

Health Inequalities Cross Party Group Minutes December 13th 2012

Welcome and Introductions Malcolm Chisholm MSP

(See appendix for MSP and Non non MSP attendance and apologies.)

Minutes Approved

Apologies- Prof Nora Kearney presentation not yet forwarded to CPG for distribution.

Speaker Professor Nora Kearney

“Health Inequalities- Going Upstream”

Nora Kearney is Professor of Nursing and Cancer Care in the School of Nursing and Midwifery at the University of Dundee and the CRUK Dundee Cancer Centre where she leads research in cancer care. She is also Honorary Clinical Professor with NHS Tayside and a Visiting Professor at the University of Otago, New Zealand and University College Dublin.

Nora was previously the Director of the Cancer Care Research Centre (CCRC), that she established in 2003 at the University of Stirling, having developed the concept of the CCRC from her clinical experience of working closely with people affected by cancer. Nora has a long clinical career in cancer nursing and previous academic positions at the Universities of Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Nora has an established international reputation as a leader in cancer care research and she leads and collaborates on a number of multi-centre research projects in the areas of patient experience, symptom improvement in cancer care - including the use of technology - and cancer and the elderly and has published widely.

Prof Kearney discussed how health inequalities in our communities are widening with the difference in outcomes within each social group being much greater than the difference between groups.

Nora discussed Dundee, a city that is suggested to be thriving with the arrival of the Victoria and Albert museum but is also a city, similar to Glasgow, struck by diversity and deprivation. NHS Tayside like other Health Boards has a Health Equity strategy. Nora believes we have to think radically to improve inequalities as aging with its increase of co morbidities will lead to an increase in deprivation and health inequalities.

Prof Kearney then discussed the Dundee Inequalities Strategy team which has been funded philanthropically and is currently scoping data internationally on improvements on health inequalities and is focusing on the importance of sustainability in any improvement.

The Dundee project aims to focus on:-

Engagement and communication

Culture and environment

Research and Innovation

Business and employability.

Enterprise academy for children

Prof Kearney believes we must stop thinking in silos and take a more holistic view on tackling health inequalities.

The group discussed the early years benefits which some believed were short lived.

Others believed that an asset based approach is not sustainable nor has good evidence.

The overall aim of the PhiLanthropists is to create a movement for the people of Dundee

Poverty kills , it kills life, kills health and destroys spirit.

Actions

Arrange extra meeting of the CPG to discuss Audit Scotland Report on Health Inequalities. JF/MC

Invite Prof Kearney back to CPG in 12 months to hear of progress. MC/JF

Attending Health Inequalities CPG 13th December 2012

MSP's

Malcolm Chisholm MSP

Jim Eadie MSP

Murdo Fraser MSP

Anne McTaggart MSP

Mark Griffin MSP

Richard Simpson MSP

Aileen McLeod MSP

Secretariat

Jacqueline Forde

Speaker/s

Professor Nora Kearney

Attendees

Naomi Phillips

David Rodger

Sandra Turkington

Gillian Smith

Sandra Turkington

Roddy Duncan

Phil Grigor
Claire Sweeney
Anne Marie Barrie
Helen Reilly
Adelle Gardiner
Keith Walker
Andrew Sim
Natalie Frankish
Malcolm Clubb
Iain Brotchie
Claire Stevens
Muriel Mowat
Linda Bates
Ian Little
Maianne Mitchelson
David Gardiner

Apologies

Jacqui Young
Bea Nicholson
Joanne McGrath
Yvonne Hughes
Duncan Thorpe
John Howie
Alison Campbell
Bill Paton
Gil Mitan
Niamh Martin
Bruce Whyte
Andrew Docherty
Keith Irving
Vicki Crichton
Alison McCallum
Jane Cox
Esther Cumnock
Lindsay Paterson