

Cross-Party Group: Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Conditions

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 4 November 2020 6 pm-8pm

Convenor: Brian Whittle MSP

Deputy Convenor: Rhoda Grant MSP

1. Convenor welcomed all to the meeting with apologies for the delayed start and introduced Andrew Torrance from Borders Christine Macdougall, Rheumatology Nurse Specialist, NHS Lothian who were subsequently proposed and approved as Group members.

2. 23 September DRAFT Meeting Minutes —approved

3. Matters Arising

- **Recent Scottish Parliamentary Questions submitted and circulated to all members-answers expected 11 November**
- **Motion Re World Arthritis Day/EULAR-good support-29 signatures-all parties**

4. Annual General Meeting 2020

Annual Report

The previous AGM was held on 11 September 2019 with re-election of Brian Whittle MSP as Convenor, Rhoda Grant MSP as Deputy Convenor and Anne Simpson-individual Group member as secretariat (voluntary)

4 formal meetings this year with cancellation of March and May sessions due to Covid 19. Agenda items put forward for the 2019-2020 session focused particularly on mental health

Presentations 2019-2020

- ***Mental Health Matters in Scotland***

This presentation reviewed progress following on from the National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society *Emotional Health and Wellbeing Report* recommendations of 2018

- ***The Development of the Scottish Quality Registry in Rheumatology-promoting a personalized approach to care***
Dr Elizabeth Murphy, Consultant Rheumatologist, NHS Lanarkshire
- ***Every patient, Every Time Campaign-report on progress***
Dr Dale Webb, Chief Executive, National Axial Spondyloarthritis Society
- ***Rheumatology Clinical Nurse Specialists- workforce, training and education-the benefits of developing the model –including benefits for patients and cost savings to NHS***
Dr Anne McEntegart, President , Scottish Rheumatology Society and Liz McIvor, Clinical Nurse Specialist, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
- ***Teapot Trust Frontline response through the pandemic : Bringing colour to the lives of children with chronic conditions***
Sarah Randell, Chief Executive, Teapot Trust
- ***Rheumatoid Arthritis, Work and Wellbeing post Lockdown***
Samuel Lawes, Policy and Communications Manager, National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society
- ***Access to Rheumatology Services: Challenges and Solutions for the North***
Dr Alan MacDonald, Consultant Rheumatologist, NHS Grampian

Additional Meetings

Additional meetings were held in July and August to provide Group members with the opportunity to discuss the impact of Covid 19 on people with Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Conditions and the impact on the staff delivering care.

Speakers included Donna Hood , Rheumatology Clinical Nurse Specialist , Royal Alexandra Hospital and Mr Al Murray, Chair, Scottish Committee - Orthopaedics and Trauma

The ever increasing waiting times for elective orthopaedic surgery loomed very large as an item for urgent attention

The emphasis on telephone and video consultations a cause for concern *-one size does not fit all*

Election of Office Bearers

Re-elected :

Convenor Brian Whittle MSP

Deputy Convenor Rhoda Grant MSP

Secretariat (voluntary) Anne Simpson

5. “Near Me” an opportunity for questions and discussion

Convenor welcomed Maimie Thompson, Communications Manager and Hazel Archer, Head of Programme Scottish Government, Technology Enabled Care Programme and thanked them for taking the time to join the meeting.

The “Near Me” public engagement outcomes report was published in September 2020. The increasing use of digital/telephone consultations had been raised during the Group “Impact of Covid” meetings in July and August so attendance at this meeting provided an opportunity for members to comment and discuss the programme - looking to the future- while of course acknowledging the current covid situation and priorities.

<https://tec.scot/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Near-Me-public-engagement-Executive-Summary.pdf>

[*Near Me Digital Technology Enabled Care Programme Scot Gov CPG Nov 2020.pptx*](#)

Comment and discussion :

Possibilities of redesign of urgent care-minor injuries could be tackled

Save on travel for both patients and service providers

Save on PPE

However-this model does not necessarily free up time for clinicians –in reality patients still need to be seen

Lack of safe/confidential space for video appointments can be an issue

Some patients prefer to attend clinic as an “event”

Should face to face consultations remain the gold standard?

