

**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

**Approved minute of the meeting of the Cross-Party Group
in the Scottish Parliament on Palliative Care**

**Wednesday 11 September 2013 at 5.45pm
Committee Room 3, Scottish Parliament**

Present:

Michael McMahon MSP (Chair)

Siobhan McMahon MSP

Iain Armstrong, Caring Together Programme, Marie Curie Cancer Care

Jackie Bell, GMC

Nisha Bhatt, SESKPA

Alison Blezard, SESKPA

Derek Blues, Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care

Patricia Brooks-Young, NHS Lothian

Dr Kirsty Boyd, NHS Lothian

Rev Stuart Coates, Forth Valley Spiritual Care Committee

Sandra Campbell, NHS Forth Valley

Margaret Colquhoun, St Columba's Hospice

Dr Fiona Downs, Strathcarron Hospice

Becky Duff, MS Society

Simon Dunn, NHS Lothian

Dryden Helen, NHS Tayside

Dr. Belinda Hacking, NHS Lothian

Moira Hamilton, Member of the Public

Mark Hazelwood, Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care

Sue Hogg, CHAS

Evelyn Howie, St Columba's Hospice

Alison Hunter, Healthcare Improvement Scotland

Dr Stephen Hutchison, Highland Hospice

Ami Kaur, Member of the Public

Elaine MacLean, Care Inspectorate

Irene McKie, Strathcarron Hospice

Richard Meade, Marie Curie Cancer Care

David Mills, PSP Association

Bruce Nicol, Marie Curie Cancer Care

Euan Paterson, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

Evelyn Paterson, NHS Forth Valley

Rebecca Patterson, Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care

Anne Robb, NHS Tayside

Gurpreet Sahi, Member of the Public

Tracy Smith, NHS Lothian

Elaine Stevens, Independent Association of Nurses in Palliative Care

Joyce Stuart, Member of the Public

Cross-Party Group in the Scottish Parliament on Palliative Care

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Susan Webster, MND Scotland
Mandy Yule, Ayrshire Hospice

Apologies:

Jackie Baillie MSP

Marjory Burns, British Heart Foundation Scotland
Dr Pat Carragher, CHAS
Jean Davies, NHS Ayrshire and Arran
Dr Derek Doyle, Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care
Joy Elliot, ACCORD Hospice
Dr Libby Ferguson, Marie Curie Hospice, Glasgow
Jacquie Forde, the Wellbeing Alliance
Linda Kerr, NHS Ayrshire and Arran
Dr Sally Lawton, NHS Grampian
Dr Sandra McConnell, Ardgowan Hospice
Dr Martin Leiper
Maria McGill, CHAS
Professor Scott Murray, University of Edinburgh

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 Minute of previous meeting of Wednesday 12 June 2013

The minutes of the meeting of 12 June 2013 were approved as a correct record. (Proposed – Iain Armstrong; seconded – Patricia Brooks-Young)

3 Matters arising from Wednesday 12 June 2013

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

The Bill has not been introduced yet and there is no clear indication of expected timescales, though Michael thinks it is unlikely to be published before December 2013.

4 Presentation and Discussion: Palliative and end of life care in acute hospitals: *A structured response to deteriorating patients*

Alison Hunter from Healthcare Improvement Scotland Scottish Patient Safety Programme, and Derek Blues from the Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care gave a presentation on the Scottish Structured response to deteriorating patients. (Slides attached)

There was an opportunity for questions and discussions following the presentation. Those present welcomed this as a good quality approach for addressing the needs of patients in acute hospitals, and highlighted the opportunities the approach included for communication with patients and families throughout.

5 *More Care, Less Pathway, a review of the Liverpool Care pathway*

Mark Hazelwood updated the group that the Independent Review of the Liverpool Care Pathway, led by Baroness Julia Neuberger published a report of its findings, *More Care, Less Pathway*, on 15th July.

Prior to the publication of this report, the Scottish Government's National Advisory Group to *Living and Dying Well* (NAG) had set up a short life working group (SLWG) looking at care of dying patients and their families in Scotland. This SLWG was also asked to consider *More Care, Less Pathway* within the Scottish context. The SLWG provided a report on this to NAG 10th September meeting. The NAG will give further consideration to the SLWG's report and recommendations before advising the Scottish Government in relation to the care of dying patients and their families in Scotland. No definitive timescales have been set relating to this, but the NAG is aware of its responsibility to move quickly.

There was brief discussion of some personal experiences and views relating to the Liverpool Care Pathway in particular and end of life care in general. The need for the public engagement to inform work in this area was highlighted, and a member of the SLWG informed those present that the SLWG report to the NAG had highlighted the importance of future opportunities for public engagement.

ACTION: Michael McMahon will make inquiries about opportunities for public engagement on this issue.

6 Any other competent business

The Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care Annual Conference, *Palliative Care in Many Guises* will take place on 31st October 2013. More information is available on the SPPC website: www.palliativecarescotland.org.uk

7 Dates of future meetings

The meeting on Wednesday 11 December 2013 has been cancelled. Instead, there will be a joint meeting with the **Heart Disease and Stroke Cross Party Group** on **4th December**, looking at non-malignant palliative care, including heart failure.