Lochaber Health & Social Care Redesign Stakeholders Group

Thursday, 20th April 2023 at 2pm – 3pm Via MS Teams



Present:	Louise Bussell, Chief Officer Community Services, NHS Highland
	Alan Wilson, Director of Estates, Facilities and Capital Planning, NHS Highland
	Patricia Jordan, Secretary, Fort William Inverlochy & Torlundy Community Council
	John Gillespie, Chair, Caol Community Council
	David Sedgwick, Belford Appreciation Group representative
	Brian Murphy, Chair of the Transport and Access Sub-Group
	Heather Cameron, Senior Project Manager, NHS Highland
	Ruth Fry, Head of Communications and Engagement
	Lyn Kilpatrick, Voluntary Action Lochaber
	David McCarthur, Senior Nurse Corporate Services
	Ian Langley, Community Councillor, Spean Bridge, Roy Bridge and Achnacarry Community Council
	Rebecca Weir, GP Partner, Glen Mor Medical Practice
	Robert Cargill, Deputy Medical Director (Acute)
	Louise White, Urram
	Mark Nicolson, Divisional Accountant, NHS Highland
	Willem Nel, Rural Emergency Physician
	Dot Ferguson, Senior Ward Manager
	Emma Tayler, Assistant Wards Manager
	Iain Macniven, Chair Arisaig & District Community Council
	Josie Thomson, Clinical Advisor, Estates Team, NHS Highland
	Serena Bannister, Project Officer
	Jo Cowan, Highland Senior Citizens Network and Age Scotland
	John Hutchison, Chair, Kilmallie Community Council
	Neil Simpson, Service Planning Analyst
	Michael Foxley, University of Highlands & Islands
	Martin Culbertson, Project Manager, The Highland Council
	Carmen Morrison, NHS Healthcare Improvement Scotland
	David Campbell, eHealth Facilitator
	Gordon Bell (on behalf of Kate Forbes)
Apologies:	Stuart MacPherson, Head of Strategic Projects, LSWR, Highlands & Islands Enterprise
	Helen Fairlie, Chair, Glencoe and Glen Etive Community Council
	Denise Anderson, Sunart Community Council representative
Minutes:	Anna Chisholm, PA/Meeting Administrator, Corporate Services

1. Welcome and apologies

Louise Bussell welcomed everyone to the meeting and the above apologies were noted.

Louise advised of the announcement that Balfour Beatty have been appointed as the Principal Supply Chain Partner.

2. Minutes from previous meeting of 16th March 2023 and matters arising:

It was agreed the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting.

3. Crosscheck Workshop Tuesday, 18th April – Louise Bussell / Alan Wilson

Louise confirmed the positivity and enthusiasm expressed at crosscheck workshop from presenters and clinicians in the room. The workshop included visitor experience at the hospital, emergency department, maternity, theatres, inpatient, outpatients and laboratories. A review of what the existing services look like and what is required for the future. A stakeholder workshop will take place in early June to enable the teams to discuss the proposals with the community.

Alan confirmed of the good starting point for Balfour Beatty, PSCP taking this project forward.

John Hutchison and Patricia Jordan were present at the workshop as representatives. John said of the good process of the clinicians presenting the proposals and for questions to be taken. However, feedback has been received from the staff of a reluctance to express their views on the day.

Staff also expressed concerns at the workshop regarding the suggestion that a high dependency unit would not be included in the new hospital. In option 2 of the IA the core RGH service included an HDU with 3 and 4 being the favoured options, option 4 the preferred one, clarification is required.

John also confirmed, on behalf of the Lochaber Stakeholders group, the majority of the staff concerns were regarding the current services being provided, particularly for maternity and how this interacts with X-ray in performing ultrasounds. Clarification is required on the omission of an MRI scanner and whether the second theatre is a fully scoped theatre. John stated the development of these services is paramount in the new hospital. John also confirmed of the disappointment in the intensive rehab presentation where it was indicated there would not be a specific unit and an upscaling of existing nurses to provide the required care.

Louise confirmed there will be a provision for two theatres, one will be routinely used with the other having a flexible use so elective surgery will not be cancelled due to emergency surgery. It was confirmed of a designated rehab unit with 8-10 beds with nurses developed to focus on rehabilitation working closely with AHP colleagues in providing the necessary care. This will be separate to acute ward and the day case space.

Robert Cargill confirmed rather than an HDU it will be an enhanced care unit and will circulate the joint paper from the UK Society of Acute Medicine and UK Intensive Care Society who have described the future of the enhanced care unit and people who would go through this unit.

Action: Robert Cargill will circulate the joint paper from the UK Society of Acute Medicine and UK Intensive Care Society – The Enhanced Care Units Guidance on development and implementation within acute medicine to the group.

Louise and Alan advised that the crosscheck workshop on 18th April was not the end plan but a step in the process and confirmed a follow up stakeholder event is planned for early June. Group members expressed concern that this was too far away however it was confirmed time is needed to ensure the right people were able to attend.

There will now be a review of the clinicians' presentations and the further work required to develop the services in the coming weeks. An information pack which will be circulated before the stakeholder workshop in early June or as soon as can be arranged.

Action: Stakeholder event date to be confirmed.

4. Helicopter Landing Site – Dot Ferguson

It was confirmed a working group has been meeting for more than 12 years with NHS Highland, Highland Council, Ambulance Service, Police Scotland, Highlands & Islands Enterprise, Marine & Coastguard Agency, Bristol, Babock and Lochaber Mountain Rescue to obtain a permanent helicopter landing site in Fort William to replace the temporary one at Carrs Corner which services both Search and Rescue and Helimed. A proposal has been made to the owners of Carrs Corner which has been declined. It was also confirmed there is no one partner with the statutory duty to provide a landing site however this will be determined when the site is identified.

The previous sites which were investigated were Blar Mor, a zoned site on the Industrial Estate, which is in private ownership, the site adjacent to Mountain Rescue Centre, Glen Nevis, land to the rear of Newco, Ben Nevis Industrial Estate and a variety of council owner sites. Air Ambulance have reviewed the sites carefully and the preferred option is the one at the back of the hospital site which allows easy access. This was confirmed by CAAI in a study and also by Bristol who used their own pilots. There are ongoing discussions on whether a helicopter site will be required and will meet the required Cat 1264 CAAI regulations and the provision for the future aircraft which may come on board.

In 2021 a feasibility study was undertaken at Blar Mor and concluded there was potential to relocate a helipad suitable for performance 1 and 2 helicopter operations however it was emphasised that until the hospital site plans including building heights were finalised further work regarding the landing site concept, development plans and construction should not take place. As soon as this information is available CAAI will advise on the final helicopter landing site location.

There was a meeting 3 weeks ago to discuss additional sites with various parties reviewing the sites. A further meeting will take place on the week of 24th April to review the findings.

5. AOCB

6. Agenda items for the next meeting

Pam Dudek will be attending the next meeting on 18th May.

7. Date of next meeting

Thursday, 18th May 2023 at 2pm – 3pm

8. Date of future meetings:

Thursday, 15 th June 2023	2pm – 3pm
Thursday, 20 th July 2023	2pm – 3pm
Thursday, 31st August 2023	2pm – 3pm
Thursday, 28 th September 2023	2pm – 3pm
Thursday, 26 th October 2023	2pm – 3pm
Thursday, 23 rd November 2023	3pm – 4pm
Thursday, 21 st December 2023	3pm – 4pm