

Better Health, Fairer Health

Regional advisory group for A Good Death

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 6 November 2008

Gallowgate 1, Citygate

Present :

Edwin Pugh (Chair)	North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust
Keith Aungiers	Public Health North East
Angela Dinsdale	Chief Executive, St Cuthbert's Hospice
Ian Zass-Ogilvie	St Chad's College, Durham University
Douglas Davies	Durham University – Centre for Death & Life Studies
Judith Stone	Care Services Improvement Partnership
Simon Mills	Public Health North East
Catherine Murdoch	North East Public Health Observatory
Jim Edwardson	Years Ahead
Ewen Weir	DASS, Newcastle

In attendance:

Marj Harrison	Public Health North East
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Apologies for absence:

Carole Price	North East Strategic Health Authority
Nonnie Crawford	Director of Public Health, Sunderland
Julie Marsh	North East Strategic Health Authority
Jean Degenhardt	North East Region Cruse Bereavement Care
Sandra Gray	Head of Community Services – Third Sector
Stephen Louw	Older People's Local Implementation Group;
Paul Southgate	Churches Regional Commission
Jeff Featherstone	North East Strategic Health Authority
Janet Shucksmith	University of Teesside

1 Welcome and Introductions

The Chairman welcomed Jim Edwardson to the Group and asked members to introduce themselves.

2 Appointment of Vice Chair

Following on from discussions at the last meeting, no expressions of interest were received from the group to act as Vice Chair.

Action: Keith and Edwin to discuss and invite a member of the group to be Vice Chair.

4 Membership Review and Update

Julian Hughes, Consultant in Old Age Psychiatry has agreed to join the group.

Jim Edwardson, Chair, Years Ahead has joined the group.

Directors of Children's Services have been approached and a nomination is awaited.

Carer Representative: Martin Mulvaney, Gateshead Crossroads is to be invited to join the group.

Equality and Diversity: potential involvement of the North East VCS equalities coalition.

Action: Keith to continue follow-up with potential new members.

5. Stakeholders to be added to register

Ian Zass-Ogilvie suggested contacting Andrew Anderson from the Maggie's Centre in Edinburgh which caters for people who are dying. The Centre is going to have a site at Freeman Hospital.

Action: Invitation to Maggie's Centre for someone to attend a future meeting.

6. Links to Our Vision Our Future

Edwin and Keith explained the links between *Our Vision Our Future* and *Better Health Fairer Health* as set out in the diagram previously circulated. As Chair of both groups Edwin was in a key position to ensure that work was taken forward in a co-ordinated way.

7. Literature search and Review

It was noted that the University of Teesside has carried out a literature search and review on End of Life Charters. In general these were based on a clinically focused model and were lacking a broader public health approach.

8 End of Life Charter

It was agreed that the group should concentrate on developing an End of Life Charter which had a public health focus.

Key issues to consider:

- first step to consult with public using social marketing approach to guide discussion
- to be a public health focused Charter
- the group to work together to produce a 'skeleton' for consideration
- consultation plan and 'strapline' to be developed

- it must be clear that the Charter will deliver and have an impact and make a real difference through delivering change.

Action: Keith and Edwin to develop an initial draft and circulate to the group for comment.

Action: at next meeting on 16 January, group to consider the first draft to go to consultation.

9 Epidemiology of Death and Dying

Mark Reilly gave a presentation on work related to winter deaths and the epidemiology of death and dying and explained the work of PHINE [Public Health Intelligence North East].

He set out proposals to widen this to a regional approach as part of the work of PHINE. It was important to acknowledge demographic and other changes over the next 20 years.

Action: Mark Reilly to take forward work on a regional view of the epidemiology of death and dying, including local authority profiles.

9 Better Health Fairer Health One Year On Event – 13 February 2009

Keith introduced his paper about an event to bring together all Regional Advisory Groups to talk about cross-cutting issues.

This would allow the Chair and theme lead to work with members of other groups to get the message across about the work of the group and allow a wider range of stakeholders to see the work that advisory groups are doing.

Action: Ideas for the event to Keith.

Action: All members to note date in their diary.

11 Date and Time of Next Meeting

2:00-3:30 on Friday, 16 January 2009 in the Boardroom at the Strategic Health Authority, Newburn Riverside.

Quarterly meetings for the group are to be arranged for the remainder of 2009.

12 Any Other Business:

Jim Edwardson raised the issue of dementia care and horizon scanning. The group needed to be linked to other groups doing similar work.

14 November 2008