

**Minutes of the Spiritual Care Committee
Thursday 9th May 2019 2.00pm
Board Room, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary**

Board Meeting
03 09 19
Open Session
Item 15.6

Present:

Amy Anderson, Non Executive Board Member, Grampian NHS Board (Chair)
Louise Ballantyne, Patient Services Manager
Susan Carr, Director of AHPS and Public Protection
Gail Cook, Assistant Business Manager, MHLDS
Gillian Douglas, Lead Chaplain, Mental Health
Ann Ewing, Chaplaincy Volunteer
Nigel Firth, Equality and Diversity Manager
Ishbel Gall, Mortuary Services, NHS
Laura Gray, Director of Corporate Communications
Kimberley Menzies, Location Manager, Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership
Mike Newlands, Healthcare Chaplain
Mark Rodgers, Head of Spiritual Care and Lead Chaplain
Liz Tait, Head of Clinical and Care Governance, Dr Gray's Hospital (by VC)
Yvonne Wright, Chief Nurse, Acute Sector Clinical Support (by VC)
Chantal Wood, Business Manager, MHLDS

Attending:

Delaine Kennedy, minute taker.

1 Welcome and Apologies.

Chair welcomed members of the Committee to the meeting and read apologies from Rhona Atkinson, Vice Chair, NHS Grampian; Mervyn Barr, Humanist Society Scotland; John Ferguson, Church of Scotland; Rachel Little, Employee Director, Partnership and Staff Governance; Ian Pallett, Healthcare Chaplain, Dr Grays; Terry Taggart, Honorary Episcopalian Chaplain; Angie Wood, Area Manager, Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership.

Introductions were made around the table and the Chair thanked everyone for attending. Chair welcomed Louise Ballantyne and Mike Newlands to the Committee first time.

2 Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday 14th February 2019.

(Page 3 addition of 'is' before 'a local system' and Page 5 point 7.4 Acute amend of 'was' to 'were'). The minutes of the previous meeting were then confirmed as an accurate record.

3 Matters Arising.

Spiritual Care Policy 2018-2022 Revision

MR: agreed final sign off and a Global will be sent out. LG confirmed it will be included within team brief, Board brief, Internet and Intranet.

(Action: Mark Rodgers/Kevin McKinnon)

Chair enquired about the progress to change service at Ythanvale.

KM: contract was running until 20th June 2019 with gradual opening up of beds (2 at present). McMillan nurse support for a younger client group. KM has been in touch with local ministers for more input.

MR: Suggested that CCL service may be a possibility here in the future.

4 The Challenges of Public Protection; Susan Carr, AHP and Public Protection Director.
(Handout: “Public Protection in NHS Grampian”).

Susan thanked everyone for the invitation to the meeting and explained her role as the only Public Protection Director in Scotland. Her job evolved from investigating abuse allegations as a NHS adult Protection Lead and she is passionate about getting support, looking at prevention and responding effectively. Susan explained that Public Protection is not limited to legal responsibilities but extends to wider commitment to vulnerable people. A public information site has been developed and an Intranet site also for staff which gives clear information and guidance, particularly regarding the challenge of confidentiality.

Susan encouraged the support of the SCC – how to make people more confident and to know what to do – and explained this is an area which is everyone’s responsibility. Individuals may make disclosures decades later and there are challenges for staff as different legislation exists for different things. Susan said she would be happy to cover any particular areas in the future and Chair said would be pleased to support as Non-Exec and invited committee members to relate their experiences.

In response to Susan’s presentation members of the committee covered the following areas: shared learning as a whole team; people trafficking and the importance of sharing information; obtaining consent; engaging with harder-to-reach groups; some Chaplaincy activity has involved referrals to police and social workers.

Chair thanked Susan Carr for her presentation and advised that we will keep the communications open.

LT: requested future discussion of PREVENT on future agenda, agreed by MR and Chair.
(Action: Mark Rodgers)

5 The Mortuary and Person Centred Care; Ishbel Gall, Mortuary Manager (Presentation: “Foresterhill Health Campus Mortuary Services – role in the Patient Care Pathway”).

Ishbel gave a detailed presentation about the work undertaken by the Foresterhill Health Campus Mortuary and of the recent upgrade work there. She explained that relatives of the deceased are the clients and the focus is on making things easier for them. LG highlighted the Mortuary provides a great service but within a challenging environment. Ishbel explained that ARI conducts more adult consented post mortems than Glasgow – the aim is to continue to do so. There are hopes for a CT scanner in a future new facility along with the move of the catalogued Pathology Museum Collection. Car parking is currently away from the Mortuary so accessible drop off point would be required at any new Mortuary.

There was a short presentation slide, which included the following words “When a patient dies, they are still in the patient care pathway until they leave the hospital. We should remember this when speaking to families and caring for the deceased. There should be no less care or compassion shown and the deceased should be treated with dignity and respect”.

Chair thanked Ishbel for her presentation.

The following areas were covered in subsequent discussion: pregnancy loss support; the proposed upgrade for the Mortuary at Dr Grays; planned electronic death certification – paperwork for pregnancy and paediatric loss.

There was a detailed discussion about timescale on new Mortuary the desire to maintain organisational memory and momentum in this area, as well as the requisite funding required.

