

MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE HIGHLAND SENIOR CITIZENS NETWORK HELD IN INSHES CHURCH, INVERNESS ON MONDAY 31 OCTOBER 2016 AT 10:00

Present: Ian McNamara, Chair
Isla Cuthbert
David Hannah
Bet McAllister
Ann MacKay
Donalda Mackenzie
Brenda Nicolson
Joan Philip
Irene Robertson
Evelyn Sinclair

In attendance: Pamela Boxx
Anne McDonald, Coordinator
Kelly Sutherland, Coordinator
Maimie Thompson, Head of PR and Public Engagement, NHS Highland

Apologies – Brian Devlin, Lesley McDade and Donald MacLeod

1 RELOCATION OF RE-ABLEMENT SERVICE, YORK DAY HOSPITAL, RNI

The Chair welcomed Maimie Thompson, NHS Highland's Head of PR and Public Engagement to the meeting. Ms Thompson reported on the review being undertaken by NHS Highland of the re-ablement service currently provided at the York Day Hospital, Royal Norther Infirmary (RNI). She explained that it was proposed to relocate the existing day hospital service to Raigmore Hospital where all the necessary assessment and diagnostic services were already on site. The move would also facilitate links with other services that may need to be accessed such as orthopaedics, thereby providing a more comprehensive service which would reduce the amount of time patients had to spend on site and potentially reduce the number of hospital admissions. The relocation of the service would also free up clinical space at the RNI which could be used more effectively. Discussions were ongoing with clinical staff at both hospitals regarding the proposed integration of the service within Raigmore and how this might be implemented to ensure there were no unintended consequences. Responding to concerns raised, Ms Thompson outlined proposals under consideration to ensure availability of parking spaces and ease of access to services. The needs of people with a sensory impairment would require to be taken into account. It was acknowledged that the day hospital service currently provided an opportunity for social contact and there was concern that this element should not be lost. Ms Thompson thanked the Board for its input and would be grateful to hear of any other issues or concerns that may arise. She confirmed that a communication plan would be developed to ensure all stakeholders and the public were informed about the service redesign.

On behalf of the Board, the Chair thanked Ms Thompson for her informative presentation and would look forward to further updates on developments.

2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were none declared.

3 NEW MEMBERS

The following new Members were noted:-

- Donna Melvin, Cawdor
- Mary Mackenzie, Kingussie
- Ann Wakeling, Aviemore
- Richard Burkitt, Inverness
- Dr Helen Charley, Rosemarkie
- Pamela Boxx, Carrbridge
- Babs Cameron, Balintore
- Gregor & Margaret Munro, Fearn
- Irene Macdonald, Balintore
- George Carson, Invergordon
- Gen Gordon, Balintore

4 MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON 27 SEPTEMBER 2016

The Minute of meeting held on 27 September 2016 was Approved.

Proposer: Joan Philip
Secunder: Donalda Mackenzie

On the point raised regarding the SDS pilot in Mid Ross, Anne advised that the project would run until July/August next year.

With regard to the Sight Action Communication Aid, it was clarified that this would be introduced on a Highland-wide basis in the first instance. It was hoped that the tool might be adopted at national level in due course.

5 SELF EVALUATION WORKSHOP 5TH SEPTEMBER 2016

The Board noted the circulated report of the Self Evaluation Exercise carried out on 5th September 2016. It was proposed that a separate meeting be held in order that the report could be considered in detail. As a first step it was agreed that the working group comprising the Chair, Ann, Bet and Joan be reconvened to go through the report and produce a paper as a starting point for discussion by the full Board. Ann would make the necessary arrangements for the meeting which it was agreed should be attended by one of the Coordinators. It was proposed that once the Board had had an opportunity to discuss the report a wider meeting be held involving for example service users and partner agencies, to share the findings of the report and consider the implications and next steps.

6 MEETINGS WITH EXTERNAL BODIES

(a) Adult Services Commissioning Group Meeting 17 October 2016

The Chair reported on the topics discussed at this meeting among which were the Integrated Care Fund; standards of care in care homes – how to identify and address issues, the role of the Care Inspectorate and the effectiveness of its inspection function; and discharge planning.

