

Very best wishes. Malcolm Alexander, Chair National Association of Patients' Forum

Paola, we discussed this a few days ago. Malcolm

Dear Rabbi Neuberger,

I wanted to introduce myself as the new Chair of the National Association of Patients Forum Steering Group. We are a body of 18 elected members covering each of the English regions and our aim is to build a national body of PPI Forum members that will carry on into the new LINKs system. We aim to build a national grass roots organisation of people committed to patient and public involvement in health.

The Government's plans for the transition seem disastrous, poorly thought out and frankly inept because there will be no transition and a long gap between abolition of Forums in April 1st, 2008 and the formation of LINKs. The statutory powers to be conferred on LINKs are we believe grossly inadequate.

We would like to delay abolition of Forums until a new LINKs system is up and running. We would like to develop a national strategy to enable us to deliver a new system of PPI which is effective and gives patients and the public real power and influence in the NHS.

Can we meet to discuss the development of a strategy to achieve these objectives? I attach out objectives and a press release issued today.

04 July 2007 AOL: MAiexa49

Best wishes

Malcolm Alexander,  
Chair  
National Association of Patients' Forums -  
Steering Group

Paola, I attach a briefing note for the Second Reading of the Bill on June 20th. I hope that Julia will find this useful. Are there other peers that I should be contacting?

Best wishes  
Malcolm Alexander  
Chair, National Association of Patients' Forums - Steering Group.

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04 July 2007 AOL: MAiexa49

Subj: **RE: LINKs and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Bill**

Date: 04/07/2007 09:57:04 GMT Standard Time

From: [paolachurchill@hotmail.com](mailto:paolachurchill@hotmail.com)

To: [MAiexa49@aol.com](mailto:MAiexa49@aol.com)

Dear Malcolm

Thank you for your emails. I hadn't forgotten you (and have just received an email from Ruth Marsden too asking me to fit you into the diary because you are all 'working your socks off' which I don't doubt at all!) - it has been rather hectic over the last two weeks with the announcement that Baroness Neuberger is going to be the PM's Champion for Volunteering - she and I met yesterday and have now been through the diary - if you could give me a call we could try to set something up before Recess subject to parliamentary business.

All good wishes

Paola

*Neuberger*  
*N*

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Subject: *LINKs and the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Bill*  
Date: *Tue, 3 Jul 2007 02:56:31 EDT*

Hello Paola, we were in contact recently (June 12 and 19) and about the development of LINKs and the Bill currently going through parliament. At that time I asked if I could meet with Julia to discuss the Bill, LINKs and the National Association of Patients Forums which was formed in May. Would it be possible to arrange a meeting quite soon in view of the current progress of the Bill through the House?

04 July 2007 AOL: MAiexa49