

Caring for the Spirit

THE LAUNCH OF THE CHAPLAINCY COLLABORATIVE WITHIN ESSEX STRATEGIC HEALTH AUTHORITY

February 16 2006

1. Those attending were:
 - i. Paul Taylor, Workforce Consultant Essex WDC
 - ii. Steve Buggle, Director of Workforce Essex WDC
 - iii. Susan Hollins, Lead Chaplain, South Yorkshire SHA
 - iv. Peter O'Driscoll Chaplaincy Team Leader Basildon & Thurrock Acute Trust
 - v. William Ruddle Chaplain, BTUH
 - vi. Julie Hickman, Director of Nursing BTUH
 - vii. Gareth Rowlands Chaplain Princess Alexandra Trust Harlow
 - viii. Mike Waddington South Essex Partnership Trust
 - ix. Guy Goodall Chaplaincy Team Leader Mid Essex Acute Trust
 - x. Sister Jean Searson Roman Catholic Chaplain Mid Essex Acute Trust
 - xi. Richard Smith Chaplaincy Team Leader Essex Rivers Acute Trust, Colchester
 - xii. Mark Thompson Chaplain Essex Rivers Acute Trust
 - xiii. ?? the person involved in research at BTUH
 - xiv. The Ven. Annette Cooper Archdeacon of Chelmsford
2. Apologies were received from:
 - i. Graham Crook Chaplain Southend Acute Trust
 - ii. Keith Baggs Director of Education BTUH
3. After introductions Susan Hollins made two presentations
 - i. A review of the National Chaplaincy Strategy (Caring for the Spirit)
 - ii. Chaplaincy Collaboratives
4. Main points arising from the presentations and the ensuing discussions
 - a. There is a general concern among chaplains that the Strategy is a 'one size fits all' format with the risk of the loss of chaplaincy idiosyncrasy at local level. It was noted that this might have accounted for the low attendance at the event, despite invitations having been sent to all chaplains.
 - b. Colleagues acknowledged the necessity to engage far more with the cultural shift within the NHS from a target driven ethos toward quality of service provision in terms of the spiritual care service provided.
 - c. It is hoped that the chaplaincy collaborative will promote chaplaincy and avoid defensiveness
 - d. Colleagues agreed to commit themselves to the chaplaincy collaborative while recognising the particular challenges of time resources for all involved, particularly part-time chaplains.

- e. **Research** – Peter O’Driscoll supported the benefits of the chaplaincy collaborative in relation to local research projects. The chaplaincy team are awaiting final approval for action research in two areas
 - 1. Explaining the role of the chaplain in cardiac arrest/resus. This is an original piece of research
 - 2. A patient and staff survey. This will be a repetition of a survey undertaken by the chaplaincy service at Sheffield Teaching hospitals. However the BTUH chaplaincy research is to add a third thread to this research by surveying the attitude of local clergy (of all faiths) to the service.
- f. Peter O’Driscoll spoke of the potential to manage multi-centre research by involving other chaplaincy services in these projects. In this way the research capacity among the chaplaincy workforce would increase. He also stressed the necessity for chaplains to identify possible sources of funding for such research for future use.
- g. Keith Baggs has agreed to make the facilities of the Education Centre at BTUH available for all chaplains in the collaborative. The Education Centre is new and has a library alongside many other facilities.
- h. **Agenda for Change issues** – some Trusts are having difficulties in receiving payments for on-call (Essex Rivers and Mid-Essex Acute Trusts) within the terms of Agenda for Change. In addition there has been no salary enhancement and the AfC process remains incomplete for chaplains.
- i. **Spiritual needs assessment** – BTUH chaplaincy team is involved in the development of a spiritual needs assessment for the S Essex Cancer network
- j. **N Essex Mental Health Partnership Trust** – This Trust receives chaplaincy services from the staff of Essex Rivers Acute Trust, while paying the salary for one of the whole time chaplains. However both whole time chaplains provide the MH Trust with chaplaincy. In other areas of Essex chaplaincy is provided by part-time chaplains and volunteers.
- k. **South Essex Mental Health Trust** – There is no whole time chaplaincy provided for this Trust. BTUH chaplaincy has submitted a business plan to S Essex MH Trust for a whole time chaplain but this has been shelved due to lack of financial resources. A local Anglican parish priest provides the Runwell Unit with 2 days per week of chaplaincy service.
- l. **Training in spiritual healthcare** – The Anglian-Ruskin University has been asked to provide training in spiritual healthcare for some of the unit staff of S Essex MH Trust.
- m. **Agreement to engage in chaplaincy collaborative** – it was agreed by all those present to commit themselves to the development of the Essex area chaplaincy collaborative. It was recognised that the benefits arising from gathering and working together through the collaborative would have positive benefits. Particularly the link with the Strategic Health Authority would facilitate further developments.
- n. **Future meetings** –
 - i. 18 May 2006 1230 – 1630. Venue t.b.c.
 - ii. 21 September 2006 – 1230 – 1630. Venue t.b.c.
 - iii. 5 December 2006 1230 - 1630. Venue t.b.c.
- o. **Draft Agenda items** -
 - i. What can be done to make Managers more aware of chaplaincy

- ii. Setting up the Collaborative Steering Committee
- iii. Update from national workstreams of the Caring for the Spirit Strategy
- iv. Minimum Data Set/models of service and practice