

Cross Party Group on Dementia

Annual General Meeting – 11/12/2013

Meeting Start Time: 12.30pm

Present: Roderick Campbell MSP (Co-Convenor), Mary Scanlon MSP (Co-Convenor), Nanette Milne MSP, Fiona MacLeod MSP, Amy Dalrymple (Alzheimer Scotland), Jim Pearson (Alzheimer Scotland), Jilly Paulson (Dementia Services Development Centre), Dr Jacqueline Wilson (Division of Clinical Psychology of the British Psychological Society), Andrew Senew (Home Instead Senior Care), Fern Gillon (Life Changes Trust), Archie Noone (Scottish Dementia Working Group) and Eilidh Lean (Secretary).

Apologies: Maureen Watt MSP, Neil Findlay MSP, Rhoda Grant MSP and Jayne Baxter MSP.

Minutes: Due to time lapse since previous meeting no minutes available.

Office-Bearers: Office-bearers were elected. Roderick Campbell and Mary Scanlon elected as Co-Convenors and Eilidh Lean appointed as in-house secretariat.

Presentation from Alzheimer Scotland: Presentation from Jim Pearson of Alzheimer Scotland giving an outline of where we are in 2013. See attached Power Point Presentation for information.

Free Discussion of Topics for 2014: Following Mr Pearson's presentation, the group discussed the role of Human Rights and other key developments including the G8 Dementia Summit and the creation of the Life Changes Trust. Other topics suggested for discussion included the post-diagnostic support model, end of life model, as well as model for Allied Health professionals and increasing local

engagement and presence. How can we ensure that key partners are working collaboratively, as well as ensuring all experience the right amount of care.

The Group also discussed how we can ensure that people with dementia have a good quality of life, and good wellbeing – physical, mental, emotional and spiritual. There were also discussions about the recent changes to Health and Social Care and the implications of Self-Directed Support and how can we ensure that people can navigate the new legislation, as well as ensuring a cultural change to ensure that in-house training works.

It was then suggested that we look at how we approach care homes, and possibly hospitals, and end of life care and the various implications of this: late stage of illness, those in long-term care, welfare rights, contribution to care, funding for care and how money to pay for things is important. Suggestion that we look at Local Authority funding for care homes and standard of care in care homes. It would be important to look at the role of the Care Inspectorate.

As we are getting better at diagnosis, it is important to plan ahead. The group could use the journey of dementia as a reference point, as well as looking at the use of non-pharmaceutical interventions for those with dementia.

With regard to end of life care it is important to look at how it can be improved, compare it with cancer care – you are less likely to have a good death and less likely to die at home.

Proposal that we look at how knowledge about dementia is informed and direct the Government's attention as only 2 years left of current Dementia Strategy.

Next Meetings: Meetings to be held over Wednesday lunchtimes in March, October and December. It was decided that future meetings would focus on end-of-life care and the role of care homes.

The meeting ended at approximately 2.00pm.