

EDZELL PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 7 SEPTEMBER 2021

Present: Dr Marc Jacobs, Dr Peter Smart (Chair), Linda Kirkham, Fiona O'Donnell, Anne Taylor, Morag Thomson and John Clarke

Apologies for absence from Linda Wison and Richard Price

	Item	Action
1	Welcome: The Chair welcomed everyone to this, the first meeting of the PPG in 18 months. It was agreed that it was more important for the Group to look forward rather than back and how what we have learned from COVID so far might advise our future agendas.	
2	Minutes of meeting of 3 March 2020 were approved. There were no matters arising.	
3	Membership, Chair and Secretary: Peter indicated his willingness to continue in the chair, although he would prefer a volunteer to act as secretary. PPG also considered ways of adding a few members to our number, from a range of age groups. It was agreed that the Chair would contact EVIS and the chair of the Inveresk Community Council to see whether there could be some interlocking of membership.	Peter
4	Impact of the pandemic on the working of Edzell Health Centre: we received a report from Marc of the arrangements that all health centres were required to implement during lockdown and earlier phases of the pandemic. The Centre is now open to patients, with continuing social distancing in the reception area, but there were revised triage arrangements which some patients found difficult to understand. In response to questions, Marc indicated that a flu vaccination clinic was planned for the over 70s and some other patients, for 16 September, with letters in the post. He also said that the Centre had not experienced any shortage of blood test tubes, of the kind recently reported in the media.	
5	Prescribing practice in Angus: Peter reported on a virtual meeting he had recently attended, convened to discuss across professions and with patients, potential improvements in prescribing practice between practices. Fiona and Linda commented adversely on the flyer publicising the event, that it was not clear what the process hoped to achieve. They agreed to prepare a draft communication	Linda K, Fiona

	that could be sent to Dr Nico Groenberg, who convened the meeting, in the hope of helping clarity of the continuing consultation.	
6	<p>Stroke rehabilitation services for Dundee and Angus: Peter reported on his recent attendance at a virtual meeting at which staff from NHS (Tayside) outlined proposals for changes to stroke rehabilitation services in Dundee and Angus, which would seek to provide more domiciliary and community rehabilitation services, reducing in-patient stays, but with the consequence that the current unit at Stracathro would be closed, with acute stroke services concentrated at Ninewells and in-patient rehab at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Dundee. Peter had circulated the initial consultation paper, and his response on behalf of the PPG after the meeting.</p> <p>There continued to be concern in the PPG at the proposed closure of the unit at Stracathro, the increased distances and time to visit Angus patients at the RVH, especially as there was so little public transport, and whether the promised domiciliary and community rehab services would actually be as active in rural Angus as in urban Dundee and Angus towns.</p> <p>Peter concluded by explaining that the original consultation paper, plus comments, was to be referred to the Dundee and Angus IJBs separately and that any further action would only be possible if both IJBs approved the proposals in principle. He would let PPG know if he hears any further news.</p>	Peter
7	Tayside PPG Network Meeting held on 1 December 2019. Peter had circulated the minutes of this meeting, at which the EPPG had not been represented. The notes included some examples of how a few PPGs in Tayside were proactively assisting practices.	
8	North East Angus Local Improvement Group meeting on 24 August 2021. Peter had circulated the agenda for this meeting for information. This was the first time EPPG had been represented on the NEALIG. The priority of the LIG is to promote health and well-being by supporting the strategic objectives of the Angus Health and Social Care Partnership. The main discussion at the meeting was, in fact, on the stroke rehab proposals (at 6 above), with similar concerns expressed by the representative of the Montrose PPG.	
9	Assistance to patients unfamiliar with the POD: Marc sought volunteers from PG who could assist patients to use the POD, at agreed times. It was agreed that members who could take a turn would meet for a briefing by the Practice Manager on 21 September and then to agree a roster.	Linda K, Fiona, all

10	Date of next meeting: agreed for Tuesday 7 December 2021, starting at 6.00pm and finishing not later than 7.30pm.	