

MEETING OF THE CONSUMER COUNCIL

HELD ON 17 FEBRUARY 2022

12PM, BOARDROOM, SCDHB



#### PRESENT

Bridget Duff (Chair), Jill Merritt (Deputy Chair), Gareth Ford, Andrew Humphrey, Katrina van den Broeke (via Zoom), Dominique Enright, (via Zoom)

#### IN ATTENDANCE

Robbie Moginie, Director Organisational Capability and Safety

#### 1. KARAKIA & WELCOME

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### 2. APOLOGIES

Jason Power, CEO, Julie Patterson, Dianne Black

#### 3. INTEREST REGISTER

Dominique advised the SCDHB that her mother works as a Community Midwife

#### 4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 18 NOVEMBER 2021

It was confirmed and agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2021 as a true and correct record.

Moved/seconded Jill/Andrew

#### 5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Under general business

#### 6. CORRESPONDENCE

#### **Inwards**

Email from Neil Kiddey – thanks for lovely send off and good luck to everyone for the future

#### **Outwards**

Email from HQSC – excellent regular update from John Whaanga (Deputy Director-General Maori Health). Bridget has been passing this on to Dominique when received but was wondering if others would also like to receive it as it seems to be a concise, sensible summation of the facts with less spin! Members can choose to subscribe **ACTION: Bridget to forward next edition and members can choose to subscribe if they wish**

Email to Kylie Douglas – The Board made the following decision regarding the vaccination policy:

- The Board adopts the vaccine policy for the Maori Health Advisory Committee, Clinical Board and **Consumer Council** that all members are required to be COVID-19 vaccinated in line with current health orders. **Have received no response from Kylie to date**

## 7. SCDHB REPORT

A verbal report was provided from Robbie Moginie.

SCDHB Covid modelling predicts a redeployment of Clinical and Nursing assets is likely to be required during the next few months. All resources moving to the “here and now”.

Currently experiencing a very high staff turnover. No replacement staff available from overseas.

Staffing shortages in HR, IT, Finance, Planning and Funding as well as front line staff.

Concerns exist about PPE supply.

A successful outreach campaign to our Maori, Pasifika and Immigration communities has attracted 20+ applicants for Support Services roles.

Lifts in the Gardens Block are currently being repaired/replaced.

Facilities Upgrade will continue on while still able to.

Challenges abound for the management of the DHB transition in July. Goal is to do things once, and do them right.

Kara is an EA (Executive Assistant) resource available for Consumer Council meetings, bookings etc.

Use of ZOOM meetings may be a way forward for projects. **ACTION: Gareth and Katrina to consult on this.**

## 8. QSM UPDATE

Barb Gilchrist has resigned. An offer of employment has been made and Robbie is awaiting the acceptance of this offer.

## 9. CONSUMER COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTS

**Katrina-** Federal and State policy decisions in Australia has led to Katrina describing Australia’s Residential Aged Care as “the most dangerous place to be” and “absolutely dire”.

Over Christmas/ New Year, testing systems were overloaded. No PCR or Rapid Antigen Tests (RAT) available. No restrictions. The contact tracing system overwhelmed. Contributed to huge increases in cases. Testing is available now, but PCR supplemented with RAT tests to manage volume.

Residential Aged Care is the responsibility of the Federal Government. Have only just started requiring 3<sup>rd</sup> booster for staff. Many aged care residents are not triple vaccinated, even though they would have been the first eligible people. High rates of transmission of Covid by staff, leading to significant decreases in levels of care (feeding, medicating and ensuring hydration) due to isolation of sick staff and patients.

People dying alone, and without dignity.

Katrina reinforced her view that we must learn from Australia and has a strong message for us: “Thank you to the healthcare workforce for minimising the effect of Covid on people” . The evidence from thousands of deaths indicates that the 3<sup>rd</sup> booster does give extra protection. Keep people OUT of Aged Care facilities during the worst of this outbreak, if you can”. Keep an eye on people living alone. Check daily on people who have tested positive for Covid.

Robbie would like Katrina to record her story. **ACTION: Bridget to forward Katrina's details to Robbie**

Katrina finished with her observation that Covid has a seemingly random effect on people, that it's not just a flu. Young and healthy people are among those most strongly affected by Covid.

**Andrew** – Shared Goals of Care Project has stalled with the resignation of Sarah Leech. We look forward to restarting the project post Covid.

Medical Ward External Review feedback was mainly operational e.g. telephone answering out of hours, patient transfers could be more efficient, monitoring of CPD and Annual Leave. Discussion regarding Telehealth indicated a lack of awareness by CDHB of Internet coverage in our district, and potential issues with the ageing SC population's use of technology.

**Jill** – PGY1 & 2 - 7 Junior Doctors for the review panel. Process delayed by Covid and workloads.

**Gareth** – Health Literacy project progress has slowed right down. The Draft has been returned, with the Te Reo completed. PowerPoint being set up, and voiceovers to be recorded with Joy.

The groundwork has been done. Roll out may be helped by ZOOM meetings.

**Bridget** – email from Transition Unit representative regarding possible future structure. NZ CC Chairs Zoom meetings continue monthly. Good support and feedback.

## **10. General Business**

Concerns have been raised with Gareth regarding safe crossing of the road between Kensington and the main Hospital site. We support any efforts to establish a pedestrian crossing between the sites.

COVID BOOSTERS – the DHB requires all CC Members to have these as part of the Govt. Mandate.

Jill Merritt – is to replace Joy Sylvia as Deputy Chair of the Consumer Council

Bridget to liaise with Kara Hayes to set new meeting dates

Karakia to close.

Meeting closed 1.30 pm