

**Cross-Party Group in the Scottish Parliament
on Palliative Care**

Convener
Michael McMahon MSP

Vice-Conveners
Jamie McGrigor MSP
Dennis Robertson MSP

Secretary
Mark Hazelwood

**Unapproved minute of the meeting of the Cross-Party Group
in the Scottish Parliament on Palliative Care incorporating
The Fourteenth Annual General Meeting and Election of Office Bearers**

**Wednesday 12 June 2013 at 5.45pm
Committee Room 3, Scottish Parliament**

Present:

Michael McMahon MSP
Siobhan McMahon MSP
Iain Armstrong, Caring Together
Patricia Brooks-Young, NHS Lothian
Marjory Burns, British Heart Foundation Scotland
Becky Duff, MS Society
Mark Hazelwood, Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care
Gill Highet, RIE
Ewan Kelly, NES
Dr Sandra McConnell, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
Gordon McLaren, NHS Fife
Tanith Muller, Parkinson's UK
Bruce Nicol, Marie Curie Cancer Care
Euan Paterson, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
Rebecca Patterson, Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care
Jaqui Reid, The Alliance
Geoff Sage, St Andrew's Hospice

Apologies:

Jackie Baillie MSP
Fiona McLeod, MSP
Dave Thompson MSP
Dennis Robertson MSP

Jackie Bell, GMC

Alison Blezard, SESKPA
Dr Deans Buchanan, NHS Tayside
Sandra Campbell, NHS Forth Valley
Pat Carragher, CHAS
Rev Stuart Coates, Association of Hospice and Palliative Care Chaplains
Helen Dryden, NHS Tayside
Joy Elliott, ACCORD Hospice
Cameron Fergus, NHS Borders
Fiona Finlay, NHS Tayside
Ellen Finlayson, CLIC Sargent
Jackie Husband, Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice
Dr Paul Keeley, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
Sally Lawton, NHS Grampian
Elaine MacLean, Care Inspectorate
Maria McGill, CHAS
Irene McKie, Strathcarron Hospice
Sally Paul, Association for Palliative Care Social Workers (APCSW), Strathcarron Hospice and Edinburgh University
Professor Scott Murray, University of Edinburgh
Anne Robb, NHS Tayside
Helen Simpson, ACCORD Hospice
Elaine Stevens, IANPC

1 Welcome, introductions and apologies

Michael McMahon welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that a list of apologies would be included in the minute.

2 Annual General Meeting 2013 (Separate agenda provided as Paper 1)

2.1 Minute of AGM 20 June 2012

The minute was approved as an accurate record of the meeting. (Proposed – Marjory Burns; Seconded – Bruce Nicol)

2.2 Annual Return & Accounts

The annual return was approved. (Proposed – Gordon McLaren; Seconded: Sandra McConnell.)

2.3 Annual Subscription

Michael McMahon noted that the cross party group currently operated without the need for a subscription and proposed that this continue for 2013-2014. Members present agreed with this proposal.

2.4 Election of Office Bearers

Michael McMahon passed the Chair to Mark Hazelwood to lead on the election of office bearers.
Election of Convenor: Mark noted that Michael McMahon had indicated a willingness to continue as Convenor. Michael McMahon was re-elected as Convenor. (Proposed – Sandra Campbell; Seconded – Bruce Nicol.)

Election of Vice Convenors: Michael McMahon re-assumed the role of Chair and noted that Jamie McGrigor MSP and Dennis Robertson MSP were willing to continue as Vice Convenors of the cross

party group. Members present re-elected both Vice Convenors. (Proposed – Michael McMahon; seconded – Geoff Sage.)

Election of Secretary/Treasurer: Mark Hazelwood was re-elected as Secretary and Treasurer of the Cross Party Group. (Proposed – Euan Paterson; Seconded – Sandra McConnell)

3 Minute of previous meeting of Wednesday 13 March 2013

Pending the removal of Sandra McConnell's name from the attendance list, the minutes of the meeting of 13 March 2013 were approved as a correct record. (Proposed – Michael McMahon; seconded – Siobhan McMahon)

4 Matters arising from Wednesday 13 March 2013

4.1 Margo Macdonald MSP's Proposed Assisted Suicide (Scotland) Bill (item 3.1)

The Bill has not been introduced yet but is expected over the next few months.

5 Presentation and Discussion: the relevance of 'assets based' approaches to palliative and end of life care in Scotland.

Mark Hazelwood, Director of the Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care presented on **Assets based approaches to death, dying and bereavement** (slides attached). He focused on health promoting palliative care and the work of *Good Life, Good Death, Good Grief*.

Ewan Kelly, Programme Director for Healthcare Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care at NHS Education for Scotland gave a presentation on **The significance of meaning and purpose in building resilience** (slides attached). He focused on the Community Chaplaincy Listening Service and Values Based Reflective Practice.

There was an opportunity for questions and discussion, and the following points were raised:

- Reflection is very important for staff experiencing cumulative loss.
- Many people are so short of time and under so much pressure that they simply don't have time to undertake the kind of 'reflective practice' described.
- If people are powerless to change their situation, couldn't reflection be damaging?
- If reflective practice is a truly important and positive element of practice, shouldn't it be possible to get the political and managerial will required to give staff the time to undertake this?
- Healthcare culture has changed – rather than interrogating the patient, professionals are now expected to work with the patient.
- Is there the potential to change healthcare culture and give staff more time to reflect by finding innovative ways of working? For example by creating more roles for volunteers.
- Examples of where reflective practice has worked well would be helpful in encouraging others to try it.
- Projects and initiatives which encourage compassion in young people are important, for example, lesson plans which bring discussions of death, dying and bereavement into schools.
- Though there may be some research indicating that young people are less compassionate than in previous generations, there are many examples of where young people are compassionate, for example St Andrew's Hospice experience fantastic support from local young people.
- A harder measure showing how much money reflective practice saves (eg fewer people on long term sick leave) may be the only way to actually change things.

ACTION Michael McMahon would be interested in drafting motions and/or questions to raise awareness of such problems and their possible solutions.

6 Any other competent business

No further business was raised.

7 Dates of future meetings;

Wednesday 11 September 2013 – Committee Room 3

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