

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN FIFE....



Welcome to the Scottish Health Council Fife October update

Since our last update in May, we've had a few changes in the Fife Office.

We said 'goodbye' to our colleague George Cuthill at the end of June when he officially retired from Scottish Health Council. Thank you to everyone that came along to his 'drop in' farewell afternoon on 29th June and to those that passed on their best wishes for George's Retirement. For many parts of the afternoon there was standing room only. George was absolutely blown away with the turn out on the day and the well wishes received.



On 14th August we welcomed Kevin Ward to the post of Local Officer Fife. Kevin comes to us from NHS Ayrshire & Arran's Public Health Department where he worked as a Research Officer for the last five years. He has settled in well and has already started making some good contacts locally. Hopefully in the not too distant future many of you will have the opportunity to meet Kevin in person and I'm sure you will all give him a nice Fife welcome!



We have continued to meet with various organisations across Fife that are involved in the field of mental health to let them know about the role of the Scottish Health Council and the new 'Our Voice' framework. We are now finishing up our project on mental health and Judith is in the midst of collating the invaluable information in to a report we can share back to groups and to NHS services.

For the time being we continue to have the newsletter available through our livebinders link which we know many of you like. We are looking at making some changes to the newsletter, mainly in the layout to ensure more consistency in the information we give you. If you have any comments regarding our newsletter please do drop us a line, your feedback as always is much appreciated! We are also in the midst of changing to a new database for our contacts. Suzanne will shortly be sending out forms for updating your contact details as per data protection procedures. Please keep an eye on your inbox as more details will follow on how this will be done.

Judith, Kevin and Suzanne

Public Involvement in General Practice

Over the next few months we will be delving into the world of public involvement in general practice.

There are many ways in which patients can contribute to the on-going development of their GP practice, for example providing feedback direct to the practice through staff or comment/suggestion boxes; Facebook; Care Opinion (www.careopinion.org.uk/youropinion); or simply by completing surveys and questionnaires, to name a few.

Many practices across Scotland have a Patient Participation Groups (PPG's) which is a formal involvement structure supported by the practice where practice staff and patients together to improve services, raise awareness, gather feedback to aid understanding of the local communities' needs and as a route for two-way sharing of information.

If you would like to hear first-hand about the role of a PPG and of the benefits they can bring to both patients and staff the SHC has several short video case studies which can be viewed on our website: [Patient Participation Case Studies](#)

We are very interested to hear from you if you have in any way had some involvement in informing improvements within your GP practice and would wish to share your experience with us.

Get in touch on 01592 200555 or drop us an email at fife@scottishhealthcouncil.org

Any information shared would enable us to map out current processes used by practices across Fife and help us to support those practices interested in widening their patient engagement to do this in a more innovative and inclusive way.





Voices Scotland Workshop Sessions

Trained up and ready to go

Our local office staff are delighted to offer Voices Scotland workshops to Third sector organisations in Fife.

Voices Scotland is a robust and sustainable public involvement training package which was developed and delivered by Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland in order to build a national network of people and to help them to have their say on Health and Social Care services in Scotland. The initiative has supported Health and Social Care service providers plan new and better services for us all and ultimately make a difference to the health and wellbeing of those living in Scotland.

SHC Fife have adapted Voices Scotland to reflect the local Fife landscape and tailored it for delivery to Third Sector employees working directly with clients/service users and to public members who represent their communities.

To find out more information or to book a session please contact Suzanne Mack, Administrator Fife on 01592 200555 or by email fife@scottishhealthcouncil.org in the first instance.




The [Our Voice update for autumn 2017](#) provides information on how we are supporting Realistic Medicine; a booklet co-produced by a local community in Glasgow to support people whose benefits are at risk of being sanctioned; information about our sharing and learning networks and the report from the latest Citizens' Panel survey.

