

WESSEX CHILD PSYCHIATRISTS BUSINESS MEETING

HELD ON 13 OCTOBER 2004

LEIGH HOUSE, WINCHESTER

Present: Shirley Gracias (Chairperson) Ciaran Kelly
Suyog Dhakras Claire Vick
Patricia Alcindor-Huelva Becky Spears
Lee Harding Peter Hardwick
Helen Rayner Judith Dawkins
Stephen Stanley Penny Thompson
Zam Bhatti (Secretary) Jason Phillips
Dennis Leary Julie Waine

Apologies: Alison Sankey Mary-Anne Griffiths
Tony Saunders Adrian Marsden
Margaret Thompson Neil Harris
Catherine O'Callaghan Caroline Coverley
Axel Pfitzer Deborah Judge
Kirsteen Stevenson Lucy Grafen
Mary Mitchell Jacinta McCann
Clio Bellenis Gloria Pepe
Dr Spalding

1. Minutes from Previous Meeting

Approved as accurate.

2. Matters Arising

1. Our next meeting on the 9 February 2005, Swindon. Zam has written to Wendy Woodhouse and colleagues reminding them regarding arranging a speaker and a venue. (-See enclosed letter)
2. Bob Potter informed the group that the minutes of the meeting can only be posted on a website once they have been approved and accepted as accurate by our group. This will mean we always be a meeting behind.

3. New Item

Electing/Appointing of new Secretary and Chair

Despite this being on our agenda for the past two meetings, no nominations received. This resulted in discussion and debate among those present on the following lines – captured well by Peter Hardwick! As follows:

“Turnout once again was low for this part of the meeting and also nobody has volunteered to take over as secretary. This appears symptomatic of a malaise in the meeting and members’ commitment to it. The “old hats” amongst us had déjà vu and recalled similar declines in the past but after a rallying call and confirmation of the purposes of the meeting attendance would improve and posts be filled. However, with the expansion of Consultant numbers it may well be that colleagues are obtaining support and stimulation from locality groups thus making the overarching Wessex Group redundant. Certainly over the years the Wessex Group has

functioned as a “reasonable” peer group to provide support and cross-fertilisation, the most recent activity being the CAMHS Consensus document”.

The following 3 options were considered and voted for:

1. To continue with our meeting but no formal agenda would be prepared or sent in advance or the minutes taken.
2. To disband the whole group/meetings in future.
3. To agree a temporary solution, of rotational secretary and two colleagues i.e. Peter Hardwick offering to take the minutes for the next meeting on the 9 February 2005 and Denis O’Leary to take the minutes in June (29th) 2005, whilst we continue to seek a solution.

Outcome: Option 3 was agreed with majority votes. Peter Hardwick agreed to canvass colleagues’ views regarding the functioning and future evolution of the Group regarding the usefulness of our future meetings. At the same time Judith Dawkins has also agreed to help us organise a data base of names so the minutes could be sent electronically in future.

New Chair - Zam Bhatti

Action – Peter Hardwick to undertake this survey.

Action all – Contact Stephen Stanley’s Secretary at Poole General Hospital 01202 – 442029 to update her with your E-mail address to help Judith set up this data base as quickly as possible.

4. Feedback of the Tier 2/3 CAMHS, Consensus Statement

Peter informed us that this document has been redrafted, taking into account of the changes suggested by the group. However, it needs to be seen as an evolving document, for us to use it in our discussion with service planners/commissioners developing services etc.

Our thanks to Peter Hardwick, Stephen Stanley for their hard work and efforts in collating the group’s early discussions.

Action – Peter agreed to e-mail the document to all.

5. Regional Representative Report

Stephen gave the following feedback after his attendance at the recent Executive Meeting, September 2004 in Edinburgh.

1. **The Need, Demand and Capacity** in CAMHS-paper is in the final draft. This is to be launched on the 15 November 2004. Stephen reports it to be similar to our consensus statement and it covers topics such as roles in multi disciplinary team, referrals and the numbers required/needed in a team.
2. Discussion around **user/carers involvement** in faculty work.
3. **Priorities/strategy’s** for the next five years to be discussed again at the next Executive Meeting.

4. Other Issues discussed:
 - Roles/responsibility of the child Psychiatrist
 - Retention and training of staff
 - On call/24 hour cover for CAMHS
 - New medical training and its impact
 - Provision for 16 to 18 years old
 - PMHW can't meet all the gaps
 - Self harm guidance – NICE - implications
5. Stephen has agreed to be the faculty representative on the Royal College of Paediatric Child Health – Specialist Advisory Committee on Neuro-disability.
6. Royal College of Paediatrics has also drafted a paper regarding their views on dealing with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. - **Action** If anyone is interested contact Stephen directly for a copy.
7. Major problems accessing/availability CAMHS inpatient beds in all divisions.
8. Concerns regarding vacant recent regional representative post in three regions.
9. New academic secretary - Stephen Scott now.
10. New CPD institute, next meeting 21 January 2005 Action – Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology London.

