

Community Health Council

Key Messages of the Meeting held Thursday 7 December 2017

1. Community Health Council (CHC) People's Caucuses

The CHC Chair updated members on the People's Caucuses that had occurred in a number of locations across the district over the last three weeks. These forums had been primarily to consult on the CHC's Community, Whānau and Patient Engagement Framework. Each forum had been unique in terms of representation and the different community issues that were raised.

A paper is to be prepared by the CHC to provide a picture of community issues raised during these forums, some of which included: patient booking processes, transport and accommodation, communication, mental health services, and future community engagement. This paper will go through to the Southern DHB and WellSouth CEOs for them to feed into the 2018/19 planning prioritisation process.

Feedback relating to the Community, Whānau and Patient Engagement Framework was, on the whole, supportive for the CHC to try and embed this model of patient and community representation into the Southern health system. At most forums, the topic was raised around valuing community and patient time as an essential enabler if people are to be true participants in decision-making.

The CHC will develop an Action Plan in early 2018 that guides the steps that need to be taken by the Southern health system to further support communities, whānau and patients as active partners in the design, planning and decision-making processes.

2. Dunedin Public Hospital Redevelopment

San Ting Gilmartin, Programme Manager Dunedin Hospital Redevelopment, provided an update to the Council on the Dunedin Public Hospital (DPH) rebuild and discussed ways of engaging with communities in the coming months. The Ministry has recommended that a consumer group be established for the purpose of guiding the design of services in the new hospital. The Council will provide advice to the Project Team of how this could be achieved in early 2018.

David Perez, Chair of Clinical Leadership Group (CLG), presented a draft discussion paper relating to Family/ Whānau Facilities at the new DPH and input was requested from CHC members. There was a great deal of discussion from the group and some fundamental principles to guide this work were canvassed. The final discussion paper and recommendations will be a joint CLG and CHC paper which will be provided to the Facilities Redevelopment Committee.

3. Primary and Community Care Strategy and Action Plan

The Council was provided an update on this work from Bronnie Grant who is a member of the steering group for the Primary and Community Care Strategy and Action Plan (PCCS &AP). The CHC had still not seen the final version of the PCCS & AP so were unable to endorse this work but it is expected that the actions that are released will have a significant impact to the health system for Southern DHB residents and clinicians.

The Council was informed there was going to be two engagement roadshows, one for clinicians and another for community based groups, to ensure the content was tailored to meet their specific needs. The Council supported this decision.

CHC members highlighted that there are significant concerns that a large majority of the population are still unaware of this key piece of work and the implications on their health care. There are also concerns that key community health providers that should have been part of the discussions have not been involved.

The Council agreed that there was a sense of urgency for the Southern DHB and WellSouth to inform members of the public and clinicians who attended previous PCCS workshops that there has been a delay in the roadshows that were scheduled for December. The Council also stated that dates and venues should be released as soon as possible for when these are scheduled to occur in 2018.

The Council has recommended that these engagement forums occur on weekdays at 5.30pm, although there were some suggestions that in the larger venues (Dunedin, Invercargill and Central Otago/Lakes) that an afternoon session be scheduled for those people who have family commitments.

The CHC also recommends that a lay format of the Action Plan is available for community members – ideally a summary of no more than 4-5 pages.

Next meeting: Thursday 1 February 2018

If you are interested in finding out more about the Community Health Council please visit the Southern DHB website <http://www.southerndhb.govt.nz/pages/community-health-council/> or email chc@southerndhb.govt.nz