

**Minute of the North of Scotland
Public Health Network Steering Group Meeting**

Thursday 8 October 2009, 2:00 – 4:30 pm
All members joining by video conference

**NORTH OF SCOTLAND
PUBLIC HEALTH NETWORK**

Present:

Lesley Wilkie, NoSPHN Lead Clinician / Director of Public Health, NHS Grampian (Chair)
Pip Farman, North of Scotland Public Health Network Co-ordinator
Colin Gilmour, Health Improvement Manager, NHS Western Isles
Martin Malcolm, Head of Public Health Intelligence, NHS Western Isles
Noelle O'Neill, Public Health Scientist, NHS Highland
Wilma Reid, Partnership Manager, NHS Health Scotland
Susan Webb, Deputy Director of Public Health, NHS Orkney
Celia Gardiner, Health Improvement Manager, NHS Grampian
Sarah Taylor, Director of Public Health, NHS Shetland
Angus MacKiggan, Well North Coordinator
Phil Mackie, ScotPHN Lead

In attendance:

Karen Main, NHS Highland (Minute)

NB Not all members were in attendance for all items. The items were not taken in consecutive order but are presented here in numerical order.

Members of the Group and those attending the meeting should be aware that their names will be listed in the minutes/papers, which will be published on the web.

Action

74/09 Welcome and Apologies

Lesley welcomed everyone to the meeting and formal introductions were made. Apologies were noted from Susan Vaughan, Elaine Garman, Ken Oates, Annie Ingram, Rob Henderson, Jane Groves, Marlene Westland, Jillian Evans, Sharon Pflieger, Ann Conacher and Sally Amor. It was noted that Sarah Taylor would be joining the meeting late.

75/09 Minutes of last meeting (20 April 2009)

The note of the previous meeting was accepted and no reason was given as to why the papers and minutes of the last meeting should not be made available by open access via the web.

76/09 Matters Arising not on the agenda

• NoSPHN DPH Update Meeting (28 August 2009)

It was noted that in view of the cancellation of the last two NoSPHN Steering Group meetings the NoS DPHs met to review key items that required action. These were:

- National Strategic Planning Group – Dr Harpreet Kholi has agreed to be the public health representative on this group. The Group noted that this may have an impact on how activities are identified and progressed through NoSPHN.
- NOSCANA – Rob Henderson has stood down as NOSCANA representative since taking up his new post in Inverness. A new representative needs to be identified but in the meantime Pip will act as the key contact working through Rob and Gillian Lewis.
- NoSPHN Co-ordinator Job Description – Lesley advised that Pip's job description was out of date and needed to be revised to better reflect the current nature of the job. Input to the job description is welcomed and any comments should be passed to Lesley or Pip as appropriate.

All

• UKPHR

The outcome of consultation to which NoSPHN had contributed was available on the UKPHRU website. Correspondence had recently highlighted that a review of the

regulatory frameworks applied to public health professionals has been announced led by the DH England. This review is to ensure that current policy, particularly that adopted over the last 5 years regarding the regulation of healthcare professionals, has been considered for the full range of public health professions. The UKPHR has therefore agreed to move forward over the next 3 months only in areas of work which will support and not prejudice the outcomes of the review, including the finalising of the regulatory standards and a mapping of these against existing frameworks for public health practitioner development.

- **HIV Action Plan for Scotland**

Pip noted that NoSPHN had an outstanding item to agree whether there were opportunities for working jointly to assess or share approaches against the HIV Action Plan in each Board. It was noted that there was a concern with regard to the evidence of spend for BBV in Boards and that there was a need to review prescribing costs for HIV as there was no mention of prevention in the action plan. Phil Mackie advised that the ScotPHN national HIV needs assessment was ready for circulation and he intended to pick up the timing of the publication with the Scottish Government.

Separately it was noted that a request to establish a regional HIV MCN had gone to NoSPG and was rejected on grounds that it was not required in North as alternative local arrangements exist and because pump-priming monies only were available. Susan Webb noted that the proposal had been clinically driven and that there was still a commitment to work together.

77/09 North of Scotland Planning Group

77.1 a Feedback from NoSPG (13 August 09) and Integrated Planning Group (3 September 09)

Due to video conference technical issues Sarah Taylor was unable to talk to this item – further information to be circulated as appropriate.

ST/PF

77.2 National Remote and Rural Workstream

a National Remote and Rural Implementation Group (RRIG)

Pip advised she had spoken with Eric Baijal who was keen to continue as the public health representative on the national group. No update was available as Eric had been unable to attend the last meeting of the Steering Group.

b Feedback on each of the 5 workstreams

- Emergency response and transport – Pip noted that the Emergency Response and Transport Framework including standards and identifying types of responses framework has been produced and was to be signed off by the RRIG. Pip to make the papers available to members.
- Emergency Medical Retrieval Service (EMRS) – Noelle O'Neill advised that she had been involved in the health economics aspects of EMRS and agreed to circulate a final paper when complete.
- No updates were available for the Service Models and Care Pathways and Obligate Network workstreams.

