

Facilitation for your Practice Away Day

Health Education Wessex (HEW Courses and Conferences) is offering to fund facilitation for GP practices for away day or practice review meetings. Experienced facilitators are available for free, funded by HEW, to plan and facilitate an away day for whole or part of the staff team or for partnerships and practice managers. The Courses and Conferences Centre is offering up to a day and a half of facilitator time as part of a pilot project. After preliminary discussions the facilitator will usually meet with the practice manager and key individuals to develop an outline plan for a day or half day meeting and clarify clear objectives for the meeting. Feedback from those using this service has been very positive.

The service is **entirely** confidential and the issues raised will not be discussed elsewhere. Issues that practices have looked at in these sessions have included: team building, communication, understanding the impact of change (resilience of teams), planning ahead and implementing change (strategic and operational), exploring new solutions to challenges (learning from difficult situations). Partnerships have in addition looked at succession planning, major changes (mergers and splits), recruitment, federation, leadership and decision making. Also on offer is a free meeting room (subject to availability) at Southern House, Otterbourne as a venue for your away day. The two facilitators available to facilitate on your day are Dr David Owen and Nicki Spiegel.

David Owen is a facilitator with expertise in organisational review, strategic planning and team development. In addition to his clinical practice he has for 20 years worked part time in medical education and training. David is co editor of a book on clinical supervision for medical practitioners, part of the GP – Wessex Tutor Group and is lead on personal professional development at Southampton medical school. He has worked as an organisational consultant in the private and 'third' sector and more recently has focussed on working with healthcare teams and organisations.

Nicki Spiegel is a facilitator with over 20 years experience of working with GP practices. A primary care nurse by background she has facilitated hundreds of practice away days in Wessex and beyond, as well as researching change in primary care and leading clinical supervision groups for GPs and nurses. She has led an RCGP Commission on Primary Care, presented research papers in the UK and abroad and is a long-standing tutor on the Experienced GP Trainer Programmes.

If you would like to arrange a preliminary conversation with one of the facilitators, or to find out how other practices have made use of this service then please contact either David David.Owen@soton.ac.uk or Nicki nicki@nickispiegel-associates.com. If you would like to check on room availability – Monday – Friday during office hours at Southern house, Otterbourne, SO21 2RU please contact Jane Carr via email at Jane.Carr@wessex.hee.nhs.uk