Welcome
Welcome to the second issue of the SMART Wheelchair and Seating Services newsletter. If you have any feedback on the newsletter or any articles within it, please email us at Lothian.smartmanagement@nhs.net or contact Les Malone, Modernisation Manager on Tel. 0131 537 9436.

SMART User/Carer Network
There are now over 250 members from across Lothian, Fife and Borders on the SMART User/Carer Network. The network aims to provide service users and carers with an opportunity to get involved with the development of the service. Anyone who is interested in joining the network or who would like further information can contact Les Malone, Modernisation Manager on Tel. 0131 537 9436 or by email at: Lothian.smartmanagement@nhs.net

NHS Borders - Satellite Clinic
NHS Borders has identified accommodation to run a satellite clinic once a month in Hawick Community Hospital. The Wheelchair and Seating Service will offer patients the opportunity to be seen locally at the community hospital as part of a six month pilot project starting in October. There will also be information located within the reception area about the Wheelchair and Seating Services and other services which are available to users.

If you would like further information about the pilot project, please contact Kathleen Henderson, Lead Occupational Therapist, NHS Borders on Tel. 01896 824 527 or you can email Lothian.smartmanagement@nhs.net

Standards and Eligibility Working Group
The NHS Wheelchair and Seating Services (WSS) Standards and Eligibility Working Group was established by the Scottish Government to deliver on the following actions within the WSS Modernisation Action Plan:

- National service and clinical standards will be developed for WSS; and
- National eligibility criteria will be reviewed within the context of other health and social care equipment provision.

The group consists of representatives from the NHS, the voluntary sector, Scottish Government, NHS Quality Improvement Scotland (QIS) and users and carers. Mike Dolan was appointed as Clinical Advisor to lead the work of the group which is due to finish by the end of June 2011.

Web pages are being created about the work of the Working Group. Once ready, these will be added to the Wheelchair and Seating Services Project Board website at http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Health/health/wheelchair

Planned Clinical Reviews
From 1 September 2010 planned clinical reviews will be offered to users of the Adult Wheelchair and Seating Service. The reviews are currently offered within the Children’s service. This means that where clinically required, service users will be given a routine review appointment. If you would like further information on planned clinical reviews, please contact the SMART Centre on Tel. 0131 537 9445 or by email at: Lothian.smartmanagement@nhs.net
**SMART Website**

The SMART website was launched in July 2010 and provides information on SMART services. The SMART Centre provides a wide range of rehabilitation technology services for the South East of Scotland, covering Lothian, Fife and the Borders. These include mobility and postural services (wheelchairs and special seating), prosthetics, and bioengineering services (artificial limbs and special equipment), a Disabled Living Centre and Gait Analysis Service. We also provide a national Driving Assessment Service.

The website can be viewed at www.smart.scot.nhs.uk

If you have any comments about the website or have any other queries, you can complete the feedback form which is available on the website.

**Fleet Modernisation**

The wheelchair fleet is being modernised and now includes lighter models such as the Action 2NG and Dash Lite. The attendant version of the Dash Lite has running brakes which assist carers when going down inclines. To date the SMART Centre has issued more than 3000 lightweight wheelchairs - 600 of which have running brakes – since the start of the Modernisation Project.

If you would like further information on fleet modernisation, please contact the SMART Centre on Tel. 0131 537 9445 or by email at: Lothian.smartmanagement@nhs.net

**NHS Borders User/Carer Development Event**

The NHS Borders user/carers event was held on 18 June in Selkirk. The event was well attended and included wheelchair users and carers, other health care professionals and representatives from the Borders Voluntary Community Care Forum and Borders Health Council.

Discussion took place on whether there was a need to establish a local wheelchair user group in addition to the SMART network. It was agreed to explore the possibility of linking the network to the Borders Disability Forum. Views were also sought on the proposal to have a satellite clinic at Hawick Community Hospital.

Feedback received from those who attended the event was much appreciated.

If you would like a copy of the report please contact Les Malone, Modernisation Manager on Tel. 0131 537 9436 or by email at: Lothian.smartmanagement@nhs.net

**SMART WSS Organisational Development Event**

The WSS held a development event in June 2010 to explore the following key areas:

- Roles and responsibilities
- Quality of services and performance management
- Equipment and resources
- Policies and documentation.

The event was aimed at enhancing multi-disciplinary team working and improving integration across rehabilitation technology services. A 30-60-90 day action plan incorporating key recommendations from the event has been implemented and led by David Gow, Head of SMART.

Talking about the event David said: “The service management feel that it is very important to build on the work of the national wheelchair review and want to take every opportunity to look at how we can improve efficiency and service delivery. This event has been a very helpful step in this process.”