Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Forum of Hospice Chairmen (FHC) Zoom Call – 15 December 2021

Representative               Hospice                                    Region

Present
Kate Tompkins               Dorothy House Hospice Care               Chair/South West
Robin Graham-Brown         LOROS                                      East Midlands
Terry O‘Leary               St Catherine’s Hospice                       South East Coast
David Dickson              St Leonard’s Hospice                           Yorks & Humber
Michael Baker              City Hospice                                 Wales
David Brown                Pendleside Hospice                           North West
Ros Keeton                 Compton Care                                 West Midlands
Andrew Chancellor          St Michaels Hospice - North Hants               South Central
Jeremy Allin               Lewis Manning Hospice                        South West

Apologies
Rod Leggetter               Isabel Hospice                              East of England
Rowena Lovell              Hospice UK                                   Director of Strategy & Governance

Hospice UK attendees
Scarlett Eburne             Hospice UK                                   Executive Assistant
Gloria Chan                 Hospice UK                                   CCLE Co-ordinator

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<tr>
<th>EC/21/20</th>
<th>Welcome and apologies</th>
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<td>Kate Tompkins welcomed everyone to the meeting and welcome to Ros Keeton &amp; Jeremy Allin.</td>
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<td>We have received apologies from Rowena Lovell, Rod Leggetter has stepped down as Chair of Isabel Hospice and East of England representative</td>
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<th>EC/21/21</th>
<th>Chair’s update</th>
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1. Kate to step down from beginning of July – Rowena to organize appointment of new chair of the forum and trustee network.
2. Update about NHS funding re. Hospital discharge in England, Wales, Scotland & Northern Ireland. 83 million for hospices for the next 4 month. Organisations have to provide data to the capacity tracker and their financial information.
3. Hospices to write to Hospice UK in Feb to tell them what they have done so HUK can continue to build up the case & story to show the impact we have on the community.

**EC/21/22 Conference Debrief**

- Worked well due to current climate – hybrid format was great
- Good balance of plenary sessions & breakout groups, topics were relevant and well-paced. Quality of speakers were exceptional, pertinent and accessible
- Presentation from Greenwich and Bexley was particularly interesting & moving– talked about supporting particular group of patients, homeless people and group without public funds,
- Great opportunity to meet other people & trustees
- Positive response to the Trustee Network programme

**EC/21/23 Vacancies**

- London
- East of England
- North East
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland

There is a potential candidate for London – Kate Tompkins to explore and she will follow up on East of England with the new Isabel Hospice Chair Terry Philpott.

**EC/21/24 Trustee Network**

Thank you to Robin for putting us in touch with Liz McIntyre who did a presentation around research and education. She spoke about the value of having an educational function to hospices and the benefits it has given the hospices. (I.e. working partnerships with universities to train students and staff to spread level of understanding across the field) Slides and notes available

Hoping to hear from Cristina Faull in the new year. As well as Nathan Baranowski, who will talk about the digital world and Greg Allen, who will speak about workforce challenges from a strategic point of view.
Other ideas that came out of conference for 2022: Session around climate change & equality and diversity. We are always eager to hear ideas, speaker contacts and topics of interest so we offer a variety of talks so any inspiration, please contact Gloria or Rowena.

EC/21/25

Engaging the network: what do you want to see from us?

- Newsletter will be a good starting point to engage with the network and act as ammunition to start building the group
- Chairs to encourage other chairs to get involved and circulate information to trustee team
- Sometimes there is a disconnect with CEO and chairs & trustees so create more events that engage with both audiences to bridge the gap and build communication
- Streamline contact lists so information can go directly to specific networks.
- Could we set a requirement that all chairs or CEO’s should send HUK an update every 3 months so the lists are up to date?

EC/21/26

Regional Update

Wales – Michael Baker
There are 16 hospices across Wales, with a good resource called Hospice Cymru that lobbies for them. Current areas of interest include: Labour of administration, review of hospice funding and structure (result to come out early 2022) and funding arrangements, looking at how hospices can work well together. It will be a period of change.

East Midlands – Robin Graham-Brown
Big concern around surviving the tail end of Covid but delighted with the news about NHS funding. FHC has potential to share information and encouraged that Paul Jennings wants to hear from the group.

Yorkshire & Humber – David Dickson
Slight caution around proposed CQC, general view is won’t get standing because of the pandemic. There is a lack of demand in IPU units, and struggling with staff retention and exhausted workforce. Not so much a financial matter but having sufficient people to take on the demand if people move away from hospitals to hospices. Encouraged that they have greater working relationships with hospices around.

North West – David Brown
Since the pandemic, CEO, chairs & trustee engagement has dropped. Survey is going out to the region to see what people want. If F2F meetings return, it will make a huge difference. Highlight from meeting:
- Mandatory vaccination for staff – hospice have dismissed staff because of care home requirements
- Pendleside have come to conclusion that all workers that engage with people need to have their jab
Recruitment & retention are big issues – can’t get staff, lots of retirements & struggle to replace

**South Central – Andrew Chancellor**
Struggle to engage with all chair, CEO has engaged with most CEOs around the area but not all. Currently working closely with Northamptonshire trust and hospitals so people can have chemo at hospice instead of hospitals – the relationship has helped staff issues as clinical area engagement has improved which means that the clinical progressions can be shared with hospital too.

Extra money is terrific but scared that fundraising may get lazy so staffing in non-clinical side is more of a struggle so that is the focus next year.

**South East Coast – Terry O’Leary**
3 main areas of focus:
- Digital agenda and what they mean by digitalization, trying to think through what the goal is and the technology will follow through, lean heavily on NHSX
- Diversity will be highlighted, regulators and auditors will begin to question this, don’t want this to be a figurehead
- Issue around hospital admission & lengthy stays, need to demonstrate how to help NHS with the problem

**West Midlands – Ros Keeton**
Current issue around partnership, both with NHS and other hospices and charitable organisations. Highs and lows, positive time engaging with NHS and chair local STP, but not always easy. Building those relationships are tricky but looking at how to partner and support each other. Make sure getting high quality input and efficient in ways of working.

Money is a concern so recent announcement is helpful so need to think about how funding streams work in the future

**South West – Kate Tompkins / Jeremy Allin**
Had a good, in person away day. Went from a concerned position in the beginning of the day to a more optimistic outlook – major part of discussion was how they are going to deal with ICSs, what’s going to happen if it’s not dealt with.

Paul Jennings talked about the history of the NHS and context of ICSs, ICSs palliative care vision and hospices palliative care hospice statement. Chairs and CEOs agreed to explore regional collaboration around education engaging with NHSE south west regional health authority to see how they can support and work together. Hoping to set up education collaborative for palliative and EOL Care

**EC/21/27**

**Next Meeting**
The date for the next Forum of Hospice Chairs will be scheduled for March 2022.