(b) Older People’s Improvement Group Meeting 17 October 2016

Anne had attended this meeting on the Chair’s behalf. Summarising the topics discussed including commissioning priorities, end of life care and revision of key performance indicators, Anne suggested it would be helpful if she or Kelly could attend future meetings of the group in view of the opportunities they provided for establishing links and sharing information relevant to their work.

(c) Day Care in Care Homes 25 October 2016

Anne reported on the issues raised at this meeting regarding the need to ensure adequate staffing levels to manage day care activities in care homes and to identify appropriate space for the activities while taking into account the potential impact on care home residents.

7 REPORTS

(a) Coordinators

The Board noted the circulated report covering activity to date. The following points were highlighted:

- Anne had met with NHS Highland officers to discuss older people’s involvement in care at home services in North and West Highland.
- Anne and Kelly updated on progress with arrangements for meetings with HSCN members in the North and West.
- With regard to Highland care residents’ involvement, Anne noted that the residents of High View Nursing Home were keen to meet with the residents of other care homes.
- Anne referred to the “Sounds Familiar” singing group and the positive impact of song on people with dementia in terms of stimulating and encouraging communication.

(b) Membership and Communication

The Board noted for information the minute of meeting of the Communications Group held on 18 October 2016.

- *Autumn meeting, Merkinch Centre, Inverness, 6 October 2016:* Joan advised she had received negative feedback from some attendees following the meeting and proposed to get back in touch with them to discuss how they felt the event could have been improved and seek suggestions for topics for future meetings. Overall however, it was felt this had been a successful and worthwhile event.
- *HSCN Annual Conference, 26 April 2017:* the Chair confirmed that the main topic for next year’s conference would be End of Life Care and that key speakers had been identified.

(c) Black Isle Cares Update

Reporting on Brian’s behalf, the Chair noted that a satisfaction survey relating to the meals on wheels service was to be undertaken. With regard to care at home, further discussions were to take place with NHS Highland regarding the capacity of the service to meet increasing demand. An issue had also arisen which had highlighted the need for further clarity and understanding of the SDS process and its application to older people.

(d) SOPA

Some places were still available for SOPA’s 2016 Assembly on 25 November 2016.

8 TREASURER'S REPORT

The Board received the circulated accounts for September 2016. Evelyn advised she would be seeking clarification from The Highland Council as to whether HSCN required a licence for certain fundraising activities. She would also be looking into the position with regard to gift aid.

9 AOCB

(a) Technology in Health Care

Brenda reported on an interesting meeting held in the Spectrum Centre, Inverness on the use of technology in health care which was suggested as a potential topic for a future HSCN annual conference.

(b) "We're Here Too" Meeting, Smithton Church, 2 December 2016

The Board noted the circulated flyer for this event which aimed to bring together people who wanted to see more opportunities for supporting older people to enable them to participate in issues and activities of interest to them.

(c) Adult Support and Protection Meeting 31 October 2016

The agenda for this meeting which Joan would be attending was circulated for the Board's information and interest.

(d) Sea Board Meeting

Evelyn reported on this event which aimed to promote care services in the Sea Board area. A range of organisations had been represented at the meeting providing a useful opportunity for networking and information sharing.

(e) Blue Badge Holders

Donalda highlighted continuing difficulties for blue badge holders in accessing parking spaces in Inverness city centre. Having noted that parking in loading bays in the city centre was not permitted on Saturdays until after 6.00pm, she wondered whether the bays could be made available to blue badge holders earlier in the day as they appeared to be little used for deliveries on Saturdays. Bet undertook to raise this issue with The Highland Council and would report back to the Board.

(f) Connecting Carers

Bet reported on a meeting she had attended on 20 October 2016 at which discussion had taken place on changes to social security arrangements and funding for social care. It was suggested this was an issue the Board may wish to consider at its next or a future meeting.

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 28 November 2016 at 10:00 in Inshes Church.

The meeting closed at 11:55