PF

NO

c Audit (Orkney / Shetland)

Members were invited to comment on the paper circulated and agree mechanism for ensuring local Board involvement in the work. Eric Baijal had advised of his interest in continuing to lead on the work and had made contact with the new Medical Directors in NHSO and NHSWI. Eric was reviewing and identifying support needs as the clinicians involved did not have the capacity to carry out the audit work. Eric noted that work being carried out by Andrew Sim NHSWI on care pathways might be helpful also.

All members interested in being involved with the work were asked to notify Eric directly.

All

77.3 National Services

a Potential for Remote and Rural Bias in national risk share schemes

Speaking to the papers circulated Pip noted that this work had been presented to NoSPG in June and work had progressed but due to the cancellation of meetings the work had not been signed off by the Steering Group (although a number of members had been engaged in the work). Summarising the work Pip advised that no evidence of remote and rural bias had been found in either national designated services or risk share schemes although there was evidence of differential use of services and NHS Orkney was a particular area of concern. The study had looked at an overall review of all services and two services in detail - Paediatric Intensive Care Services and Photobiology Services.

The work had been presented to the NoSPG and Integrated Planning Groups and Board Chief Executives had been reassured that remote and rural bias had not been identified but had highlighted a number of further questions. It had been agreed however that the work should be circulated to the two other Regional Planning Groups for comment before further work was progressed. This was being achieved through Deidre Evans at NSD.

Members formally noted the work and Pip agreed to follow up comments from the other regional groups and feedback. Noelle further noted an interest in the definitions of Remote and Rural used and the impact of case mix on service use – which Pip agreed to note for further work.

PF

b NSAG review of proposals for nationally designated services

Pip advised that the letter requesting proposals for services to be Nationally Designated for 2011 had gone out from NSD. As in previous years NoSPHN had reviewed the 2010 proposals for NoSPG. Five bids were received in the first round with only one bid being approved by NSD. A late bid had also been received and reviewed and had still to be considered by NSAG.

Phil Mackie highlighted that through the National Planning Forum ScotPHN were likely to coordinate public health input to the NSAG review process in the future.

77.4 Children's Services

a Evaluation of impact of NoS Plan for Specialist Children's Services

Noelle O'Neill summarised work, the use of the logic model in support of the Child Health workstream and on the development of a toolbox to support work. Noelle invited comments on the paper. Wilma Reid proposed liaison with Bron MacDonald in NHSHS re the developments who she advised would be interested in the work. The group noted and were supportive of the revised logic model work and toolkit.

NO

Pip Farman advised that £25k over 3 years was available to take further work forward with a focus on advising service managers / lead clinicians on evaluation work (not delivering the evaluation). On this basis she summarised a proposal to recruit support to Evaluation Advisory Roles from within the North to be filled by more than one person, ideally with an understanding of clinical services.

The group noted and supported plans to seek additional advisory support for the process – Pip agreed to circulate the paper outlining the requirements for these roles and seek interest as soon as possible.

PF/All

b Cross Boundary Flow Information

Pip advised that the Cross Boundary Flow work was still on hold pending resolution of queries over Caldicott issues from NHS Tayside. Jillian Evans intended to ask Annie Ingram whether the exercise was still required and if so Jillian recommended progressing the work through ISD.

JE

78/09 Public Health Network Work Plan 2009-2010

78.1 CMO Public Health Overview / Action Plan

Lesley noted that she hoped everyone now had access to the Action Plan (Version 9) – if not Pip was asked to forward. Actions were allocated in the plan to the Scottish Government, NHS Health Scotland, Health Protection Scotland and NHS Boards. Lesley noted that pilot work was ongoing through NHSHS / ScotPHN to ascertain the views of CHPs and CPPS on the role/input of public health. Some concern was expressed about how easy some of the questions were to answer, particularly in respect of role definitions. Phil Mackie advised that the plan was to identify a quantum of the workforce and the settings where they operate, particularly with regard to health improvement. Discussion highlighted the need to ensure links to other groups looking at similar issues in particular the NHSHS / NES National Workforce Development Group.

PF

PM /
WR

Due to pandemic flu the Health Protection Scotland actions were on hold.

78.2 Workplan 2009 -2010

a Workplan (09/10)

Pip advised the Group that she had altered the format of the workplan slightly include a deadline/review date (as opposed to a completion date). The group noted the update.

b Specific updates from Groups

- Scottish Forum for Public Health (SFPH) - Noelle updated the Group on the SFPH advising that the Climate Change workshop arranged for 29 September had been poorly attended – only 14 participants out of 30 attended. John Boswell had agreed to forward on any report from the workshop to Noelle for distribution. Noelle noted that attendance at the SFPH meetings had also been very poor and John Boswell would be looking at the future of the Forum and Noelle agreed to keep this Group informed.
- Pip noted that Sally Amor had reported that the CAMHS needs assessment report had been delayed by one month.
- It was noted that Fiona Clarke (NHS) was the NoSPHN representative for the NoSPG Bariatric review Group. Phil Mackie also advised he was the public health representative on the Scottish Bariatric Review Group looking at national standards.

