

Borders NHS Board



BOARD EXECUTIVE TEAM REPORT – JUNE 2009

Aim

To inform the Board of events, activities and issues raised during June 2009.

Report

1. NATIONAL ISSUES

1.1 Review of NHS Hospice Funding in Scotland

Robbie Pearson has been appointed by the Scottish Government to Chair a Review of Hospice Funding in Scotland. The Public Audit Committee of the Scottish Parliament recommended that a review should be undertaken of the funding guidance and relationship between NHS Boards and voluntary hospices in Scotland. This will be completed by December 2009.

1.2 Review of Standards and Outcomes: New Health Scrutiny Bodies

The recommendations of the Crerar Review of Scrutiny in Scotland were accepted by the Scottish Government. It is proposed to establish new scrutiny bodies for health and for care and social work. Robbie Pearson has been asked to be the member of the Task Group reviewing standards and outcomes for the new scrutiny bodies.

2. REGIONAL ISSUES

2.1 Development of Shared Services

Chief Executives of Lothian and Scottish Borders local authorities and Chief Executives of Lothian, Fife and Borders NHS Boards met on 17 June 2009 to share experiences and strategies for the development of shared services across agencies. The meeting also explored opportunities to further develop more efficient ways to deliver services between health and local government.

3. LOCAL ISSUES

3.1 Public Participation Forum Event

On 29th May, the Public Participation Forum held a development event in collaboration with the Scottish Health Council. The aim of the day was to review the role and function of the Public Participation Forum and develop a work plan for the coming year. Gill Rodgers from South Ayrshire Community Health Partnership attended to speak about the developments in their Public Partnership Forum. Also included were discussions about the priorities for 2009/10, challenges ahead and developing the role of the Forum.

3.2 Falls Awareness Event

The 4th annual Falls Awareness Event was held on 23rd June as part of a national campaign supported by Age Concern and Help the Aged. The issue is important because

a relatively minor fall may not only leave the person with a long term injury, but make them afraid to leave their home.

The Borders event, in the form of a roadshow which travelled to Duns and Kelso, aimed to raise awareness about the risk of falls among older people and encourage them to get their falls risk assessed to help maintain their independence. Older people and practitioners from across the Borders had the opportunity to speak with physiotherapists, occupational therapists, nursing staff and other health professionals and to learn about different types of assistive technology available to help older people. There are also display stands in other health settings across the Borders during the week.

3.3 Learning Disability Awareness Event

The Scottish Borders Learning Disability Service held an event on 23rd June in Galashiels to help people understand what it means to have a learning disability and how we can work together to support the people in our communities who are affected by a learning disability to get more out of life.

The aim of the event was to raise public awareness and change perceptions of what it means to have a learning disability and the challenges faced by those who have a learning disability, their carers and family networks, and the paid support staff who themselves can experience discrimination and public misunderstanding. Topics such as staying safe and healthy eating were also covered and advice was available about claiming benefits and the support services available among other topics.

Recommendation

The Board is asked to **note** this report

Policy/Strategy Implications	Policy/strategy implications will be addressed in the management of any actions resulting from these events, activities and issues
Consultation	Board Executive Team
Consultation with Professional Committees	None
Risk Assessment	Risk assessment will be addressed in the management of any actions resulting from these events, activities and issues
Compliance with Board Policy requirements on Equality and Diversity	Compliant
Resource/Staffing Implications	Resource/staffing implications will be addressed in the management of any actions resulting from these events, activities and issues

Approved by

Name	Designation	Name	Designation
Karen McNicoll	Head of Public Involvement & Communications		

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