



Welcome to the Inaugural NALM Conference and AGM

We are delighted to welcome you to the inaugural National Association of LINKs Members Conference and AGM. It is exactly one year and one day since the organisation was formed and today's conference will provide opportunity to review the progress that has been made in our first year. It will also democratically develop the process of building a national 'grassroots' voice for LINKs, and help to develop ways for all LINKs and LINKs' members to communicate with each other, as well as with regional and national policy makers.

We want to stimulate new and more powerful approaches to public and user involvement. We want to build NALM into a major grass roots movement of LINKs and LINKs members that can significantly influence government policy at national and regional levels. This conference will give us an opportunity to promote diversity amongst the membership of LINKs and build our collaboration with National Voices and other national organisations in the voluntary and statutory sector.

Please take the time to complete the evaluation form that you will find in your conference packs and return to a member of the conference staff before you leave. Members of the NALM Steering Group will be at the conference all day and will be identifiable by wearing green badges. Our Annual General Meeting will immediately follow the end of the conference, and all members of LINKs are very welcome to attend.

We do hope you enjoy the conference and make the most of this opportunity to interact with your fellow LINKs members and to build an important new public involvement movement.

Malcolm Alexander, Chair
April 2009

Ruth Marsden, Vice Chair