



# Borders General Hospital Participation Group

## *Update Newsletter*

Welcome to Issue 5 of the BGH Participation Group Update Newsletter.  
This Newsletter is to let you know what the Group is doing.

### Membership

The Participation Group consists of 12 members of the public from across the Borders area supported by BGH staff and managers.

### Frequency of meetings

The Group meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month in the BGH Committee Room.

### Remit

The group has an extensive remit:-

- To offer a public perspective and support to the BGH on ways to improve services
- To encourage open and honest debate between staff and the public
- To support staff to be open to challenge, and not be defensive
- To focus on solutions and work alongside staff
- To support staff on ways of communicating key messages

### Endoscopy Group

The BGH Participation Group is represented on the BGH Endoscopy Group, which meets regularly on the last Tuesday of each month at 8.30am. The department has been selected as one of 12 hospitals throughout Britain to run a clinical trial for a new drug to treat colitis; this will give the hospital a considerable saving.

### Recent Activity

A group member reported concerns regarding the difficulty in reading the hospital map (available at the front desk), due to the small font & the white print, plus the need to update. This has now been done in collaboration with Hospital Estates & the new colour copies are available for all now, with larger print making the map much clearer.

The 'Nurse in Charge' identity badge (introduced by the group), is sometimes not being handed over at break times to ensure that patients/visitors are aware at all times of who is in charge. Charlie Sinclair has assured the group that he will remind all SCN's & Wards of the importance of ensuring that the badge is worn at all times on the ward.

It was also suggested that the 'Nurse in Charge' badge be adopted by the mental health areas; Charlie Sinclair will liaise with Philip Grieve to discuss this

We welcomed new public member Elaine Morris to the group in March.

We ask staff to bring us their ideas of how the group can help to improve things. We meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month and have some lively discussions! If you would like to bring an idea to the group please contact: Susan Hogg, Public Involvement Officer 01896 826701.