

Cross-Party Group on Palliative Care

Wednesday 15 September, 12.30pm on ZOOM

Draft Unapproved Minute

Present

Bob Dorris MSP (Chair)	Fiona Kerr	Mona Vaghefian
Paul O'Kane MSP	Fiona Milne	Neil Harris
Siobhian Brown, MSP	Gerry Finnan	Nicky McManus
Aaron Sutherland	Gillian Sherwood	Pauline Ellison
Alex Close	Irene McKie	Penny Allan
Alison Seren	Jackie Stone	Rami Okasha
Annabel Howell	Jane Andrew	Rebecca Patterson
Bernadette Boyd	Jill Strathdee	Richard Meade
Bob Doris	Julie Tulloch	Rob Gowans
Bridget Johnston	Juliet Spiller	Sally Peterson
Caitlin Frickleton	Kate Henriksen	Sineaid Bradshaw
Carol Dew	Kirsty Boyd	Steinunn Boyce
Caroline Sime	Kirsty Smith	Susan Mallinder
Catriona Ross	Kirsty Tolmie	Susan Webster
Claire Walmsley	Liz Forbat	Thomas McCarthy
Clare Murphy	Mairi Macdonald	
Deborah Ritchie	Margaret Wilkie	
Elaine Colville	Marion Lang	
Emma Carduff	Mark Hazelwood	
	Mona Vaghefian	

Apologies

Jackie Baillie MSP	Leanne Connell	Donald Macaskill
Foyso! Choudhuru MSP	Amy Dalrymple	Linda McEnhill
Jacquelynne Calder	Jane Duncan Rogers,	Lucy Mulvagh
Sandra Campbell	Trisha Hatt	Iona Philp

Agenda item 1

Welcome, introduction and apologies

Bob Doris welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited MSP colleagues Siobhian Brown MSP and Paul O'Kane MSP to introduce themselves. Group members introduced themselves in the zoom chat. Apologies will be recorded in the minute.

Agenda item 2

Matters arising from previous session

Strategic Framework for Action – 5 years on

Bob Doris updated the group. At previous meetings the group has discussed the need for a new palliative care strategy for Scotland. The Scottish Government's Programme for Government published last week committed the government to developing and publishing a new national strategy for palliative and end of life care. This has been reiterated in a letter from Maree Todd to Bob Doris, which also commits to appointing a national clinical lead for palliative and end of life care. This letter has been circulated to the group.

Agenda item 3

Every Story's Ending: proposals to improve people's experiences of living with serious illness, dying and bereavement in Scotland.

Mark Hazelwood gave a presentation on a new report from the Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care - *Every Story's Ending*. The report explores what can be done to improve people's experiences of serious illness, dying and bereavement in Scotland. The report was produced with input from people working across the sector, and aims to inform the strategic development of palliative and end of life care in Scotland. (Slides attached)

The document can be downloaded here: [*Every Story's Ending: Proposals to improve people's experiences of living with serious illness, dying and bereavement in Scotland - FULL REPORT*](#)

A 10-page summary of the report can be downloaded here: [*Every Story's Ending: Proposals to improve people's experiences of living with serious illness, dying and bereavement in Scotland - SUMMARY VERSION*](#)

A short film is available providing an overview of *Every Story's Ending*: [*Every Story's Ending - Short Film*](#)

A recording of the launch event, including a short speech and Q&A with Maree Todd MSP, Minister for Public Health, Women's Health and Sport, is available here: [*recording of the launch of Every Story's Ending*](#).

A comment in the chat reminded attendees that St Margaret of Scotland Hospice produced a Palliative Care Bill with Rosanna Cunningham and Gil Paterson in 2007/2008 which was considered by the Health and Sport Committee and was asked to be withdrawn to allow time for the implementation of Living and Dying Well and suggested this should be reconsidered.

ACTION – Bob Doris will write a letter to Scottish Government drawing attention to the importance of *Every Story's Ending* in informing future strategy development and highlighting its proposal that there should be a human right to palliative care in the Scottish Human Right's Bill.

Agenda item 4

The Future of Hospice Care in Scotland: report by HUK and the Scottish Hospice Leadership Group

The group noted the publication of *The Future of Hospice Care in Scotland* by Hospice UK and the Scottish Hospice Leadership Group. The report can be viewed here: <https://www.hospiceuk.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/huk-future-of-hospice-care-in-scotland-final.pdf?sfvrsn=0>

Agenda item 5

Presentation and Discussion: National Care Service Consultation

Richard Meade, Head of Policy & Public Affairs Scotland at Marie Curie gave a presentation introducing the Scottish Government consultation on the National Care Service. (Slides attached.)

He posed the following questions as useful for discussion:

- How can support to social care be improved for terminally ill and dying people?
- How can palliative care services better support/integrate with social care?
- How can proposed Community Health and Social Care Boards work better than IJBs to commission and deliver integrated care across all settings for dying people?
- Should community or specialist-based provision of palliative care be managed on a national basis or remain local?
- Commissioning of services – what needs to change?
- How can social care better support informal carers?
- What about scrutiny and regulation?
- National Care Service should set training and development requirements for the social care workforce?
- Paying for care? How should people contribute or not?

Richard encouraged everyone to respond to the consultation – the closing date is 2 November 2021. The consultation can be viewed here: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-care-service-scotland-consultation/>

Discussion and comments followed, and issues raised included:

- How commissioning within this framework will fit with current part charitable funding of palliative care services.
- The need for co-production of needs at the community level to be preserved if there is a move towards national-level commissioning.

- The need for volunteers to be incorporated into any strategic process.
- The need for bereavement to feature in the national care service.
- The need to facilitate transitions between children's and adult's services.
- The need to ensure 'acute social care' service provision is an embedded part of the acute/emergency care strategic discussions and health strategy.
- The need for palliative and end of life care to be at the heart of IJB commissioning and understood by those responsible for commissioning.
- The need to engage with children's service to ensure that any changes make improvements and that services can respond fluidly to a family's needs.
- People approaching the eol is the biggest single group that the NCS will be providing care for.

The Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care is preparing a response to the consultation and will take account of the comments made by the group.

The Scottish Government is inviting the palliative care community to take part in a meeting on Wednesday 20th October, from 3pm-4pm, to contribute to the discussion around the National Care Service and the opportunities and risks from the perspective of palliative care services. Contact Laura Martin laura.martin2@gov.scot for further information and TEAMs meeting link.

Action – Bob Doris will discuss with the cross party group secretariat how the group can best help to facilitate the palliative care community's engagement with the consultation.

Agenda item 6

Any other competent business

No further business was discussed.

Agenda item 7

Future meetings

Future meeting dates will be circulated by email.