For more information regarding the work of Our Voice please take a look at the website:

<https://www.ourvoice.scot/our-voice>

Consultation on the role of the Scottish Health Council: Strengthening people's voices in health and social care


A consultation on the role of the Scottish Health Council is now underway and is being led by Healthcare Improvement Scotland. This follows a reflective exercise  undertaken by the Chair of the Scottish Health Council, Pam Whittle CBE, earlier this year.

It is well-recognised that services can only improve when they are informed and shaped by people who use those services, their families and carers, and local communities. The Scottish Health Council is a key part of Healthcare Improvement Scotland and plays a leading role in ensuring that NHSScotland listens to the views of people and communities, and that it acts on those views.

We encourage anyone with an interest in the Scottish Health Council, and in ensuring the voice of people and communities remain at the heart of health and social care, to take part in the consultation.

For more information about the consultation, and how to get involved, visit the  Healthcare Improvement Scotland website.

The closing date for responses to the consultation is Friday 20 October 2017.

If you have any queries relating to the consultation, please email  hcis.consult@nhs.net – paper copies of the consultation document and the questionnaire can also be requested via this email address.

The SIGN patient versions for autism have, as you can imagine, proved very popular. Since their publication at the beginning of 2017 the booklet for parents/carers has been translated into Polish and Arabic, and a translation into Urdu will be available shortly. If you think these booklets would be useful, they can be downloaded from the following link:

<http://www.sign.ac.uk/pat145-asd.html>

http://www.sign.ac.uk/assets/pat145_parents_and_carers_polish.pdf

http://www.sign.ac.uk/assets/pat145_parents_and_carers_arabic.pdf

Paper copies of the 3 booklets (Adults with autism, Young People's booklet and Parents/carers) and the Polish translation of the parent/carers booklet can be ordered. They are free to all residents in Scotland.

Contact, Karen King, Distribution and Office Co-ordinator on 0131 623 4720 or email on karenking5@nhs.net

Local Information and Involvement Opportunities

A new Plan for Fife - your views wanted

A new 'Plan for Fife', which puts tackling inequalities at its heart, has been launched for consultation. It sets out a vision that will help create a fairer Kingdom for everyone and shape local services over the next 10 years.

Based on significant research and local consultations, the Fife Partnership has created a single plan to streamline its approach and make it easier to understand. The main aim is to put people and communities at the centre of all decision making.

Fife partners would like your views on the draft Plan. Find out more and respond at:

<http://wordpress.fifedirect.org.uk/letstalk/>



Fife's Third Sector Strategy Group is seeking views on its draft strategic approach to the community and voluntary sector's role in tackling inequality and promoting fairness.

The Group was tasked by the Fairer Fife Commission with the development of the strategic approach in the Commission's report [Fairness Matters](#) which was published in November 2015.

Throughout 2016, the Third Sector Strategy Group held five civic society discussions with key stakeholders to discuss the sector's approach to tackling inequality and promoting fairness, and drafted a Values Framework.

In March 2017, approximately 130 people, mainly from Fife's third sector attended a one-day conference organised by the Group to further consider these issues.

Since then Iconic Consulting has been working with the Group to draft the strategic approach. The draft is now at a stage where the Group would welcome feedback from the sector to make sure we are heading in the right direction.

The draft and a very short feedback form is available at <https://www.iconic-consulting.co.uk/studies/tackling-inequality-in-fife/>

We would be delighted if you could review the document and share your feedback, confidentially, with Iconic.



The Diabetes Centre at Victoria Hospital is set to undergo significant refurbishment this autumn.

Opened in 2000, the standalone centre is sited within the hospital grounds and provides an outpatient service for newly diagnosed and existing diabetes patients, with care provided by a multi-disciplinary team.

The refurbishment, which will begin at the start of October and is due to finish at the end of November, will see a range of work undertaken including new roofing, flooring, heating, windows and a refreshed interior.

Whilst the work takes place, patients who currently use the centre for their diabetes clinic will be re-allocated appointments within the Carnegie Unit at Queen Margaret Hospital. Patients who attend for podiatry clinics will be seen at Whyteman's Brae.

The existing phone number, 01592 648001, for the Diabetes Centre will remain the same during the refurbishment works.

