

Cross Party Group Older People, Age and Ageing
Minute of Meeting
25 January 2017 13.00-14.30
Scottish Parliament James Clerk Maxwell Room (CR4)

Attendees:

MSP Members

Sandra White MSP – Scottish National Party 4279
Richard Leonard MSP - Scottish Labour Party

Non-MSP Members

Action on Hearing Loss Scotland – Alan Dalziel
Age Scotland - Richard Baker, Derek Young
Alzheimer Scotland – Owen Miller
Care Inspectorate – Paul Edie, Arvind Salwan, Rami Okasha
Centre for Cognitive Ageing, University of Edinburgh - Iona Beange
Office of Sandra White and Treasurer of CPG Older People, Age and Ageing – Amanda Gordon
Scottish Older People’s Assembly - Tom Berney, Avril Crossley, Glenda Watt
Scottish Pensioners Forum – Rose Jackson, Eileen Cawley
Scottish Seniors Alliance – Bill Johnston, Ian Wallace, Sandra Martin

In attendance

Bill Bowman – MSP – Scottish Conservative
Healthcare Improvement Scotland - Fiona Wardell
GMB Retired Members – Jimmy Millar
Heriot-Watt University – Dr Alan J Gow
Interfaith Association Edinburgh & Scotland – Bashir Malik
Irvine Seniors/Scottish Seniors Alliance - Jackie Trembles and Rosemary Byrne
Life Changes Trust - Anna Buchanan
North Ayrshire Council - John McDonald
Home Instead Senior Care – Andrew Senew
British Geriatrics Society Scotland – Dr Sarah Keir

Apologies

Generations Working Together - Alison Clyde
Intergenerational National Network - Pat Scrutton
Trust Housing Association - Rohini Sharma Joshi
Pagoda Porter Novelli - Moray Clark and Lynee Veitch
University of Stirling - Paul Comley
NHS GGC Stroke Managed Clinical Network - Dr Christine McAlpine
My Home Life, University of the West of Scotland - David Innes
Lenzie Co-Housing Group - Margaret Whitelaw
SOPA Borders Older People’s Services Forum Regional Ambassador, Age Scotland, - Diana Findlay
Emma Trottier – Engender
Royal College of Psychiatrists in Scotland - Elena Slodecki, Karen Addie
Luminate - Anne Gallacher
Care Inspectorate - Saartje Driver
The Equality Unit, Scottish Government - Ian D Glover

1. Welcome

Sandra White MSP welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies and Introductions

Apologies were noted and introductions invited.

3. Draft Minute of Meeting held on 26 October 2016 and Matters Arising

Matters Arising

- Tom Berney referred to the good attendance at the Scottish Older People's Assembly on 25 November in the Debating Chamber and a meeting he attended regarding the ALLIANCE's consultation on Social Security in Scotland assessment process with marginalised groups.
- Bill Johnston requested feedback on Funeral Poverty. A review for Scottish Government'. Sandra White MSP replied that a number of meetings had been held on the subject but there was no conclusion to the work yet.
- James Miller asked if there was feedback from the Funeral Poverty Conference. Sandra White MSP replied that a summary of it and the consultation will be published on the Scottish Government website. <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/People/fairerscotland/Social-Security/Resources/Publications>

The draft minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

4. Aims of Scotland's National Health and Social Care Standards - Rami Okasha, Executive Director of Strategy and Improvement, Care Inspectorate & Dr Fiona Wardell, Standards and Indicators Lead Healthcare Improvement Scotland

Rami Okasha advised of the reasons for National Health and Social Care Standards, their link with existing standards and guidelines, human rights, outcomes, five principles and general standards which are applicable to all social care, health, social work, community justice, early learning and childcare. Rami also stated that the analysis of the consultation responses is underway and the final documentation will be released in the coming months.

Discussion followed on a variety of topics which are listed below;-

- ratio of care workers to people being cared for and the role of personal care assistants
- people being delayed in hospital and the difficulty obtaining care packages
- the perception that many social workers or others undertaking assessments are experiencing considerable work pressure
- the need for older person representation on all Integrated Joint Boards
- that some care is not regulated and the variable ways to monitor standards, and
- that some people with dementia are contributing to the care inspection teams

Further information can be found on the review of the standards at this website

<http://hub.careinspectorate.com/knowledge/policy-and-legislation/policy-portals/national-care-standards-review/>

Sandra White MSP suggested that the Group could write to the appropriate person to seek representation of older people on the Integrated Joint Boards and that this could be discussed at the next meeting.

5. A nationwide survey - 'What Keeps You Sharp', Alan J. Gow Associate Professor in Psychology, Heriot-Watt University

Dr Gow presented information on the recent UK / Scotland wide survey dealing with cognitive ageing, what age do thinking skills start to decline, what determines changes in our thinking skills, whether or not they can be maintained or improved, how to keep your brain healthy, what activities are important to maintain or improve skills, and the most feared aspects of ageing.

As Alan's indicative results have not been verified he requested that today's information is not put into the public domain. He advised that the results would be presented at a conference in April 2017 and that the scientific report will be issued later. He will accept further survey responses via www.healthyageing.hw.ac.uk or by telephoning 0131 451 8009

The presentation generated discussion on whether or not poor people have been included in the survey and the media's erroneous and stereotypical response to ageing.

6. AOCB

Fraser Johnstone of 'Cycling without Age' offered to give a presentation on a Netherland's initiative launching in Falkirk regarding adapted bikes and the importance of exercise. The group agreed to his presentation at a future meeting.

Bill Johnston requested that the Group consider the Scottish Government's forthcoming consultation on how best to ensure the long term sustainability of the National Concessionary Travel Scheme. Sandra White MSP replied that she will ask the Minister or a government officer to speak to this.

Camphill Scotland would like to become a member of this group. It is a worldwide movement with over one hundred centres (communities) in twenty countries supporting people with learning disabilities and other support needs.

James Miller said it was disappointing to note the poor turn out of MSPs at this meeting. Sandra White MSP will contact the MSPs again.

Tom Berney said that SOPA is holding a Reception in the Parliament on 29 March where information stalls will be available.

7. Date of Next Meeting – this will be a Joint Cross Party Group Meeting with the Group on Mental Health on 26 April 2017 at 5.30pm – 7. 30pm