



SMP HEALTH LINKS FORUM

MONDAY 20TH FEBRUARY, EDINBURGH CITY CHAMBERS, HIGH STREET, EH1 1YJ,

4.30-7PM

THE MANDELA ROOM

Summary Minutes

ATTENDEES:

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David Hope-Jones	david@scotland-malawipartnership.org	Scotland Malawi Partnership

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Saul Kornik (<i>via Skype</i>)	saulk@ahp.org.za	Africa Health Placements
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APOLOGIES:

Carol Carson, VSO Volunteer
 Catriona Connolly, Ninewell Hospital
 Murray Duncanson, Sue Ryder

ITEM ONE: INFORMATION ON THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT'S NEW INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Magnus Maharg, from the Scottish Government's International Development team, offered an overview on the Government's new International Development policy and how this might shape support for health projects in Malawi in future funding rounds.

[Click here to download the policy >>](#)

[Click here to download presentation slides >>](#)

ITEM TWO: AN UPDATE ON THE SCOTTISH GLOBAL HEALTH COLLABORATIVE

David opened the discussion on the Scottish Global Health Collaborative (SGHC) explaining that the issue of support for health professionals volunteering overseas had been raised in the health forum for a number of years. The SMP was delighted to see the issue now taken forward under the leaderships of Scotland's Chief Medical Officer, with support from all NHS Scotland Boards and the Scottish Government.

The SGHC is an inclusive multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral group established to work with the Scottish Government, and partners in the wider health community (including NHS Boards, royal colleges, third sector and academic institutions), to promote effective and coordinated health sector involvement in global health. Chaired by the Scotland's Chief Medical Officer, the SGHC aims to work to the following principles:

- Emphasis on the mutual benefit to Scotland and the host country.
- No detriment to the workforce of the NHSScotland
- Work based on the need identified by the host country.
- Work through partnerships.
- Sharing of information, knowledge, experience and opportunities.
- Work focussed on geographical and technical areas that maximise the impact.
- Work within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals 3 (Health) and 17 (Partnership).
- Linkages with other Devolved Administrations and NHS England will be maintained for mutual benefit

All Scottish organisations actively involved in Global Health are invited to join the SGHC Website.

The SGHC has set itself three tasks for its first year of operation – each of these presents opportunities for SMP members:

(1) Mapping all Scotland's existing global health activities:

Laura Macpherson from THET explain the work she's undertaken to coordinate and support Scotland's Global Health work, by mapping the scale of such activities. [THET](#) is managing online survey collecting information on all Scotland's health-related international development work.

If you haven't already fed in to the survey please **either complete www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/87PHX5S if you work in NHSScotland or academia, or www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CFPM885 if work within an NGOs or another organisation.**

[Click here to view Laura's initial analysis >>](#)

(2) Developing recommendations for an NHS Scotland Global Health Framework:

Stuart Fergusson a Clinical Leadership Fellow from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in Glasgow is leading the work developing recommendation for an NHS Scotland Global Health Framework.

[Click here to download Stuart's presentation >>](#)

(3) Building SGHC's visibility:

The SMP is involved in helping improve the SGHC's communications by developing a basic website and social media presence.

[Click here to visit the SGHC website, including information on how to join >>](#)

ITEM THREE: INFORMATION ON AFRICA HEALTH PLACEMENTS AND PLANS TO DEVELOP WORK IN MALAWI

Saul Kornik, Chief Executive Officer of Africa Health Placements joined the meeting via Skype. He outlined the work of AHP to support health systems through, among other things, recruiting health workers in South Africa, and their hope to develop links and opportunities for placements in Malawi in the near future. Dr Andrew Pearson, who volunteered with AHP in South Africa, was at the meeting and shared about the mutual benefit of the experience to the patients, South Africa health care staff and himself.

[Click here to download the Africa Health Placement presentation >>](#)

ITEM FOUR: INTRODUCTION TO THE "GLASGOW EFFECT" PROJECT, GLASGOW UNIVERSITY

Paul Garside, Iain McInnes and Andy Waters from Glasgow University outlined the Scottish Government funded project between the university and the College of Medicine to support clinical research into inflammatory and cardiac diseases in Malawi and Glasgow communities. The £2 million project follows an increase in the number of Malawians with non-communicable diseases such as cardiac disease, hypertension and arthritis. As a joint funded venture, the project has also secured £500,000 from the World Bank and will benefit from Malawi Liverpool Wellcome Centre's continuing link with the College of Medicine.

[Click here to download the University of Glasgow presentation >>](#)

ITEM FIVE: LESSONS LEARNT FROM NHS Lothian AND EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY CERVICAL SCREENING PROJECT

Heather Cubie and Christine Campbell from NHS Lothian/University of Edinburgh shared some of the key lessons learnt from their three-year Scottish Government-funded project on cervical cancer screening and treatment in Malawi.

The screening programme has won the support of Malawi's First Lady and Health Minister, and there is now a push to fund its roll-out to 140 clinics nationwide. From 2013 to 2016 it screened 18,000 women - an uptake rate of around 20 per cent. The cancer is detected using acetic acid to turn abnormal cells white. Around six per cent of patients were found have an abnormality that can be treated with the thermo-coagulation and - unlike in the UK - detection and treatment are all carried out in the same day.

[Click here to download the NHS Lothian/University of Edinburgh presentation >>](#)

ITEM SIX: AN UPDATE ON HEALTH PRIORITIES AND ACTIVITIES FOLLOWING THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT'S MALAWIAN SYMPOSIUM

On the 10th February 2017 the Malawi Scotland Partnership organised the annual Symposium for Scottish Government-funded project leads in Malawi.

[Click here for the notes from the Health Strand discussions >>](#)

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SMP HEALTH LINKS FORUM WILL BE IN MAY 2017.
FURTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW.**