

Shropshire and mid Wales Cancer Forum

Notes from the meeting held 14th May 2013

Present: Sian Hallewell, Victoria Meyher, Linda Bentick, David Rees, Colin Steadman, Ian Barnes, David Whiting

Apologies: Eileen Anderson, Roger Fallon, Rob Gough, Richard Davis, Alan Morrison, Geoff, Marilyn Meade-Brown, Eileen Lewis

Relationship between SaTH and the Forum

Victoria acknowledged that SaTH had not had much, if any, presence at forum meetings over the previous 12 months. SaTH will commit to having representation at forum meetings to listen to any issues, participate and support. Victoria noted that it would probably be her attending initially. She would like details of future meetings so that there was a chance to organise the attendance of clinicians.

The rep will also do their best to respond to queries, but Victoria commented that she did not see this relationship as performance management of the service. SaTH would like to receive real-time feedback about patient experience, as they are currently developing a clinical services strategy.

Victoria felt that the forum should meet with the chair of the SaTH PIEP (patient information and experience panel) to share expertise. She will organise this meeting.

Action: Victoria

Colin raised an issue about timeliness of appointments and asked what could be done to improve this. Victoria acknowledged that this needed to improve. Also, the issue of SaTH having less doctors and CNS support in certain specialist areas was raised. Victoria explained that SaTH recognise that they need to do more strategic workforce planning for some areas, including ways of attracting quality staff and developing existing staff.

David R. asked whether SaTH were considering staff training for dealing with rare conditions. Victoria noted that there may be regional funding available for such development and welcomed any such suggestions from the forum.

Forum objectives

Sian is still receiving comments on the objectives and they are being updated in line with these. Sian also commented that she had found an excellent travel insurance leaflet.

Funding opportunities were being sought via Macmillan and Grantfinder, although it was noted that there is still a good amount of money in the forum coffers.

The draft paper "The case for user involvement" was discussed and it was agreed that such a document should be no more than one page. Sian agreed to revisit.

Action: Sian

Exercise project

A number of ideas were discussed that could increase uptake of the project by patients.

These included clothing for patients and staff, 'ask me about exercise' badges, and refreshing the current materials. Sian to investigate badges for staff and David to approach the project manager re updating posters via Macmillan

Action: David W, Sian