NO

78.3 Proposals for Regional Health Improvement Collaboration and NOSCAN and public health related activities

Colin Gilmour advised the Group that there were 6 potential proposals for health improvement collaborative work that were being discussed or scoped.

- Well North – with a focus on ensuring lessons for collaborative working were gathered (being led by Colin - NHSWI)
- Workforce development options were being explored – led by Jane Groves (NHS)
- The health improvement aspects of the Public Health Review (this was on hold due to other developments as discussed under Item 78.1).
- The potential for Social Marketing on a North of Scotland basis – with initial work being led by Cathy Steer (NHS).
- Gillian Lewis (NHS) was reviewing options for Cancer prevention linked to work with NOSCAN and
- The level of impact that each of the Boards were having on the local SOA processes had also been discussed.

Colin agreed to ensure circulation of papers once the outcomes of discussions in these areas were clearer.

CG

78.4 Well North – Remote and Rural Anticipatory Care Project

a Update

In the absence of Elaine Garman, Angus MacKiggan provided an update on the Well North project. Health checks are being offered in Western Isles, Dufftown, Shetland and NW Sutherland and the programmes were doing well. NHS Highland has appointed a dietician for Healthy Weight Highland who will take up post in November. NHS Grampian has renamed their Healthy Weight programme to 'healthy helpings'. A self-management tool for heart failure was also being trialled in Orkney.

In terms of the Heat target H8 – this target has been surpassed by the NW Sutherland and NHS Western Isles programmes. Angus advised that the target for Orkney was of concern and it was agreed that this would be discussed further with Susan Webb and Marlene Westland outwith the meeting.

**SW/
MV/AM**

b Evaluation

Angus MacKiggan spoke to the proposed regional evaluation questions that had been developed following discussions with NHS Health Scotland and Well North representatives (over time). Angus noted that some questions would not apply to all NoS programmes but they were intended to be the key overall questions that were felt to be important for the programme. Any comments on the questions should be passed to Angus MacKiggan.

All

78.5 CPD Events

a Professor John Frank and Sally Haw SCPHRP

Lesley Wilkie advised that at the NoSPHN / SCPHRP event on the 3rd September in Aberdeen had been very useful. Background papers had been circulated. SCPHRP had outlined its plans and current research interests and had asked for potential areas of interest in the North. Lesley asked that the discussion on this was kept open and that comments be fed to Pip.

All

b NoSPHN Event

The NoSPHN event was initially planned for mid / late 2009, however due to swine flu it had been decided to postpone the event until the new year. The event was to focus on Public Health and planning links and it was intended that it should take the same format as previous years (presentations in the morning and review of work in the afternoon). The event was likely to be held in either Inverness or Nairn. Pip asked that any suggestions for developing the programme should be passed to her and in particular work to be highlighted for sharing in the afternoon session.

All

78.6 Budget update and funding arrangements 2009-2010

Pip advised that all funding for 2009-2010 had been received by all Boards with support for ongoing funding. She noted that there was an anticipated £10k underspend for the end of the financial year and asked for proposals for this spend as soon as possible.

All

78.7 NoSPHN Lead Clinician Role

Lesley Wilkie informed the group that her term of office came to an end in November 09. The agreed arrangement was that the role should be undertaken by a DPH and shared on a rotating basis between the NoS Boards and Sarah Taylor had been nominated to take on the role next. The process to confirm the role was to be led by Annie Ingram. It was anticipated that Sarah would take up the role in the new year.

79/09 Further Business

79.1 Scottish Public Health Network

Phil Mackie spoke to the paper circulated. He advised that the chronic fatigue syndrome and the prison services projects are nearly complete and an invitation to attend study days for these areas of work would be sent out shortly. Currently ScotPHN were beta testing a new migrant resource and it was hoped to formally launch this at the Scottish Faculty Conference in November 2009.

79.2 NHS Health Scotland (NHSHS)

Given the wide range of NHSHS activities Wilma Reid asked for clarification on what would be helpful as an NHSHS update for members? She suggested to the Group that she circulated the NHSHS Quarterly Corporate reports. These were the reports that go to the NHS Health Scotland Board and would provide an overview of what happens each quarter. The next report was due in November. It was agreed that Wilma would circulate a copy of the September report and the Group would discuss whether this was helpful at the next Steering Group meeting.

Wilma highlighted that three customer focussed regional events were planned for the 19 November in Aberdeen, 23 November in Glasgow and 14 December in Edinburgh. Wilma agreed to check whether vc was available for the Aberdeen event.

80/09 A.O.C.B.

Pip informed the Group that NoSPHN now had an internet site through SHOW but as the site was being developed it was not live at present. It was hoped that papers for future meetings would be uploaded onto the site rather than distributing by e-mail.

81/09 Date of next meeting: Wednesday 9 December 2009

Dates for 2010 meeting to be agreed and confirmed separately.