

Purpose of Report

This report updates the Grampian NHS Board on key issues arising from the Area Clinical Forum meeting on the 11th of September 2019.

Recommendation

The Board is asked to note the following key points:

Health Inequalities

The ACF welcomed Luan Grugeon (Non-executive board member) to the meeting to discuss health inequalities. This was very informative and thought-provoking and, following discussion, the ACF agreed to discuss the themes and share the presentation with their committees.

Violence and Aggression

Nurses in Mental Health & Learning Disability Services have seen an increase in physical assaults against staff. The risk is being recorded on the risk register with a risk rating of very high. The sector is also launching a #RespectUs campaign to highlight the issues; the campaign has come about from a Short Life Working Group with representative from a variety of disciplines and also including Police Scotland. The launch is a series of posters featuring staff from difference disciplines across the hospital sharing the message that 'We're here to help you' and please #RespectUs. The campaign is going to be launched by local press as well as featured on the Royal Cornhill Hospital Twitter & Facebook pages.

Workforce

A number of members raised concern over delays with the recruitment process at present. The new JobTrain system for recruitment has resulted in some issues with the process including an increased volume of administration for managers which did not exist with the previous system. In addition, delays with Occupational Health Service review have resulted in delays to filling posts and in some cases new staff members have taken up alternative employment in the period between interview and starting work resulting in posts being re-advertised and vacant for a longer period. We hope to have a representative from OHS attend our next meeting to discuss issues.

System Leadership Team (SLT) engagement

We had a separate meeting on the 9th of September with the SLT. At this meeting we focussed on continuing discussion on Gosport and also discussing the Sturrock Report and how the ACF and the SLT can engage on a regular basis in the future. The meeting was extremely well attended by the SLT and the ACF and there was some excellent discussion and reflection. We have since agreed to meet with the SLT every 3 months and dates have been circulated.

Board Programme

The board programme will continue to be a standing item on the ACF agenda to allow the forum to fulfil the role of providing clinical and professional advice to the SLT and Board on relevant topics. We reviewed and discussed the latest Board Programme and have prioritised a number of topics which we would like to discuss and help shape and are engaging with the relevant SLT member to arrange.

Kim Cruttenden
Area Clinical Forum Chair
July 2019