



## **THE PANEL OF REFERENCE MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**Ailsa Hospital – Florence Barbour Room 2  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2008**

### **PRESENT**

Morag Ramage, Ann Morrison, Dr Flowerdew, Martin Meechan, Kay Hall, Ailsa Macrorie, Elaine Mitchell, Stewart Easterbrook, Gavin Kennedy, Yvonne Christley, Carla Mills

### **APOLOGIES**

Katie Morrison, Hilda Smith, Helen Clark, Jean Faddah

### **GUEST SPEAKERS**

**Elaine McClure**, Mind Your Health.

(MYH are involved in the consultation process reviewing the location of the future services in Ayrshire and Arran)

**Bill Wallace**, Lead facilitator, Clinical Governance

**Anne Gerard**, Senior Manager MYH

**Carol Fisher**, Project Director, Mind Your Health

The group then made a presentation about the models for change which were being proposed. A discussion followed which was minuted by the group. The transcript has been attached at the end of these minutes. A recording of the session was also made.

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

1. **Edinburgh Conference** - places have been confirmed and Ailsa, Morag, Anne and Helen will represent us.
- 2.
3. **Pathway to Recovery** – Jimmy agreed to the redrafting and added a statement about the expertise of service users and carers. Kay agreed to have copies for the next meeting so we might circulate it to interested bodies. The draft must be approved by Hilda, Jimmy and Helen.
4. **See Me photo competition** – applications were made available
5. **Ardrossan & Saltcoats Herald** – approval was agreed for a reporter to attend our October meeting.
6. **Gill Rogers from South Ayrshire's Community Partnership** – it was agreed that Gill should be invited to the September meeting to tell us about their work
7. **Ailsa Newsround** – Diana Storrie has contacted us to ask for a Panel advert to be placed in the magazine. It was agreed that this would be a good idea. Kay will reply to Diane.
8. **Financial report and expenses** – expenses will be discussed at the next meeting and an update will be given.

## **PANEL MEETINGS FOR 2008**

Wednesdays at 2pm Ailsa Hospital in the Florence Barbour Rooms

- 17<sup>th</sup> Sept FB2
- 15<sup>th</sup> Oct FB2
- 19th Nov FB2
- December - Christmas Lunch - to be arranged

t: c/o CVS 01294 473137  
[info@thepanelofreference.org.uk](mailto:info@thepanelofreference.org.uk)

Mobile : 07798927501 and 07765550009  
[www.thepanelofreference.org.uk](http://www.thepanelofreference.org.uk)

**FOCUS GROUP - Panel of Reference meeting**  
**13 August 2008, 2pm — 4pm**

- Will there still be wards?
- Will there be male/female split in areas?
- Use male staff to treat male patients and vice versa
- Scotland has a far superior mental health service
- Use this consultation period to say what services should look like
- Must be a good transport network to Hospitals, toilets locked, no disabled facilities in and around bus station, routes not adequate
- Must get to and from hospital easily
- Stigma — people don't want to ask how to get to Ailsa, times and routes must be readily available and displayed
- 2 site option preferred
- As a carer, you travel there and back, not much time to do anything else
- Community care must have really good back up, very complex and lots to be considered. Must be in place and working effectively
- Do you monitor the care in the community? (Private services)
- Stigma — for mental health developments — value of houses perceived to go down
- Fear about developments, will use the service but don't want to have the service right beside them in their community
- Are there enough medical staff to cover 2 sites?
- If older people's services are on 2 sites, why can't adult services be on 2 sites?
- 10 years ago, building a new mental hospital would be unthinkable
- Upgrading Ailsa at the moment — money is being spent
- Want friendly environment, don't feel trapped
- Ailsa looks like an asylum
- Purpose built would be better, but don't make it too good, or you might not want to leave!
- Stigma — Ailsa — “Are they keeping you in?!” when you mention the site
- People matter, own room, own shower, be treated as a person, not a label
- Mental health campus with resources really important
- Recent new builds are nice
- People will/are travelling for a really good service
- High quality treatment must be delivered
- Travelling is a problem, people belonging to a place can become disorientated being away from their community
- Ailsa needs upgrading, would travel for superior care
- Let service users design the service
- People have been saying for years that Crosshouse will close
- Prefer ACH, new build, purpose built
- For top class service, would travel
- Carers save tax payers a lot of money
- Carer's group and help at night-time — support is needed
- Carers — due to lack of help — may end up being a service user
- There is no time off for carers
- As regards choice for main site — Ailsa. It has over the years, helped a lot of people.
- At Ailsa you are treated with respect and as a human being
- Would prefer option 4 with the 2 sites, best of both worlds
- Would prefer option 3 or 4 — what you are used to — wouldn't go to Irvine for treatment
- By having 2 sites, standard of care may be compromised
- Compare to Cornhill, Dumfries — what have they done?
- Raise expectations — change can be demoralising for staff
- Mental health service should be much more respected