

Hospital Alliance Meeting via Zoom 20th August 2020

Attendees were :- Claire Driver, Malcolm Forster, Alix Martin, Elaine Grew Tania ( Practice) Sheila Wyatt, Alice Bondi, Michael Hanley, Marti Irving ( Communications Manager North Cumbria NHS Trust) , Professor Matt Phillips, Jackie Dodd ( Public Health ) , Maxine Denoual via phone link.

Malcolm thanked Claire , Alix, and Marti for arranging this meeting.

Tania ( Practice ) :— -- D/N Team have gone to Penrith( 2 Nurses have since resigned) , however, 2 Nurses have been assigned to the Moor from Kirkoswald, and are happy to be here and working extremely well with the Practice, giving continuous care to those patients on the Moor that need it. Only during holiday time or days off have there been different Nurses caring for those patients. Discussion ensued re employing local Nurses, however outcome was that it doesn't matter where Nurses live even in the Winters that we experience , there's always a way of getting here .

The Practice has dealt with a number of Minor Injuries saving on average 3 people a week going to A&E since COVID began . Equipment has been a problem, Tania has spoken to Christine , but nothing has happened . Matt to look into the matter. Practice staff have given support to Grisedale Croft with End of Life Care and Palliative Care. Brenda has also helped out in the Community.

Practice to work with Communications Manager , ( Marti) , and Christine Stewart re Newsletter that could then be attached to all prescriptions as a way of informing residents what is happening at the Practice and the hospital.

Winter Plan for Nursing Services to be an agenda item for next meeting.

Ambulance Staff :— Request for a room of some description so that the EMTs( Emergency Medical Technicians ) can have as a rest room/ computer use to log in etc...so they don't have to go to Carlisle. Matt will see if there's a technical issue otherwise shouldn't be a problem.

Otherwise , maybe have the use of the bungalow when Mental Health go over to main building , giving them an entirely separate dwelling to the main building.

Video Consultation :— Problem has been reported as an IT issue. Tania informed the meeting that several boxes of equipment has been delivered to the Practice .Reported matter to NHS Trust ,( apparently there's been a Wi Fi problem for 8 years. ) , and again. Marti and Matt to look into it. Oncology not really on board with this, however given the situation at the moment this needs attention ASAP. Practice could also have used the technology instead of asking patients for photos or videos of their complaint.

Person who was running the project unfortunately died 4 weeks ago, but there should be someone else who could take over responsibilities. Marti and Malcolm to look into this matter.

Practice:— Discussion on Minor Injuries Unit. Practice has been running this via the Practice appointments but need funding or provision for equipment, supplies, and extra cleaning being carried out. Don't want any problems to occur when CQC ( Care Quality Commission) do there annual check via phone call . The Practice has Outstanding award and obviously doesn't want to lose that .

Red Hub Centre(Central Hub opened in Penrith for COVID patients ) .Now here also at the top end of the hospital. Doctors seeing patients with symptoms of COVID and wearing full PPE .It is working well

Jackie Dodd for Public Health:— — statistics to date — — 213 cases of COVID confirmed in Eden .This is higher than average but still low overall . There has been 1 case per day from July confirmed. , however Eden has been removed from Government Watch List . The high numbers of confirmed cases has been attributed to the night time economy i.e. bars and restaurants opening and therefore more gatherings of people. A Health Protection Board has been formed to look at strategy for Cumbria should second wave hit as well as preparing for Winter problems. They are keeping an eye on high numbers of people testing positive in Carlisle.

There is a concern over raised number of suicides throughout COVID lockdown . Suicide Prevention Day 10th September .Every Life Matters — ( Kate Bainbridge ) - Packs out early September to GP Practices ,Pubs, hotels etc...giving eg. advice on where to seek help. During COVID there has been a drop in people contacting services for help.

Dementia —- What can Alston do ?Discussion .

Alston has a budget of £3000 to spend to develop Community as being friendly towards Dementia people and their carers eg. encouraging shop owners to go on Dementia Awareness Course. ( Alston did have a Dementia Awareness afternoon for businesses which was poorly attended apart from some interested residents ) Resolved for Claire , Jackie , and Malcolm to meet.

Clinics :— — Awaiting news on Podiatry and eye testing especially the diabetic screening .Practice has said what needs to be done but waiting on NHS and whether they will take place in the hospital. Matt to take this up with ICC.

Flu clinics :— — vaccine has arrived. Please encourage over 50s to make an appointment as well as those with health problems.

Claire reporting from Eden Resilience Group :—- Emergency Group and High Street Response Group meet into this every 2 weeks.

On AM deliveries of produce have stepped down . Upon reviewing deliveries of prescriptions ,1/3 were still required, 1/3 were not and 1/3 could get someone else to collect medication for them although not necessarily reliable.

Zoom --- Important to stick with for all meetings . Including communicating with the community eg. Front Street.

Hospital Building Work :—- Plans have been signed off on --- Good News! Work has been obviously delayed ! If working from last years budget then COVID has blown all monies --- Bad News ! ..Professor Matt Phillips is to take this up with the Estate.

Newton Rigg has a Mobile Scanner ( majority of Zoomers attending meeting didn't know this )

Discussion ensued re whether when hospital work finished they could buy into company performing ultra sound scans eg. Shoulder, as mobile units as well as other mobile scans eg or Aortic Aneurysm.Its a possibility and certainly one for further discussion with NHS.

Dr. Collette is Lead on Geriatric Assessment and GP Trainer.

Next Meeting 24th September.

Hopefully we will get answers to our questions brought to Professor Matt Phillips at an earlier meeting I reported on, then.

Elaine