

CARE AND REPAIR SCOTLAND
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 21st SEPTEMBER 2018
AT EDINTRAIN, 16 ST MARY'S STREET, EDINBURGH EH1 1SU

Present: Gerry Power, The Alliance
Gerry Begg, ALACHO
Stewart Wilson, Region 1
Elizabeth Eadie, Region 4

Robert Thomson, National Director

1. Welcome and Apologies

Robert explained that Blair has been on long term sick leave. The Board members asked him to send their best wishes to Blair. Stewart Wilson joined the meeting by video link as his plane was cancelled due to weather conditions. Angela and Andy sent their apologies.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of Previous Meetings

It was agreed that Robert would ask Stewart and Angela to approve the minutes by email.

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Taylor has been making good progress with the video since the last meeting and has visited Fife, Lochaber and Edinburgh.

ICO has confirmed that it will accept sector requests for assistance with GDPR issues if they are received from England, Wales and Scotland.

5. Regional Reports

Region 4 held a meeting on 24 August and Region 2 met on 18th September. Region 3 is scheduled to meet on 24th September. Region 4 has agreed advance meetings but the next one is in November. At Region 2 meeting Angus raised the issue of their service being divided up and tendered in parts. It was agreed that in many areas housing is still on the margins of integration discussion.

Action: Gerry B will speak to ALACHO representative for Angus and Gerry B will speak to IJB

6. National Director's Report

The Board noted the detailed report. The revised Scottish Government Age Home and Community policy document was discussed and it was agreed that it is a lightweight document compared to the original. The Board also discussed the disconnect between SG policy and local authority practice and so, despite the support for Care and Repair at Government level, in practice, the funding of services is left to local discretion and decision making.

Robert advised that Highland Council funded offices have requested that a Highland version of the Quality Mark is introduced. The Board rejected this request and it was noted that many of the Highland offices have not yet achieved the existing standard.

Solon has offered to do a national deal for offices buying their products. It was noted that delivery costs can be expensive and that there may be procurement implications.

There was discussion about the Equity Release pilot and the Board are concerned about the serious delays being caused by the SG appointed solicitors, Anderson Strathearn. Robert advised that a review of the pilot is scheduled for November and the officers have been building an evidence base to highlight the problems caused by AS.

The Board is happy in principle with the idea of national collaboration with Fire and Rescue provided there is no duplication of service and that we can agree an SLA.

Action: Robert to check on the delivery costs and procurement implications of a deal with Solon

7. Approval of Annual Accounts

The accounts for 2017/18 were approved. Gerry P signed them at the meeting.

Action: Robert to meet with Angela on 24th and after she has signed will make arrangements for sending to Companies House and OSCR.

8. Financial Statement

The financial statement to 17th September was noted.

9. Digital Inclusion Pilot

The Pilot has come to an end and Ann Porter is now employed by North Ayrshire Council. SG Digital Team has been in touch to arrange a meeting in October to discuss options for the future.

Action: Robert to attend meeting on 2 October with Scottish Government to discuss final report and will advise Board of any outcomes.

10. Conference

Robert advised that as it was the 30th Anniversary of Care and Repair in Scotland that Blair has suggested he should give the opening address. Robert asked the Board members what he should include in his speech, which would concentrate of the success of Care and Repair. The Board asked him to stress the disconnect between care for the person and care for the home. The importance of the preventative agenda is being lost. The 2006 Concordat does not provide joined up services in Scotland and gives too much power to local decision makers. There is a desire for a review of the way Care and Repair is funded and interest amongst offices and Councils to return to the previous method of a ring-fenced allocation for Care and Repair.

It was agreed that we should make provision for the possibility that Blair will be unable to attend the conference.

Robert explained the structure of the OTEC conference in England and of the possibility to replicate the model in Scotland.

Action: Robert to liaise with Board members about dividing the Chair's responsibilities. Robert to have further discussions with OTEC and report back.

11. A.O.C.B.

It was noted that in December our current business plan will need to be reviewed and redrafted. It was agreed that we could meet earlier at the December meeting and use time to discuss a new plan.

Action: Robert to send existing BP with draft minutes. Robert to arrange a facilitator for the meeting in December.

12. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Friday 14th December 2018 in Glasgow.