Street, Derby DE1 2FZ or on 01246 224000.

In this issue you'll find details of:

- Pharmacies helping people to stop smoking
- Premises Strategy

Local Pharmacist Supports Stopping Smoking

Community pharmacists across Southern Derbyshire are now able to provide free advice, support and access to nicotine replacement therapy for people wanting to quit smoking.

Sixty-five pharmacies have received training from the local Fresh Start service, which is funded by the Primary Care Trusts across Southern Derbyshire. This training allows the pharmacies to offer the stop smoking scheme. One of these is Cohen's Chemist, 24-26 Stenson Road Derby DE3 7JB

Community pharmacy staff can offer behavioural support to smokers who want to quit. A weekly support service is offered over eight weeks using consulting areas in their shops to maintain privacy. As well as preparing smokers for their quit day, they will also be able to offer ongoing support and advice throughout the quit attempt to help people through difficult situations. In addition, staff will also be using carbon monoxide monitors. As with all Fresh Start services, NRT is available and will cost no more than a prescription for a week's supply.

Premises Strategy

The PCTs are currently developing a Strategy for the improvement of health premises across the city. This includes

clinics, staff accommodation, and local surgeries. This is still in its early stages, and is reviewing premises across the whole area so that the priorities for action can be decided.

We will be keeping Area Panels informed of developments in their areas as we move the Strategy forward.

The Premises Strategy has been approved by the PCT boards – a copy of the relevant minutes are available on request (contact details above).

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