Prefer to see patients first-but useful model if no need to keep bringing patients back to clinic

Post covid-how will the programme evolve-a more patient centred way of working?

Staff training needs to be priority-communication processes need to be improved re virtual appointments-

Patients might prefer to be given the opportunity to have friend or family to also attend the video consultation –may be more stressful for elderly patients

Not everyone has access /or confidence in the use of IT

Occupational Therapy-Use of Near Me not good for group sessions –recommend NHS National Video Conferencing platform

Physiotherapy-Use of IT equipment-needs urgent investment -appreciate model can overcome issues but cannot be alternative to actual physiotherapy

6. Any other business

- Kenryck Lloyd Jones, Public Affairs and Policy Manager at the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy Scotland, warned of the need for a quicker return to rehabilitation and physiotherapy services and described how patients are missing out as vital community physiotherapy spaces are deprioritized by Health Boards and used for other purposes such as storage and meeting rooms

Call for Government action to prioritise physiotherapy and rehabilitation services as the pandemic continues

<https://www.csp.org.uk/networks/nations-regions/scotland/csp-scotland-office>

- Dorothy-Grace Elder, Secretary of the Cross Party Group: Chronic Pain – major concerns arising around the emphasis on promotion of Self- Management which should enhance rather than replace access to pain services throughout Scotland.

7. Summary and Close

Convenor thanked everyone for their useful contribution to the -as usual -lively meeting and apologised again for the late start due to other business.

Secretariat will confirm the remaining meeting dates and agendas for 2021 pre- election

Meeting closed at 7.55pm

Attendance list

Brian Whittle MSP Convenor

Rhoda Grant MSP Deputy Convenor

Anne Simpson Secretariat

Invited Speakers

Hazel Archer Head of Programme-Near Me- Technology Enables Care Programme, Scot Gov

Maimie Thompson Communications Manager ,Scot Gov Technology Enabled Care Programme

Members

Lauren Bennie Devolved Nations Liaison Officer British Society of Rheumatology

Marion Butchart Novartis

Dervil Dockeril Occupational Therapy

Fay Campbell Rheumatology Specialist Nurse, NHS GG&C

Jordan Canning Individual member

Dorothy-Grace Elder CPG Chronic Pain secretariat

Mayrine Fraser Roya I Osteoporosis Society

Sam Hemmati SOBI/pharma

Professor Colin Howie University of Edinburgh, Consulant Orthopaedic surgeon, NHS Lothian

Samuel Lawes Policy, National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society

Kenryck Lloyd Jones Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, Scotland Speaker

Lynn Laidlaw individual member

Dr Alan Macdonald Consultant Rheumatologist, NHS Grampian

Ian Macdonald National Axial Spondyloarthritis Society

Christina McDougall Rheumatology Specialist Nurse, NHS Lothian Visitor

Dr Alex Mavroedi Senior Lecturer in Physical Activity for Health, University of Strathclyde

Maureen McAllister Versus Arthritis

Dr Ruth Richmond Consultant Rheumatologist, NHS Borders

John Paton Patient Ambassador, National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society

Sarah Randell	Chief Executive, Teapot Trust
Dr Margaret Smith	Queen Margaret University
Jenny Snell	National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society
Jill Stewart	SOBI /pharma
Andrew Torrance	Visitor/individual, Borders
Carol Williams	NHS Research Scotland Support Manager (Musculoskeletal)

Apologies

Rachael Hamilton MSP

Murray Brown	National Ankylosing Spondylitis Society
Louise fisher	Podiatry, NHS GG&C
Danielle Frewin	ABBVIE/pharma
Nicki Gray	Occupational Therapy , NHS Borders
Eddie McGill	National Ankylosing Spondylitis Society
Matt Pickup	UCB/pharma
Professor Stuart Ralston	University of Edinburgh/NHS Lothian
Professor Stefan Siebert	University of Glasgow/ NHS GG&C