

**MENTAL WELFARE COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND
MEETING OF THE BOARD
ON TUESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2016
IN CONFERENCE ROOM, THISTLE HOUSE, EDINBURGH
AT 10.30AM**

Present:

The Very Rev'd Dr Graham Forbes CBE
Mr Norman Dunning
Mrs Elaine Noad
Mr Paul Dumbleton
Mr Nigel Henderson
Dr Sivasankaran Sashidharan
Ms Lesley Smith
Mrs Safaa Baxter

In Attendance:

Mr Colin McKay, Chief Executive
Ms Alison McRae, Head of Corporate Services
Dr Gary Morrison, Executive Director (Medical)
Mrs Alison Thomson Executive Director (Nursing)
Mr Mike Diamond, Executive Director (Social Work)
Ms Kate Fearnley – Executive Director – Engagement and Participation

Secretary: Mrs Alice Wallace, Finance Manager

1. Welcome and Apologies

None.

2. Announcements

Mrs Thomson announced that she has been accepted on the NHS Improvement leader course and she intends to review local visit recommendations as part of this.

3. Minutes of Board meeting held on 8 November 2016

Approved subject to minor changes noted.

4. CEO Update

The Board vacancies close on 16th December. Mr McKay advised that there had been a lot of interest.

External engagement Mr McKay and Ms Fearnley gave feedback on the recent engagement forum for people with lived experience of mental health which was held in partnership with VoX.

Scottish Government mental health strategy Mr Mackay briefed the Board that he had given evidence to the Health and sport committee on the draft mental health strategy.

UN Convention on the Rights of Disabled People: Mr McKay advised the Board that the Scottish Government has issued its implementation plan

Scottish Government Dementia strategy 3. Dr Morrison advised that the new strategy is scheduled to be published early in the new year

5. Items for discussion and/or approval

5.1 *Financial Review*

Ms McRae invited questions. The Board noted the paper.

5.2 *Board meeting dates*

Noted subject to small date error for the April meeting Tuesday 24th April – should be 25th April. This has subsequently been rectified and dates reissued.

5.3 *Strategy*

Mr McKay introduced this item and gave a presentation to set the scene for the workshop session.

Mr McKay introduced the strategy session reminding the Board of financial constraints we face and that the Commission will reduce staff over the next three years. The Board needs to make strategic choices about where we apply our resources. This is not just a financial challenge but about defining our strategic vision. He gave the Board a short presentation on his thinking around the strategy.

Ms McRae presented the draft three year budget. The third year currently shows an overspend. Issues driving the potential budget over spend budget included:

- The statutory responsibility for DMP (second opinion) fees the numbers of which are outside the control of the Commission, driven by increasing use of mental health and incapacity legislation.
- Staff mix, although this can be managed by retirements and other staff turnover.

The Board instructed the executive team to discuss the issue of DMP costs with the Scottish Government. The Board agreed that DMP fees and associated costs should not exceed 11% of the Commission's budget.

The Board split into discussion groups to discuss the strategy, vision and priorities over the next three years. A draft plan from these discussions will be presented to the Board in January.

6. Items for Information

6.1 Medical Revalidation

As the responsible officer, Dr Morrison advised the Board that HIS require that the Board see the medical revalidation. HIS has commented that the Commission medical appraisals are done internally and suggested they should be done externally. Dr Morrison stated that the Commission has discussed this and thought that doing them externally could compromise our independence.

The Board considered the issue and agreed that medical appraisals be kept internal.

6.2 Audit Committee Minutes 14 November 2016

Noted.

7. Any Other Business

None.

8. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 24 January 2017