

Purpose of Report

This report updates the Grampian NHS Board on key issues arising from the Committee meeting on 29 November 2018, which the Committee considers would be of interest to Board members.

Recommendation

The Board is asked to note the following key points:

1. Services to People with a Sensory Impairment

Roda Bird, Equality and Diversity Assistant, gave a comprehensive talk about the support that is available for patients with sensory impairments, both visual impairment and/or hearing loss. She explained the work that is done to raise awareness of sensory impairments with staff and the resources that are available to support patients and staff. Sensory impairments can affect access to information, physical access to healthcare facilities, cause communication difficulties and result in a lack of understanding of individuals' needs. Committee members discussed some of the practical support that is available – British Sign Language (BSL) interpreters, IT solutions, information in large print and audio formats and adaptations to buildings. As well as training material and resources available to staff there are Sensory Impairment seminars held twice a year.

2. Draft Spiritual Care policy

The draft revised NHS Grampian Spiritual Care Policy for 2018 – 2022 had been circulated with the agenda and was discussed by the Committee. This version had been revised in line with the feedback received at the previous Committee meeting. It included a section on the strategic context of the strategy and an organogram describing the structure of the team. The Committee agreed to circulate the draft policy for consultation and seek feedback by the middle of December to enable the final policy to come to the February meeting of the Committee for approval.

3. Aberdeen Health and Care Village

Sandy Reid, Senior Service Manager, Aberdeen City Health and Social Care Partnership, gave a presentation to the Committee about Aberdeen Health and Care Village, which opened five years ago as the first building of its kind in Scotland, delivered by Scottish Futures Trust. The Health Village provides sexual health services, physiotherapy, podiatry, an endoscopy service, x-ray and pain management clinics. Its location makes it convenient from patients from Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire. The Health Village also promotes health and wellbeing with gym equipment available, Grampian Hospitals Art Trust (GHAT) art exhibitions, mindfulness classes, exercise classes and NHS Grampian 70th anniversary archivist displays. It has its own cafe (with free wifi) and regular music concerts. There are bookable interview rooms available for use. Sandy explained that Community Chaplaincy Listening has been a great success and is very popular with staff and patients.

Amy Anderson
Spiritual Care Committee Chair
January 2019