

South Edinburgh Health Forum Notes of Meeting of 3 December 2009

Present Ian Clement (IC), Heather Goodare (HG), Dianna Manson (DM), Helen Ogg (HO), Norman Tinlin (NT), Ruth Stroud (RS), Leyla Usmani (LU) (second part of meeting).

Apologies: Councillor Elaine Aitken, Mohammed Afzal, Pat Abel, David Davies, John Robertson, Patricia Robson, Helen Zealley

In the Chair: NT (Note taken by HG)

1	Chair	Action
1	<p>It was agreed that NT should take the chair for the meeting. He warmly welcomed Leyla Usmani to the second half of the meeting.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of 10 November 2009 were approved, with minor corrections. It was noted that Mohammed Afzal had now moved to north Edinburgh, but that a new member from the Muslim community, Mohammed Arshad, was hoping to join us instead in the Spring, when religious obligations were not so pressing owing to the shorter winter days.</p>	
3	<p>Matters arising</p> <p>1 SEPPF Co-ordinating Group</p> <p>HG reported that she had met the Chair of the CHP, Bob Anderson, and David Small, General Manager, in connection with the paper on counselling she had submitted on behalf of the SEHF, and had explained that she had resigned from the SEPPF Co-ordinating Group as she felt it was not making progress. She had had an answer to her question to the South Central Neighbourhood Partnership about the plans for the SEPPF's proposed links with Neighbourhood Partnerships from Robert Aitken on behalf of the NHS, but was still awaiting a reply from the City of Edinburgh Council. She agreed to remind Ian Perry, Chair of the SCNP, that this was still outstanding.</p> <p>NT reported that both he and HO were now members of the Health and Employment Sub-group of the Pentlands Neighbourhood Partnership. NT was standing for Chair of the Group and the result should be known by the next meeting.</p> <p>HO, as the Vice-Chair of Juniper Green Community Council, had drafted a letter to the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing about the SEPPF that she wished members to have the opportunity of commenting on before it was sent.</p>	

	<p>2 Counselling</p> <p>HG had now submitted our paper to the CHP, on behalf of the SEHF, and had also met with the Chair, Bob Anderson, and the General Manager, David Small, to discuss the issues arising from it. She had been most encouraged by the meeting, which had been very positive: the paper had been well received, and it seemed that the suggested action points were being taken forward, in conjunction with the work already under way by the Strategic Development Group for Mental Health. Our paper was being introduced as the work of the SEHF.</p> <p>Since the last draft HG had made some small corrections, and had now added a postscript in the light of the new NICE guidelines on the treatment of depression. The final version is added as an appendix to these minutes.</p>	
4	<p>Consultation</p> <p>The Healthcare Quality Strategy for Scotland</p> <p>In spite of computer problems, HO had collated comments from members, and had submitted our response, which is appended to the main minute.</p> <p>HO was thanked for her work on this important topic.</p>	
5	<p>Other topics</p> <p>Health Education for young teenagers</p> <p>HG reported that she had recruited two Edinburgh University students who were on a health-related course, together with Leyla Usmani, a 16-year-old student attending a local school who was also a community councillor and also serving on the patient reference group for the Children's Hospital re-provision project, to form the nucleus of a focus group to give us an idea of what the needs were for personal, social and health education, how far they are being met, and what needed to be done to improve the health education provision in Edinburgh, particularly in view of the incidence of teenage pregnancy in Scotland, which was the highest in Europe. It was agreed that HG should arrange a separate meeting for the young people concerned. Further members would be welcomed, especially another male.</p> <p>HG distributed copies of the FPA leaflet on emergency contraception, which contained worryingly inaccurate information about the risks of repeated doses and long-term side effects. NT drew attention to parliamentary answers given by Nicola Sturgeon and Shona Robison on the risks of oral contraception in general and emergency contraception in particular, which the group felt were not entirely satisfactory. This topic is one in which the group has a continued interest and will explore further, especially in relation to health education for young people.</p>	

6	<p>Other business</p> <p>Alcohol focus DM drew attention to the National Community Conference 2009, to take place on 8th December in Glasgow.</p> <p>Equality and diversity Representatives were also required for an NHS Lothian equality & diversity involvement event at 'an accessible venue' on 14 December, from 10.00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. (lunch provided). However, the date for registration was 2 December. [HG subsequently found that there was no vacancies for further applicants, but the Health Inequalities team has a note of her details and will contact her with information about future events. SEHF will also receive information from the Edinburgh Equalities Network.]</p> <p>Podiatry strategy Patient representatives are required for project development work in podiatry. Representatives, who may be patients or carers, will need to have had a least one appointment with the Podiatry Service over the past year or two. Anyone interested should contact Anne Crandles on 0131 537 9529 or 0131 537 9014; or email: anne.crandles@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk.</p> <p>Mental health users at Cambridge Street House DM had been working with this group, who were extremely concerned about the proposed change of venue and facilities for patients at Cambridge Street House to Wester Hailes, which has made them very apprehensive. She circulated a summary of their concerns. This could be an agenda item for a future meeting.</p>	
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8	<p>Social meeting Members then adjourned for a social meeting over mulled wine and mince pies.</p>	
	<p>Next meeting The next meeting was later confirmed, for Thursday 7 January 2010 Subsequent suggested dates: Thursday 18 February); 18 March; 15 April.</p>	