

Forest of Dean Health Forum

Via Zoom

Tuesday 7th December 7.00pm

Present: Albert Weager - Chair

Nick Penny – FVAF

Di Martin – Committee

Albert Weager - Chair

Jim Spiers – Treasurer

Terry Hale – Glos CC

Mary Thurston

Linda Vaughan – Secretary

Doug Battersby

Jim Rollinson - GOPA

John Thurston

Jackie Jenkins GHC

Claire Smeeth – Crossroads Care

Julie Mackie

Hilary Bowen

Sylvia Francis – Committee

Marcia Gallagher – GHCT NED, Chair Crossroads FOD

Apologies: Caroline Smith, Angela Potter, Anwen Thomas, Deborah Vaughan, Lynn Teague

Speaker: - Clinical Pharmacist Forest of Dean PCN

The role of the clinical pharmacy within surgeries and other medicines issues.

Dr Braybrook explained that she has had over 30 years' experience in Hospital and Primary Care and is currently working with the Primary Care Network with the Focus on System and Patient Outcomes. They work closely with the Vaccine Centre in Cinderford and the Respiratory Hub and are developing new ways of working. There are 10/11 dispensing practices and 11 community pharmacies. In 2020 we had Social prescribers and a lead pharmacist. In 2021 there were new posts for Pharmacy Technicians, a Pharmacist, Care Coordinator and Project Manager. The Plans for 2022 include dieticians, more pharmacists and technicians.

The Primary Care Network team support vaccination centres with vaccine storage, vaccinations, administration and information.

Social prescribing provides a range of non-clinical services to assess and support people with physical activities, learning new skills, Artlift, making new friends, finding employment and managing pain.

The use of medicines should support best medicines outcomes, patient choice and easy, safe ordering of medicines. The NHS needs a Self-care agenda, medicine review, in particular for polypharmacy (multiple medicines) and Care Homes, cost effective prescribing and joint working between hospitals, GP practices and pharmacies.

Pharmacists. To become a pharmacist you do a 4yr degree course and you need to be clinically trained to deal with complex patients, chronic disease management and will eventually prescribe in key medicines areas.

Pharmacy technicians. 2yr university course or equivalent. There is less clinical training but you need to fix medicines systems, carry out medicines reconciliation and routine disease management.

The medicines team will support practices if medicines are involved by: All practices having a PCN technician to give system support, to align systems for patients and community pharmacies. Local practices pharmacists – 2 in Coleford, 2 in Cinderford. Remote pharmacists – Lydney and Yorkley x 3, Mitcheldean and Drybrook. CCG pharmacist- Newnham.

The best way to order medicines easily and safely, is online and via NHS. The least safe way is the telephone.

You will need to register for online services using the practice website or NHS app. Please contact your surgery for details.

Ordering systems need to have safer and fewer systems, the ability to order earlier and for batch prescribing for limited medicines. There needs to be an annual review and better communication in order to discuss and create an individual plan for patients.

There should be less online email ordering, less distance pharmacies, phone orders, mixed systems and misunderstandings.

There are plans for a Dietician to prevent problems and support the management of Coeliac disease, Diabetes, Hypertension by healthy eating, weight management, disease management and provide early intervention.

There was a general discussion about the problems encountered including medication waste, repeat prescription and reviews, the apparent lack of communication about the changes that are happening in the PCN.

The role of the Clinical Pharmacist is becoming more important and relevant and it is hoped will be rolled out to all practices in the near future.

Correction: Marcia Gallagher stated that she would like Saran to work with Crossroads FOD. Contact details to be sent to Saran (Sent 10.12.2021).

The slides to accompany the talk are sent as an attachment.

Chair's Report

Letter to GPs re access and appointments.

Albert informed the meeting that the Forum had written to the CCG about the reported problems patients were having with getting a timely GP appointment or telephone consultation. There appears to be quite a wide variation between practices with some being easier to reach than others. We had a comprehensive reply from Dr Weiss. In the meantime the Coleford Area Partnership invited the representatives from the Forum to attend a meeting about the same issues. It was suggested that practices should have a common structure to work to so that there are fewer inconsistencies, acknowledging that resources and staff shortages are a long term problem.

Albert told us about the Ageing Well Partnership and his view that the boards should have a “bottom up” approach, listening to people who know.

FVAF AGM - FVAF were to be congratulated for a very successful year showing that it is a very resilient organisation and this is illustrated by the formation of the Forest

Connectors which brings together the many organisations who are contributing to the needs of the Forest communities.

It was noted that there is a shortage of midwives.
The wastage of blood supplies was a concern.

The chair's report is attached.

Financial Report - The Forum has a balance of £1564.30. Copy attached.

Any other Business - There was a discussion about updating our website and whether we do in fact need one. The expertise and work involved in its maintenance is a problem.

The meeting was asked to let the Forum know if there are any topics or speakers we should invite in 2022. We do have plans to look at the diabetic service, social prescribing and, hopefully, the ambulance service, all of which have challenges and plans for the future.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 1st February via Zoom

Chair's Report to the Forest Health Forum 071221

Best wishes to everyone for a happy and safe festive season.

All meetings (virtual) were either Microsoft Teams or Zoom

There have been two meetings of the Ageing Well Programme Board.

There was a discussion on the formation of a Partnership Board for the 65+ years to complement other countywide ones which are bringing people together around health and social care, providing opportunities for people to have a voice in service development.

My own contribution was that these boards should reflect a bottom up approach, listening to people who 'know'. These boards are anticipated to be a driving force within the ICS (integrated Care System). It was suggested that there should be a common set of principles for them and a framework for co-production.

Urgent community response teams for falls and delirium are planned for 2022. These will, initially, commence (January) in Cheltenham and Gloucester.

I attended the FVAF AGM and heard that it had been a very successful year and that it had led a collaborative process to deliver food packages to vulnerable schoolchildren over the summer holidays. Future such collaborations planned.

The message from CEO, Chris Brown, was FVAF aimed to become a resilient organisation. This has been illustrated by the establishment of Forest Connectors which attracts a diverse membership to its virtual meetings.

I have attended two Connectors meetings, which feature important, relevant updates and complementary breakout discussion groups. Discussions have included keeping warm and well, help with energy costs, people and the environment, difficulties for

the young visually or higher education. A centre for those with being considered, with there.

Diabetes and Care Network were

I have attended a where possible

were mentioned for people having long term conditions(LTCs). How can this be achieved. Plans to trial with a small, selected cohort in early 2022.

The ILP is deciding which area of interest to support in the first part of 2022, substance abuse, diabetes or Ageing Well.

My expressed view was that whichever was selected an outcomes based approach will be the most effective. There was call for a multi- disciplined way of working.



impaired seeking employment possible provision of a respite learning disabilities is also some collaboration possible

concerns around the Primary also aired.

meeting of the Forest ILP warmth and well prescriptions

**Monthly Financial Report
November 2021. (24th. October – 23rd. November)**

**Meeting Date. 7th. December 2021
By Zoom due to Coronavirus**

Opening Balance. £1564:30p.

Income.

Outgoing.

Closing Balance. £1564:30p.

James E.Spiers

Treasurer