Watch out for the next faculty newsletter for further details.

11. Next faculty residential meeting i.e. 21 to 23 September 2005, in Harrogate and the next one in September 2006 meeting possibly in Barcelona.

6. Regional Representative Meeting-September 2004

Stephen gave the following feedback:

A very brief meeting with an observer present.

As above concern regarding regional representative vacancies in some regions.

CAHMS provision for Looked After Children in private/fostering/homes. The consensus reached by the College seems to be that the local CAHMS will have the clinical responsibility where the child is residing and registered with the local G.P. This led to discussion/concerns around the practical difficulties and implication for our services. Advice being we should be actively informing our commissioners/service planners to take into account the boarding schools/therapeutic homes and other institutes in our patch which may place high demands on local CAHMS.

Action - All

Any further concerns/view please contact Sue Bailey at Faculty or Stephen Stanley locally.

Job Planning/New Consultant Contract

As part of new job planning, colleagues are having difficulty in getting their Trusts/P.C.T. to agree for them to work as college assessor or attend job interviews etc.

Expert Witness

Significant concern regarding the quality and range of reports that are being produced.

6. Problems/Issues around the Areas

West Dorset; Steve reported problems accessing Eating Disorder Services for 16-18 years old as the local A.M.H. colleagues though offer a general service to 16-18 year olds but there is no on call provision and no service for Eating Disorder in young people.

Judith Dawkins further highlighted the difficulties as the local P.C.T. not funding any 'out of area/county' assessment. The group offered the following suggestions:

For Dorset colleagues to contact David Goodban, their regional Developmental Worker's in help to resolving the above difficulties, I happen to have his E-mail address which is david.goodban@n.h.s.net if you need his address please contact me.

To write a letter to her P.C.T. highlighting the clinical risks and not being able to take on clinical responsibility if the situation remains unchanged.

To write to the local strategic Health Authority, i.e. the Children Mental Health lead to make them aware of the difficulties and the risks involved.

Shirley Gracias asked how to manage/deal with those children who are privately prescribed extremely high doses of Ritalin, for example 280 mg per day.

Suggestion offered were to discuss with General Medical Council and the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

Writing to the G.P with suggestions that an opinion is sought from Maudsley Hospital, London.

Another dilemma to the group was presented regarding professional responsibilities whilst working with children and families.

The group were clear we only deal and are responsible for children and young people. Any mental health issues relating to the family/parent needing further work ought to be referred on to or addressed by A.M.H. colleagues.

7. Development in the Area

Dennis O'Leary reported Leigh House putting a bid for developing a day service, six places for Hampshire only.

Also phasing in programme of “crisis resolution” services for Southampton area, which includes providing bank nurses to a ward. It is a three year plan, for more details approach Dennis directly please.

Avon and Wiltshire

Shirley informed the group she is organising a conference in April next year regarding “the development of infant mental health services” and hoping to invite commissioners and planners to raise awareness regarding this important issue.

Shirley has also been in dialogue with the College about setting up a special interest group regarding infant psychiatry. She will be needing our support to get the magic number to get the group up and running. She is also hoping to set up a local network for those who are interested in Infant Mental Health in the South West.

8. Any Other Business

1. Regarding new job descriptions, Stephen suggested we send it to our local regional college advisor - Hugh Stones for Hampshire and Adrian James for the South West - who will then assess and send it on to the local CAHMS regional rep who is Stephen Stanley. Stephen has put a plea that as he only works in the evenings and weekends in this role he would like to access our contact details i.e. home telephone numbers etc as he's happy to give out his mobile number if there are any queries etc to get the job description through quickly.
2. Stephen also made us aware that there is a new book out, titled “Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services”, an operational hand book by Greg Richardson and Ian Partridge which seems useful, if anyone is interested.
3. Dennis mentioned Marchwood Priory Hospital is opening up a new 8-12 bed unit in January 2005.
4. We formally thank Shirley for all her hard work and efforts as our Chairperson over the past two years. She has done a brilliant job. WELL DONE.
5. Request from Leigh House, please can we park in the overflow car park in future.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 9 February 2005

10.30– Arrive, coffee, order lunch.

11.00 start – 12.30 a.m.

***Venue: Marlborough House
Okus Road
Swindon***