6 Welcome to new Chaplaincy Team Member - Mike Newlands.

Chair extended welcome to Mike to the SCC; Mike spoke about his experience as a Moray Council youth worker, his involvement in pastoral care over the past 10 years and of his Divinity studies at the University of Aberdeen.

7 Sector Reports.

7.1 Aberdeenshire.

Westbank Care Home in Oldmeldrum supporting residents due to recent bereavement within the setting; one resident provided with positive additional support.

Therapets visited Turriff Hospital with two dogs to spend time with the patients; well received and had positive impact on the patients and staff.

Macmillan Community Nurse in Ellon to set up monthly Staff support within Schivas Wing, Ellon to offer palliative care and to share learning and discussion on how to support individuals and their families.

7.2 Mental Health.

Series of workshops are taking place across Grampian involving staff and service users as part of the strategic review of Mental Health and Learning Disabilities (MHLD) services. It is an interesting process but there are concerns also. The aim of these workshops is to achieve a sustainable model of MHLD services across Grampian in partnership with the three Health and Social Care Partnerships and the Third Sector. There continues to be challenges in achieving safe staffing levels across the sector. Loirston and Brodie wards and Lochhead Day Hospital remain temporarily closed and this has helped. Workforce tools are being used to plan actions around staffing.

There are ongoing ligature reduction works over the next two years. Chaplaincy have been identified as a key stakeholder. The Ligature Reduction project team will maintain contact with chaplaincy staff. The ongoing ligature reduction work was mentioned as a future agenda item, together with RCH as a possible venue for a meeting. This was noted by Chair and MR, who will take this forward.

Chaplaincy staff have provided support to staff and patients following the death of inpatients, assisting with funeral arrangements and guiding them through these difficult times and CW extended thanks for this.

Two of the chaplains are registered Values Based Reflective Practice (VBRP(R)) facilitators and now lead regular sessions with staff across 6 wards. Discussions are ongoing with other wards to expand this type of staff support.

Chaplaincy staff continue to provide support to staff and patients following any adverse events. Chaplaincy staff now offer a short time of midweek worship to patients and staff in the Learning Disability wards.

GD is involved in Scottish Alliance Workshop and new packs for groups are proving very positive. Chair requested feedback – GD explained was very helpful to work in supportive role including learning disability.

7.3 Moray.

LT: explained there was an issue concerning the placing of memorial bench in the gardens at Dr Grays without appropriate consultation Corporate Communications alongside the Council, are now working with and supporting those concerned to move this to a more appropriate place.

There has been significant Chaplaincy support to managers and staff in mental health teams locally due to a number of significant adverse events in recent weeks. There has also been significant chaplaincy support in the area of Obstetric unit and paediatric service within DGH. This support continues as we move into another planning phase towards sustainability. The Services of Remembrance for early pregnancy loss continue to be appreciated by a number of parents across Moray.

Dr Grays Hospital is 200 years old during 2019 and planning has begun for 200 year anniversary service to be held in Elgin Town hall on 6th October at 3pm.

The Committee noted this report and acknowledged the continuation of effective Spiritual care support to staff and Patients across Moray.

7.4 Acute.

Mr Mike Newlands has been appointed to the acute sector chaplaincy vacancy. He commenced on the 29th of April. This vacancy was due to the promotion of Katrina Blackwood to the Acute Sector Lead post.

On the 17th of April a Staff Well-being day entitled “all about me” was planned, led and facilitated by Sue Rayner (Healthcare Chaplain) and Carolyn Annand (Nurse Manager) with input from Carole Clarke (Healthcare Chaplain). 20 staff working within the Anchor Unit at ARI attended. The programme included emotional well being, relaxation, resilience, stress management, hydration, sleep and looking after yourself and others whilst in and out with the workplace. The evaluations were very positive, staff appreciative of time to reflect about their well being and it was great fun! YW explained it was an extremely worthwhile time spent on supporting staff and currently they are looking for funding to do again.

An information session on “Chaplaincy Interventions in Baby Loss Situations” was delivered to RGU Student Midwives on the 23rd of April.

7.5 Aberdeen City.

We have achieved Funding from Aberdeen City Partnership to recruit a Community Chaplaincy Listening (CCL) Volunteer Co-ordinator. The Funding is for 2 years at 18.75 hours a week and then two years whole time (37.5 hours). We hope to get this through the Scrunity Panel soon and to be in a position to advertise on 15th May, with interviews in late June. This is a significant development, with the potential for CCL to expand and consolidate. The funding stream, while very generous, is a little problematic in terms of recruitment. We would like after an 18 months review to see if we can get some funding from Aberdeenshire and Moray to make it a Grampian-wide and permanent post.

MR spoke how there a huge potential for CCL expansion and potential implications to other sectors in medium to long term.

8 Any Other Competent Business.

8.1 Nigel Firth reported re Muslim patient who died recently – complimenting Acute Sector staff for their sensitive care in the area of ritual washings.

8.2 Board Report.

LG: Laura explained the Board Report could include:

Final SCC policy

Public Protection

Mortuary – raise profile and future arrangements

Staffing/MN/CCL

The Chair thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

9 Date of Next Meeting.

The next meeting of the Committee will be on Thursday 12th September 2019 at 2pm in **Seminar Room, Summerfield House.**

2019 Meeting Dates (all 2pm):

Thursday 12th September

Thursday 14th November

Action: Mark Rodgers