

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR WALES

CROSS PARTY GROUP ON CROSS BORDER ISSUES

Minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2017 at the Pierhead Building, National Assembly for Wales

Present:

Russell George AM (Chair)
John Pockett (Secretary)
Matthew O'Grady – Stroke Assoc
Ruth Mitchell – Royal Pharmaceutical Society
Clare Lines – Powys Health Board
Greg Chambers – Powys Health Board
Lowri Griffiths – Macmillan Cancer Support
Daran Hill – Positif
Russell Goodway – Community Pharmacy Wales
Nesta Lloyd Jones – Welsh NHS Confederation
Alex Williams – Office of Russell George AM
Ioan Bellin – Office of Simon Thomas AM
Paul Harding – Marie Curie
Victoria Yeates – Royal College of Psychiatry Wales

Apologies:

Huw Irrance-Davies AM
Sian Tucker – Multiple Sclerosis Society Cymru
Adrian Osborne – Powys Health Board

RG welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the aims of the group. Everyone present was invited to introduce themselves.

Two presentations were made to the group Nesta Lloyd Jones on behalf of the Welsh NHS Confederation and Russell Goodway on behalf of Community Pharmacy Wales. Copies of both presentations are attached with, and form part of these minutes.

Round table discussions followed each presentation. These concentrated on the problems that differing health policies in Wales and England cause to patients and professionals, often by perception and expectation rather than actual reality, and the need to make the public aware of these. RGe highlighted the media issue which is driven by the UK/London based media and focuses on health policies/problems/developments in England, with patients and public in Wales not appreciating the differences. Live examples of these were mentioned, but caution is needed to avoid exaggeration of problems.

Action point: There is a need for more joint committees/working groups between Cardiff Bay and Westminster and more joined up thinking between the two administrations.

Action point: There is a need to ensure that organisations and bodies involved in health provision and care in Wales are able to contribute to relevant consultations in England, especially where cross border anomalies arise.

Action point: Encourage Welsh Government to have common standards across Wales, but with due regard to local needs.

The next meeting will be held on 11 July, venue to be announced, when agriculture will be the focus.