

# NHS Bill of Rights for Patients

## Your ideas are needed

The Scottish Government is asking for your ideas about a new Patients Bill of Rights.

The headings for the Bill of Rights will be:

- **Access** - equity of access to NHS care
- **Respect** - respect, dignity and consideration for the individual
- **Safety** – safe and effective care and treatment
- **Communication** - which is clear and appropriate
- **Information** - about services and care and treatment options
- **Participation** - in decisions about health and services
- **Privacy** - and confidentiality of personal information
- **Independent Support and Redress** – by commenting on care and having concerns addressed.

**The Scottish Government would like to know:**

- **What rights do you think patients should have within the NHS?**
- **What would you like to see under each of the above headings?**

The Bill of Rights will also seek to address the responsibilities that patients should have.

- **What responsibilities do you think patients should have when using NHS services?**

### What next?

If you have any thoughts or ideas about the above questions, please pass them on to Eric Johnstone at MVA. He can be reached on....

Your comments will be fed in to the Scottish Government and will help them to produce a draft Bill of Rights. This draft will come out for consultation in **early September**. The Public Partnership Forum will make sure you are able to comment on this draft if you so wish.

### Any questions?

If you have any questions about Patient's Bill of Rights that you would like to put to the Scottish Government or NHS Lothian, you can submit a question to the **NHS Lothian Annual Review**. Information on the Review is over the page. We hope that you will come along to the review. But you can still put a question even if you can't be there and you will receive a written reply. All questions and answers will be posted on the NHS Lothian website. You can submit a question about any topic of your choice.

## **NHS Lothian Annual Review**

### **Annual Review of NHS Lothian**

**Monday 8 September 2008**

**Livingston Football Stadium, Alderstone Road, Livingston,  
West Lothian, EH54 7DN.**

Tea and coffee will be served from 1.30pm and the event will start at 2.00pm and finish around 4pm

The purpose of the event is to allow the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Well-being and her team to discuss with senior representatives of NHS Lothian the Board's performance during 2007/08. This will include discussion on progress with service modernisation, health improvement, waiting time treatment, primary and community care and acute services.

The format of the event, which is laid down by the Scottish Government, enables members of the public to observe the exchanges between the Cabinet Secretary and the NHS representatives. At the end of this part of the meeting there will be a question and answer session, which will last for a maximum of 30 minutes. The first 15 minutes of the session will be given to questions notified by the public, prior to the meeting, please see below. The second 15 minutes will be an "open" question from the floor (which is a change from last year).

#### **If you would like to submit a question prior to the Annual Review...**

If members of the public would like to submit questions prior to the Annual Review to ask the Cabinet Secretary or the Board Chairman, please send them to the Scottish Health Council (details below). The Council will have the final say on which questions are selected for response at the 15 minute pre-submitted question part of the event and the way in which questions are posed. You need not necessarily attend the event to have questions asked. Please submit your question no later than Wednesday 20 August 2008.

#### **Questions should be submitted to:**

Liz Taylor, Regional Officer,  
Scottish Health Council,  
Stevenson House,  
555 Gorgie Road,  
Edinburgh EH11 3LG  
Tel: 0131 537 8545 Fax: 0131 537 8548

e-mail: [liz.taylor@scottishhealthcouncil.org](mailto:liz.taylor@scottishhealthcouncil.org)

Any question not answered on the day will receive a written response either from the Scottish Government or NHS Lothian. Questions and answers will be placed on the NHS Lothian website at [www.nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk](http://www.nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk) no later than 4 weeks after the Review.

We hope that you will be able to attend and look forward to seeing you. If you wish to discuss any of the above or need information on how to get to the Livingston Football Stadium, please contact Sarah Sinclair, Head of Patient Focus and Public Involvement – 0131 -536 9064 [Sarah.sinclair@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:Sarah.sinclair@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk)