

THE PANEL OF REFERENCE

c/o Council for Voluntary Services CVS

1a Winton Buildings

Ardrossan

Ayrshire

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Florence Barbour 2- Ailsa Hospital - Wednesday 19th March 2008

PRESENT

Morag Ramage, Ann Morrison, Catherine Morrison, Martin Meechan, Helen Clark, Kay Hall, Dougie Pickering, Ailsa McCrorie, Hilda Smith, Niall Brunton, Raymond Chan, Jean Faddah

APOLOGIES

Dr Flowerdew, Anne Meechan, John and Elaine Mitchell, Geoff Holt, Yvonne Christley

THE PANEL OF REFERENCE

CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

19th March 2008

I would like to congratulate our members for all their hard work during the past Year. We received five thousand pounds from awards for all which enabled us to attend conferences in London and Manchester. We were also able to buy a laptop and have a website designed for the panel. We have purchased a mobile phone and the number will be put on our new leaflets which are being designed at the moment.

Members are working on various groups at the moment. Helen and Morag will be working on a DVD for the stigma group we hope to commence with this soon. Some of our members are attending recovery meetings whilst others are involved with Mind Your Health all of which are keeping us up to date with what is happening in mental health.

We have welcomed some new members to the Panel and hope they will stay with us for a long time and help us to let service users and carers views be heard.

We have secured funding this year from Comic Relief and hope to put this to good use in the next year.

I would thank you all for your support during the year and hope we may go forward into the future positively so things will improve.

Helen Clark

March 2008

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Hilda Smith took the Chair in order for nominations to be put forward.

CHAIRPERSON: Helen Clarke was appointed
Nominated by Martin Meechan and seconded by Kay Hall

VICE CHAIR: Martin Meechan was appointed unanimously

SECRETARY: Kay Hall was appointed unanimously

TREASURER: Katie Morrison was appointed unanimously and Ann Morrison agreed to continue giving her support

THE MEETING WAS THEN RESUMED

1. **Scottish Health Council** have been invited to speak to us about their work and to help us in our networking.
2. **Our website** has inaccuracies regarding out of hours services – **action Helen**
3. **Strathlea Resource Centre** – we have received a letter from Anne Gerard asking for feedback regarding the psychiatric emergency service. She has also invited to join a working group. The Panel felt our presence on the group was imperative as earlier efforts to address problems had not been met with success. **action Helen**
4. **Community Horizons** - further correspondence has been received from and the range of activities available are interesting. Further information may be obtained from :-
Debbie Winchester, Suite 5B, Sovereign House, Academy Road, Irvine KA12 8RL or on 010294 270028
5. **Mind Your Health** are organising meetings to appraise the options for where services could be provided. Concern was expressed that previous consultative processes have taken little notice of our views. It seems the acute beds available will be significantly reduced with many cases being transferred to Care in the Community – the latter service being a source of great concern to the Panel. We intend to raise our concerns with MYH.
6. **VOX service users Conference.** Martin reported on the effectiveness of this conference which was themed ‘Real People Real Stories’, Dougie was asked to flag our name up at VOX’s AGM which is due.
7. **Jim Creighton** – Helen and Kay will be meeting with Jim on the 7th of May to discuss ways of setting up regular communication with his team.
8. **Anne Clark** – has agreed to review the progress of the Anti stigma group in the hopes that work may continue during Maggi’s maternity leave. Concern was voiced regarding the dvd promised by Ross Mackie. This will also be raised with Anne.
9. **Pathways to Recovery** – no responses have been made by any of the groups contacted. We hope to discuss the way forward with the paper when Dr Flowerdew returns.
10. **National policy for food** – Carole Blair has invited individuals to comment:
There are several ways to get involved and give your opinion:
 - a. By writing to: The Food Discussion, Room 256, Pentland House, 47 Robb’s Loan, Edinburgh, EH14 1TY.
 - b. By email to foodscotland.gsi.gov.uk
 - c. By phone to: 01312446223
 - d. Or by completing an online comments form at:
www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Business-Industry/Food-Industry/Discussion/get-involved
11. **O’Briens sandwiches** – thanks to the shops for their sample tray which was very good. Contact to be made with Ailsa hospital to see if we could get more favourable rates for catering. **action Kay**

12. **Ayrshire Recovery network** – Helen represented the Panel at their conference entitled ‘more pieces of a jigsaw’.
13. **Anti stigma group** – concern was expressed regarding the material which is to be used for training. Panel members will raise this at the next meeting of the group.
14. **Comic Relief** – the money will be paid into our account when our referees have been contacted. As both jimmy and Craig are currently unavailable they have agreed for Leona at CVS to provide a report.
15. **Conference to be planned** – during our meeting on the 23rd April. A number of people will be invited to contribute during the morning and afternoon. Suggestions included- Ward managers, community workers, social workers, advocacy, division of psychiatry **action Helen and Kay**
16. **Leaflet** – a big thank you to Morag and Yvette Ellis who have put together a draft leaflet, business card and poster. We really appreciate their efforts. The Panel spent some time discussing alterations and these will be changed with Yvette’s help. A £25 x M&S voucher to be purchased as a thank you **-Kay**
17. **FINANCE** balance at 19.3.08 is £94.84

PANEL MEETINGS FOR 2008

Wednesdays at 2pm Ailsa Hospital in the Florence Barbour Rooms

- **23rd April** **FB1 10-4pm - planning day – lunch included**
- 14th May FB1
- 11th June FB2
- 16th July FB2
- 13th August FB2
- 17th Sept FB2
- 15th Oct FB2
- 19th Nov FB2
- December - Christmas Lunch - to be arranged

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