Fife Advocacy Forum

Supporting & Developing Advocacy Across Fife



Fife Advocacy Forum welcome your participation and engagement at a variety of drop-in sessions to help them gather a wide range of views and feedback to inform their next strategy.

Advocacy services are critical to safeguarding and empowering the most vulnerable and at risk individuals in Fife, by protecting the interests of people who are unable to do so by themselves and giving them a voice. You will be given an opportunity to hear about the valuable work their Advocacy providers do and an opportunity for discussion. Come along and have your say/share your experience of advocacy services in Fife!

Date	Time	Location
Wednesday 25 th October	2.00pm – 4.00pm	Potter About Cafe, 253A High Street, Burntisland, KY3 9AQ
Tuesday 31 st October	10.30am – 12.30pm	Torryburn Community Centre, 105 Main Street, Torryburn, KY12 8SR
Thursday 9 th November	10.00am – 12.30pm	Lochgelly Centre, Bank Street, Lochgelly, KY5 9RD
Thursday 7 th December	1.00pm – 5.00pm	St Andrews Town Hall, Queens Gardens, St Andrews, KY16 9TA

For more information please contact Fife Advocacy Forum on:

Phone: 01383 221 240

E-mail: admin@dunfermlineadvocacy.org.uk



Information sent on behalf of Information Services Division (ISD) Scotland:

Invitation to attend ISD Scotland Transforming Publishing Focus Groups

Find out more about our work by watching this short animation. [Click here to watch](#)

Are you interested in Health and Social Care information?

Do you have ideas about how Health and Social Care information publications can be improved?

ISD Scotland are transforming how they release Health and Social Care information and they would like to invite you to attend a focus group where you will have a chance to design the future for Health and Social Care data releases in Scotland. Participants will also have the opportunity to work with the team over the next few months as they work to translate your ideas into reality. The focus groups will take place on the following dates:

Edinburgh – Surgeons Hall – 24th October 2017 – 1pm – 4pm

Perth - Best Western Hotel – 26th October – 1pm - 4pm

Glasgow – Robertson Trust – 27th October 1pm – 4pm

Lunch and refreshments will be provided at all sessions and those attending will be able to claim back travel expenses. If you would like to get involved, please contact Maighread Simpson on Maighread.simpson@nhs.net or 07708819585. If you are interested in this work, but are unable to attend the sessions, please complete the following form noting how you would like to get involved and the team will contact you to discuss how you can get involved.

To complete the contact form [click here](#)



Update On Behalf of The Scottish Government



Carers (Scotland) Act 2016 Supporting Carers

Section 36 of the Act requires Scottish Ministers to prepare and publish a Carers' Charter ("the Charter"), setting out the rights of carers in or under the Carers (Scotland) Act 2016. The Charter cannot and does not create any new rights or alter any existing rights.

The Charter is intended to provide a summary of these rights in a readily accessible and understandable format for both young and adult carers alike. There is also a requirement to consult with carers and carer representatives and to lay the Charter before the Scottish Parliament.

This consultation is to determine if this draft Charter is fit for purpose and whether or not a revised Charter will be published in due course.

To access the consultation please click the following link:

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/draft-carers-charter-of-the-carers-act-2016/>

The Consultation will close on 22nd October 2017.

Review of homicides by people with recent contact with NHSScotland mental health and learning disability services

In 2015, the Minister for Sport, Health Improvement and Mental Health, asked the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland to review how homicides, by people who are users of mental health or learning disability services, are investigated.

A final report was submitted by the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland in November 2016. The report proposes building on the existing systems of review of investigations undertaken by both Healthcare Improvement Scotland and the Mental Welfare Commission for Scotland. The consultation seeks views on that proposal.

To access the consultation please click the following link:

<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/mental-health-law/recent-contact-with-mental-health-services/>

The Consultation will close on 17th November 2017.

Thank you for reading!

We hope you have found the information useful. Feel free to contact us if you have any comments or suggestions on what you want in future editions, we always look forward to hearing from you!

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