

**MENTAL WELFARE COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD
ON TUESDAY 14 MARCH 2017
IN CONFERENCE ROOM, THISTLE HOUSE, EDINBURGH
AT 10.30AM**

Present:

The Very Rev'd Dr Graham Forbes CBE
Mr Norman Dunning
Mrs Elaine Noad
Mr Paul Dumbleton
Mr Nigel Henderson
Dr Sivasankaran Sashidharan
Ms Lesley Smith
Mrs Safaa Baxter

In Attendance:

Mr Colin McKay, Chief Executive
Ms Alison McRae, Head of Corporate Services
Mrs Alison Thomson, Executive Director (Nursing)
Ms Kate Fearnley, Executive Director (Engagement & Participation)

Secretary: Mrs Alison Smith, Operations and Improvement Manager

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Dr Gary Morrison, Executive Director (Medical) and Mr Mike Diamond, Executive Director (Social Work)

2. Announcements

None.

3. Minutes of Board meeting held on 24 January 2017

Approved.

4. CEO Update

Review of learning disability and autism in 2003 Act – Still awaiting announcement of chair for the review. Scottish Government has asked the Commission to host the secretariat for this. MWC has agreed, subject to funding being provided for it.

Scottish Government mental health and dementia strategies – Mr McKay confirmed that publication of the strategies is awaited.

Adults with incapacity reform – Mr McKay advised that a meeting has been set up with civil servants to discuss graded guardianships and the possible roles of the Commission and the Office of the Public Guardian. The English Law Commission has published detailed proposals for its law reform in this area. Mr McKay also advised that reports of our recent law reform seminars are being written up.

Healthcare in prisons – Mr McKay advised that Paul Noyes is currently giving evidence to the Healthcare Committee.

Place of safety monitoring – Mr McKay reported that a report on stage 1 of the work should come to the Board in April. The key finding is the huge discrepancy in the use of POS provisions in different health board areas.

Visits – we are continuing to monitor issues with people from England being treated in private institutions in Scotland with concerns that they are being move some distance from family and friends. We also have ongoing concerns about delayed discharges for people with learning disability and complex needs. We intend to follow this up as part of our follow up to our recommendations in “No through road”

Good practice guide – our guide on [LGBT inclusive mental health services](#) will be published in March.

CPN seminars – we have completed a series of seminars for Community Psychiatric Nurses. We will evaluate this work and aim to do a similar project for medical staff.

Staff – we have recruited a new nurse practitioner and finance manager. We will also recruit a social work officer and medical officer over the next month.

Sustainability – we have reorganised the practitioner and administrative team structures. There is currently a review of our accommodation aimed at reducing the space.

Staff survey – Mr McKay reported that analysis of the staff survey will be shared this week with staff. There was a high return from staff and many positives but there were a couple of areas that required serious attention.

5. Items for discussion and/or approval

5.1 Adult Acute Themed Visit Report

Mrs Thomson presented the report. The Board discussed the report and gave recommendations to sharpen its focus and highlight issues of concern especially around safety in mixed sex wards and the section on rights. The Board approved the report for publication subject to these changes being made.

5.2 Strategic Plan 2017-2020

Mr McKay presented the report. The Board suggested that the report did not need a title other than strategic plan, there be more emphasis on advocacy and the Commission's corporate parent role and that the term mental illness rather than mental ill health be used. The Board approved the report subject to these changes being made.

5.3 Business Plan 2017/18

The Board approved the business plan subject to minor changes.

5.4 Financial Review

The Board noted the paper.

5.5 MWC Budget 2017/18

The Board approved the budget.

5.6 Policy Reviews

5.6.1 Standing Orders – the Board approved the standing orders

5.6.2 Standing Financial instructions policy – the Board approved the SFIs

5.6.3 Fraud prevention and investigations policy – the Board approved the policy

5.6.4 Treatment that conflicts with advance statement – The Board approved the policy subject to changes noted by Mr McKay.

5.6.5 Media and social media – the Board approved the policy subject to changes noted and that more works needs to be completed on a social media policy.

5.7 Audit Committee Annual Report –The Board noted the report and approved the objectives of the Audit committee for 2017/18.

5.8 Board governance – the Board noted the report. Board members will be invited to attend the induction day for the three new members in April. The Board agreed to a buddying system for the new members.

6. Items for information

6.1 Risk management strategy – Ms McRae advised that this report had been analysed fully by the Audit Committee. It was agreed that the self-assessment for the Board members will take place in December.

6.2 Consultation on draft framework for Adult Protection Committees for conducting significant case – the Board noted this paper.

- 6.3 Inquiry into healthcare in prisons – response from MWC – the Board noted this paper.
- 6.4 Consultation on the National Health and Social Care Standards- the Board noted this paper.

7. AOB

The Chair thanked the three exiting Board members for their service adding that the Commission was richer for the work that they had done.

The Chair also thanked the observer who attended for taking an interest in the work of the Commission.

8. Date of next meeting – 25 April 2017