

## **Spiritual Care Committee Report to Grampian NHS Board Committee Meeting on 9 May 2019**

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### **Purpose of Report**

This report updates the Grampian NHS Board on key issues arising from the Committee meeting on 9 May 2019, which the Committee considers would be of interest to Board members.

### **Recommendation**

The Board is asked to note the following key points:

#### **1 Public Protection**

The Committee received a very informative talk from Professor Susan Carr, Director of Public Protection and Allied Health Professions. Susan explained that there are three key groups to be taken into account when considering public protection issues – people at risk of harm, people who pose a significant risk of harm to themselves and people who pose a risk to others. She explained that as a key multiagency partner there is an ever increasing requirement for the NHS to respond and provide support in response to public protection demands. She described the information available on the intranet which provides clear direction to NHS Grampian staff to support them to contribute collaboratively to the multi-agency public protection agenda and raise awareness of public protection issues. The Committee discussed the relevance of this information for chaplains and chaplaincy volunteers and the importance of both staff and volunteers having access to specialist expertise and support, if required.

#### **2. The Mortuary and Person Centred Care**

Ishbel Gall, Mortuary Services Manager gave a very informative presentation to the Committee. She described the mortuary service, the work of the anatomical pathology technologists and the significant workload covered by the team in an average year. She explained that the work covers administration, communication, technical services, bereavement services and teaching. She emphasised the importance of having appropriate facilities available for post mortems, tissue retrieval, teaching and research studies. The Committee members were particularly impressed with the very person centred approach of the team and the sensitivity and compassion shown to families. Although the public areas of the mortuary have been upgraded in recent years, the whole building is due for replacement as part of the Foresterhill masterplan and the Committee would support the need for a new mortuary and would seek clarification on when this will be provided on the Foresterhill site,

#### **3 Spiritual Care Policy 2018 to 2022**

The Committee received confirmation that the revised Spiritual Care Policy has been finalised and will now be made available on the intranet and website

#### **4 Sector reports**

The Committee receives reports from the three Health and Social Care Partnerships, the acute sector and mental health at each meeting. These provide an overview of spiritual care activity on a sector basis and give each sector with the opportunity to raise any matters with the Committee.

On this occasion the Committee noted that the chaplains in the acute sector had facilitated a staff and well day, that student midwives had received teaching on dealing with baby loss and that planning was underway for a 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary service for Dr Gray's Hospital in October.

**Amy Anderson**  
**Spiritual Care Committee Chair**  
**May 2019**