**NORTH UIST MEDICAL PRACTICE**

Patient Participation Group (PPG)

Minutes of meeting

Tuesday 1st October 2019 at 6:00pm

**PRESENT**

Dr Gerry Wheeler Dr Barbara Pilkington Mr John Maclean Mrs Helen Maclean Ms Peggy Macphee

**APOLOGIES**

Mrs Theona Morrison Mr Mustapha Hocine

**MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a correct record of the meeting held on 25.05.18, and it was agreed that the minutes would be posted on the North Uist Medical Practice website and notice board.

**DR DAVID GARDNER**

Dr Gardner will join the practice in November 2019.

**BAYHEAD CLINIC**

The Practice holds a surgery on the first Thursday of every month in the new school in Bayhead. It was noted that the uptake is very poor and on a few occasions no patients have booked in. It was suggested that the PPG spread the word that this service is available. Carinish and Berneray clinic is well attended.

**PHYSIOTHERAPY**

This service is provided once a week in Lochmaddy and patients appreciate this service although it was noted that this service might be reduced as a member of the team is going on maternity leave.

**INTEGRATION UPDATE**

* It was noted that dental services are likely to be centralised in the Uist and Barra Hospital.
* Pharmacy services – The practice have the use of a Pharmacist for one day a week, this is a valuable service for Patients.
* Community Nurses – Following the new GP contract it was decided that some treatment room services and immunisations are done by the Community Nurses. The Community Nurses take blood tests, INR tests and dressings. Also the Flu clinics are to be done by the Nurses from this year.
* Mental Health Services – There is to be a redesign of mental health services. The group was told that at the moment there are 2 CPNs covering the whole of the Southern Isles, including Barra. The Southern Isles has lost a CHAMs nurse.
* It has come to light that the respite care beds for the Southern Isles have been cut from 2 to 1 bed. This was done without consultation and is a major issue for families with relatives who need respite. ***Not changed.***

**Off-Island referrals/second opinion** – It looks like over time Patients have accepted the referral pattern.

**NEW ENDOSCOPY SUITE IN THE UIST AND BARRA HOSPITAL** – This was working very well. However, the washer broke down shortly after it opened so the service is still limited.

**Referrals** – Doctors are limited to where they can refer patients to. They are required to refer locally but they can make suggestions if they think the patient should be referred onto a more specialised Consultant.

**ALCOHOL SUPPORT WORKER**

Since the last meeting the alcohol misuse officer that was appointed for the Southern Isles has left the post. No new candidate has been put in place and this is putting pressure on the CPN service.

**GP PATIENT RECORDS**

Patients records are being shared now. The Practice has had one or two patients requesting to opt out.

The Practice informed the group of yet another data sharing group SPIRE. This is the 3rd data sharing group. There are posters and leaflets in the practice explaining this.

GDPR – leaflets and posters are up about this act that was introduced on 25.5.18. This basically gives patients rights to access their records for free. This is adding a great strain on GPs time and resources.

**PALLIATIVE CARE SUITE IN THE U&B HOSPITAL**

This is used to improve patient and relatives care.

**MACMILLAN SERVICES**

Patients can access a service where they can get an exercise programme for patients with cancer. The large amounts of monies raised in the Southern Isles go towards paying for furniture, holidays and even a second hand car for patients with cancer.

**MUSTAPHA HOCINE**

Mustapha Hocine has agreed to join the PPG.

**GP CONTRACT**

There have been big changes by the BMA and Government with regards to GP contracts. The new contract is not as good for rural GPs as it is for urban GPs. Some of the changes –

The vaccination programmes that were done by GPs are to be taken out of primary care and centralised. The Community Nurses are now doing all vaccines. This included flu vaccines. GPs are no longer able to offer opportunistic flu vaccs. Posters for open clinics are being put up in local shops, in the newsletter and also on the radio.

Mental Health – this is to fit in with redesign.

Pharmacy services – Every practice has access to pharmaceutical services. This is already happening in the Practice and the service is very good.

Over the next few years there will be more changes introduced.

**COMMUNITY NAVIGATOR SCHEME**

This service hopes to help patients access local services and activities to improve their health, wellbeing and independence. The coordinator for the Southern Isles is Isabel Morrison. Doctors can refer patients to this service.

**HOSPITAL TAXI SERVICE**

It was thought that this service is provided in Lewis. The group agreed that this should be brought up at a Local Community Council meeting as to why the service is not available in the Southern Isles.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

To be confirmed.