

MINUTE of MEETING of the ST JOHN'S HOSPITAL STAKEHOLDER GROUP held within the STRATHBROCK PARTNERSHIP CENTRE, BROXBURN, on FRIDAY 13 MARCH 2009.

Present - Councillors Peter Johnston (Chair), Gordon Beurskens and Ellen Glass; and Maureen Anderson (Patient Representative), Theresa Douglas and Dr Charles Winstanley.

Apologies – Dr Ian McKay and Derek Thompson (Staff Representative).

In Attendance – Alex Linkston (Chief Executive, West Lothian Council).

1. MINUTE

The Group confirmed the minute of its meeting held on 9 February 2009 as a correct record.

Matters arising out of the minute were dealt with as follows:

Page 19, decisions 8 (i), (ii) and (iii)

The Chair questioned why no information had been reported back to this meeting of the Group on these matters.

Charles Winstanley advised that there were no problems with the Group having sight of this information and undertook to pursue the appropriate NHS officers to ensure that the information was brought to the next meeting which was scheduled to take place on 6 April 2009. He also apologised for not having done this in accordance with his undertaking at the last meeting.

In terms of process, the Chair questioned what options were available to ensure that information and reports that the Group requested were brought back to the Group.

Charles Winstanley advised that to prevent this issue occurring in the future he would arrange for John Jack, Director of Facilities, NHS Lothian, to be in attendance at each Group meeting, and for him to progress such matters from the NHS Lothian side when they arose.

Page 20, decision 8 (iv)

Alex Linkston updated the Group on a recent presentation he had attended about a pooled transport arrangements pilot scheme involving the Scottish Ambulance Service, NHS Tayside and Perth & Kinross Council, which aimed to improve and co-ordinate efficiency and access to health and social care transport services. The main objectives of the scheme were to:

- Enhance partnership working between partner organisations;
- Co-ordinate the planning of routes that were supported by all partnership members;
- Adopt a single system of approach to ensure most efficient use of existing resources; and
- Facilitate shorter journey times for patients.

He advised that there would be merit in undertaking a feasibility study to ascertain whether a similar scheme could be implemented in West Lothian. He also informed the Group that he was scheduled to meet with James Barbour and would raise this matter with him then.

2. AOCB – FUTURE MEETINGS

Theresa Douglas raised the question of whether or not the Group's meetings were too close together in view of there being no substantive items on the agenda for this meeting.

The Chair was minded that there had been no substantive items of business on the agenda as the information which the Group had agreed would be reported back to this meeting, had not been reported back as anticipated. He recalled that there had been discussion on this matter and a related undertaking by Charles Winstanley earlier in the meeting. Furthermore, he anticipated the Group's workload would increase in view of the proposed work being progressed by Dr Alison McCallum and added that other issues on the Group's workplan remained outstanding.

Following discussion amongst the Group's members and the Clerk, a consensus emerged that the schedule of meetings should remain as agreed at the last meeting and that the frequency of the Group's meetings should be reviewed by the Group at the time when the proposed schedule of meetings for beyond May 2009 was reported back for the Group's consideration.

Decision -

To agree that the schedule of meetings remain as agreed at the last meeting and that the frequency of the Group's meetings be reviewed by the Group at the time when the proposed schedule of meetings for beyond May 2009 was reported back for the Group's consideration.