

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH HEALTH COUNCIL
HELD ON 07 DECEMBER, 2006
IN MEETING ROOM 2, DELTA HOUSE, GLASGOW

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|-----------------------|--|--|
| Present: | Brian Beacom MBE
Alex Baird
Anne Brown
Neil Galbraith
Irene Garden
Agnes Robson | Chairman
Council Member
Council Member
Council Member
Council Member
Council Member |
| In Attendance: | Richard Norris
Catherine Tait | Director
PA to Director and Chairman |
| Apologies: | Lesley Stewart
Jacquie Malcolm
Kate Alexander | Council Member
Council Member
Council Member |
| By Invitation: | Hector MacKenzie | Scottish Executive Health Department |

Member of the Public

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies of absence were received as above.

2 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting in particular, he welcomed Hector MacKenzie from the Scottish Executive Health Department and a member of the public.

3 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman informed Council that Sue Kinsey had sent a letter of resignation indicating she had decided to resign and not to apply for a further term due to other commitments. Sue paid tribute to the progress that the Council has made to date and was happy to have been involved in

ACTION

its formation. The Chairman had written to Sue and thanked her for her enthusiasm and input to date.

The Chairman updated Council on a Regional Network Event he attended at the Marriot Hotel and felt that this was worthwhile and interesting and in particular the role play session between a GP and a patient. This event was well received and feedback highlighted the difficulty of language use and the understanding of different cultures.

The Chairman met with Sir Graham Teesdale, Chairman of NHS Quality Improvement Scotland and took this opportunity to discuss the working relationship with NHS QIS and the Scottish Health Council in ensuring that the role and responsibility of the Scottish Health Council is clearly understood in relationship to NHS QIS.

The Chairman attended the Scottish Health Council Patient Information Conference that took place in the Radisson Hotel, Glasgow on 14 November, 2006. The feedback received in general was that this was a very good learning opportunity for the attendees.

The Chairman was invited to speak at an event entitled "Kerr Report 18 Months on" He provided feedback on this event and advised that there are still difficulties around public engagement. Another difficulty is in respect of regional planning and the impact this has across neighbouring Boards. He highlighted the fact that there is a danger that patient focus and public involvement is seen purely in the context of acute services and the misconception that the acute service is the NHS. It is essential that patient focus and public involvement is actually embedded firmly in the community settings since in fact this is where the majority of contacts happen on a day to day basis. There is also need for a social model of health to be delivered in deprived communities as the debate develops it is apparent that the Scottish Health Council have a difficult but very important role if change for patients is to be achieved.

4 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 October, 2006 were approved by Council as an accurate record.

5 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

DVD

The DVD of the Scottish Health Council is almost complete however a signing format for the deaf had still to be agreed.

Draft Corporate Plan

Alex Baird thanked the Director for e-mailing this document and asked for timescale for comments. The Director advised comments to be submitted

by February 2007 and that the final document will be submitted by end March, 2007.

Press Digest

Rob MacPhail, Press Officer e-mails members with media monitoring reports and new members will be included in the distribution list.

**Rob
MacPhail**

6 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director stated there was no further information to his written report but he was happy to answer any questions.

Patient Information Conference 14 November, 2006

Members who attended this event made very favourable comments about the event generally, and specifically the 'lack of jargon', the informative and useful programme, and the quality of the speakers. Feedback received at some workshop sessions highlighted that there was a lack of time for questions which some people found frustrating. The Chairman agreed that more time should be allocated for workshops and at future events speakers slots could be reduced and workshops could be repeated in the afternoon. The Director mentioned that the growth in the expectation by workshop providers in having 'powerpoint' available had perhaps encouraged a culture of longer workshop presentations, and that the use of presentation technology in workshop sessions should be reviewed. The Chairman was very pleased at the number of organisations that attended and the quality of the information they provided.

Significant Service Change

The Director circulated a supplementary paper for item no 8 detailing significant service change currently being monitored in respect of the East region.

7 FINANCE

The Chairman asked if there were any comments or questions on the finance report.

Members asked for more information and details to be provided on the finance report. The Director agreed to supply more narrative in future reports. He advised there is an underspend due to unfilled vacancies and therefore there is funding available for research projects.

The Chairman suggested that the finance report be tailored to meet the Scottish Health Council requirements and an accompanying balance sheet to identify the various budget headings. Richard Norris will discuss with QIS finance department proposals for clearer headings and more easily understood information.

**Richard
Norris**

8 REVISED ASSESSMENT TEMPLATE

The Chairman and members were pleased that this document is now revised and is more in line with what information we need to capture. The Director advised that this is to ensure we are closely aligned with Scottish Executive Health Department in Boards' assessment returns. Richard Brewster, Assessment and Feedback Manager is currently working with the Scottish Executive Health Department on the development of a new assessment tool. This will be aligned with the HEAT targets (Health, Efficiency, Access and Treatment) and our assessments of Boards' performance in patient focus and public involvement and will be based on their Local Delivery Plan targets.

The Director informed Council that feedback from Boards and other stakeholders is that this tool is more helpful and focused. It will be challenging as an organisation in producing annual assessment of Boards and we need to move away from 2 months "sprint" and focus on assessment throughout the year.

There will also be a new emphasis on specific measures for patient focus and public involvement. Some Council members noted that some of the quantitative performance measures (e.g. the Chi number) may or may not provide helpful information in relation to patient focus. The Director commented that this is an experimental year and we will review how helpful the selected indicators prove in practice.

9 RESEARCH FUNDING

Detailed in Paper no 4 are options for funding future research projects and a summary of what has been funded so far. Rosemary Hill is organising a research symposium for the Spring of 2007 to look at the progress and findings of these research projects.

Council noted

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 08 February, 2007
10.30am – Delta House, Glasgow

Owing to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed a motion was approved to exclude press and public from the remainder of the meeting. The Chairman thanked those members of the public for their attendance.

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Brian Beacom MBE
Chairman

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Date