**Coventry and Rugby Clinical Commissioning Group appoint new members**

Coventry and Rugby Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) have appointed a Chairman and three new Lay Members to the CCG Governing Body, to help shape and build the CCG as it works towards becoming an authorised body.

Dr Adrian Canale-Parola, an experienced GP, has been appointed as Chair, and said: “I am delighted to be appointed to this position, these are very challenging times for the NHS, with the Government looking to save £20 billion pounds from its health care budget by 2014/15. It is inevitable that it will not be possible for the NHS to provide everything that local people would ideally like to have, so it is vitally important that the reasons underpinning the difficult decisions we will have to make are seen to be fair, justifiable, open and understandable to the public at large, and that the public are involved at every step. I will be doing my best to ensure that these requirements are met in full.”

Charles Holmes, Lay member for Patient and Public Involvement for Coventry will lead in ensuring that the voice of the Coventry public and patients is heard. On being offered the appointment, he said: “I am pleased about being Coventry’s first Lay Governing Body member. My role will be to challenge the CCG to ensure that it is always acting to meet the priority health needs of Coventry’s patients, and to make sure that there is always good evidence that patient and public views have been taken into account in influencing the difficult commissioning decisions that have to be made.”

Pamela Sampson, Lay Member for Patient and Public Involvement in Rugby, brings along a range of skills, knowledge and expertise to the post. She said: “I’m happy to be responsible for bringing the voice of local Rugby people to the Governing Body and look forward to ensuring that the CCG has listened to, and involved, Rugby people.”

Peter Maddock, Lay member of the Governing Body with a lead role in overseeing financial management, will be responsible for ensuring that the governing body and the wider CCG perform with the utmost probity. Peter’s focus will be strategic and impartial, providing an external view of the work of the CCG that is removed from the day-to-day running of the organisation.  He will oversee key elements of governance, including audit, remuneration, and managing conflicts of interest, and will confirm that appropriate systems of internal control are in place, including financial and risk management.  He will also be chair of the audit committee.

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