**MENTAL WELFARE COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND**

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING**

**HELD ON TUESDAY 28 AUGUST 2018**

**IN CONFERENCE ROOM, THISTLE HOUSE, EDINBURGH**

**AT 10.30 AM**

**Present:**

**The Very Rev’d Dr Graham Forbes CBE**

**Mr Paul Dumbleton**

**Ms Mary Twaddle**

**Mr Gordon Johnston**

**Mr Sandy Riddell**

**Dr David Hall**

**In attendance:**

**Mr Colin McKay, Chief Executive**

**Ms Alison McRae, Head of Corporate Services**

**Ms Alison Thomson, Executive Director, Nursing**

**Mr Mike Diamond, Executive Director, Social Work**

**Secretary: Mrs Elizabeth Halliday, Finance Manager**

**1. Welcome and Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cindy Mackie, Safaa Baxter, Kate Fearnley

 and Dr Gary Morrison

**2. Declaration of Interest**

None

**3. Announcements**

None

**4. Minutes of Board meeting held on 25 June 2018**

The minutes were approved

**5. CEO Update**

Since the last meeting a new Minister for Mental Health has been appointed and a meeting with the CEO and Chair is being arranged.

The Place of Safety (POS) report was published on 16 August and has received good media coverage and a very positive response from Police Scotland.

The Borderline Personality (BPD) reportis due to be published on 30 August.

The Commission’s Local Visits reports highlighting delays in the discharge of patients with learning disabilities were published, unfortunately on the day of the Ministerial reshuffle so they received little media attention. As there has been no improvement in discharge delays, this may be raised with Scottish Government.

Scottish Government have published responses to the consultation on Adults with Incapacity reform. Three working groups are being set up on Deprivation of Liberty, Support and Supervision of Guardians and Graded Guardianship which the Commission will be involved in.

The Scottish Government have announced that all suicides are to be reviewed. The Commission is about to write out to all NHS Boards to advise on the reporting of suicides and the CEO is attending a Ministerial Review Group meeting on 30th August

The Scottish Government have announced an investigation into NHS Tayside Mental Health Care. The Commission is not directly involved and will continue with scheduled visits as planned.

The CEO is leading a project group looking at criteria for detention in England and Wales as part of an overall review there of the Mental Health Act. A report is due to the main group by mid-September.

The Commission is still pushing for a Rights Group to oversee the Scottish Government’s Mental Health Strategy – See Me are hoping to run an event in the autumn.

Dates for End of Year meetings have been diarised. Board members (particularly new members) were invited to put their name forward if interested in attending any meeting.

Our guidance on seclusion is being updated and aconsultation event has been arranged for 14 November. Board members were again invited to indicate if interested in attending.

The Advisory committeeis due tomeet on 6 September and will be discussing rights in the Mental Health strategy and reviewing the Commission’s Engagement Strategy.

**6. Items for discussion and/or approval**

 ***6.1 Alcohol Related Brain Damage (ARBD) Report***

The draft guidance on ARBD was introduced to the Board by Moira Healy and the Board were invited to give their comments prior to publication. The Board commended the authors for the report which they viewed as extremely positive and a valuable resource.

***6.2 Recommendations and Outcomes from our Local Visits 2017***

This report will be published on our website and contains largely consistent recommendations, usually favourably received. The Board were assured that outstanding recommendations from previous years are also followed up with escalation procedures implemented where appropriate.

***6.3 Annual Report***

The Board were invited to comment on the proposed content of this year’s Annual Report. General comments were that the Commission is good at reporting and quantifying its achievements during the year but could perhaps be better at including comment on its influence and impact. The Board felt that the Commission has an important positive role as an independent body which should be emphasised in the report.

***6.4 Business Plan Update***

The Board were content with the proposed amendments to the 18/19 Business Plan given the imminent staffing and accommodation changes.

***6.5 Budget Review***

 *6.5(i) July 2018 Financial Review*

 *6.5(ii) MWC Core Budget Report*

The Board were content to approve both reports and were advised that the current underspend arising from the unfilled vacancy would be used to help fund the accommodation project.

***6.6 Accommodation Update***

Capital funding has been awarded for the proposed Accommodation Project but it must be utilised in the current financial year. The project will therefore now commence in earnest to ensure completion before 31st March 2019.

 ***6.7 Board, AR&IG and Advisory Committee meeting Dates 2019/20***

The dates were approved subject to a possible change of venue depending on accommodation project progress.

 ***7.* Items for Information**

***7.1 Highlights – AWI Monitoring***

Mike Diamond presented the main findings from this year’s monitoring activities to the Board. The report will be published on our website shortly.

***7.2 Carers and Confidentiality Good Practice Guide***

Some substantial changes have been made to this guidance which the Board received very positively, subject to a minor amendment to the document conclusion.

**8. Any Other Business**

None

**9. Date of next meeting** – **Tuesday 30 October 2018**