

Collaborative Event Pro-forma

Collaborative Name	<p style="text-align: center;">Shropshire & Staffordshire 'Caring for the Spirit' Chaplaincy Collaborative</p>
Date of Event	<p style="text-align: center;">25th May 2006 Main Board Room, Mellor House, Stafford</p>
Attendance	<p>Present: Paula Potter (SHA Lead), Nick Beaumont (SHA), Penny Graysmith, Paul Barrett, John Austerberry, Adrian Bailey, Mark Folland, David Cassidy, Petro Hryzuik, Eric Kemball, Alan Warner, Shirley Baker, Malcolm Thorpe, Keith Shaw, David McCarroll.</p> <p>Apologies: None received.</p>
Summary of discussion	<p style="text-align: center;">1 Welcome and introductions</p> <p>Mark Folland welcomed people to this first meeting of the Shropshire and Staffordshire Chaplaincy Collaborative (SSCC) following the launch event in Bromsgrove on May 30th. Mark emphasised that the work of the collaborative was to implement the main work streams of the Caring for the Spirit NHS Project (2003) (CfS) and to support one another in our professional development.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2 Shropshire and Staffordshire Chaplaincy Collaborative</p> <p>The SSCC discussed the issue of how best to take forward the work of the CfS Project when there are already a number of different meetings taking place in chaplaincy locally like the CHCC branch and some interest groups based on faith allegiance.</p> <p>Mark Folland suggested that while there may be a need to clarify certain boundaries there was also good sense in focussing attention on the similar agendas between CfS and CHCC in such areas as data collection, evidence based practice, continuing professional development, training and education. He mentioned that the SSCC has a strategic link into the SHA through Paula Potter and through the CfS National Project Board, directly into the NHS and Department of Health (DH). On this basis chaplaincy collaboratives are distinctly different from CHCC branches and local interest groups.</p>

The suggestion was made that the SSCC and the local branch of the CHCC might work together to deliver the CfS agenda. No decision was made on this initiative and it was deferred to the next meeting. Mark Folland would be interested to hear from any chaplain who has particular views about this matter.

3 Report of the Chaplaincy Collaborative Launch

We briefly discussed the feedback that had been collated from the Launch event in Bromsgrove. There was general support for a chaplaincy collaborative and interest was expressed in implementing the work of the CfS Strategy. In discussing the feedback the SSCC agreed that a more narrative version of events in Bromsgrove would be helpful. Mark Folland agreed to prepare such a document and circulate.

4 Report on the Baseline Questionnaire

Mark Folland spoke to this report highlighting how the data collected at a national level might be used as a guide to developing the work of the SSCC. A number of people commented that the presentation of the data was complex and difficult to interpret. It was agreed that the best way forward in the short term was to put this document to one side and return to it as and when needed.

5 Approaching Research – Staffordshire University

Mark Folland reminded the meeting that at the Launch Event in Birmingham, Rob Merchant, Lecturer in Spirituality and Health at the University of Staffordshire had agreed to host a day at the University focusing on research methodology, doing a literature, writing a research proposal and so forth. There was a lot of interest expressed in this offer. Mark agreed to get Rob's availability for such an event in September 2006 and to report back at the next meeting.

6 An Action Learning Set

At the Chaplaincy Launch Event in Birmingham last May Paula Potter offered to facilitate an Action Learning Set (ALS) for anyone interested in this approach to personal and professional development. An Action Learning Set is, "A method of problem solving and learning in groups to bring about change for individuals, teams and organisations," Professor Mike Pedler.

Paula explained the purpose, method and aim of an ALS and provided a handout. She said that an ALS provides an environment in which between 6 to 8 members meet on a regular basis bringing issues and experiences which they would like some help thinking about together in a non-judgemental way. The Set is facilitated by one or more people, but it is essential to recognise that the facilitator is not a leader, instructor or member of the group. Ideally the facilitator helps to draw out the learning of the members. An ALS is not supervision, mentoring or coaching.

	<p>Paula offered to run an ALS in the SSCC. So if you or your team are interested in this approach and would like to benefit from this method of learning here is a golden opportunity to work with a very experienced facilitator.</p> <p>If you are interested in taking up Paula’s offer to facilitate a Set, or if you would like more information about ALSs then contact Paula at paula.potter@sasha.nhs.uk</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7 Data Collection</p> <p>Mark Folland spoke about the importance of recording what we do in our work. He said that one of the work streams in the <i>Caring for the Spirit Strategy</i> is about what chaplains do, and how they record what they do for the purpose of chaplaincy training, department accountability, business planning and developing new pastoral initiatives. This area of our work goes under the name of data collection and analysis.</p> <p>We discussed the importance of collecting data about what we do, though some hesitated feeling it was too time consuming and not what chaplains are really paid to do. Paula Potter said that while she understood that this was new for some chaplains and therefore greeted with some apprehension, it is a core practice for all other disciplines in the NHS and something that was best started by chaplains now.</p> <p>Concern was expressed about whether or not the part-time chaplains would have the time to input the required data into the appropriate fields. A discussion followed about the pros and cons of data collection the result of which was a general agreement to carry forward and develop this strand of the CfS Project.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8 Collaborative database</p> <p>In order to administer the collaborative effectively and communicate with one another we saw the need to develop an up to date database and distribution list of all whole and part time chaplains. Mark Folland is developing this facility and invites you to contact him with your email address if you have not already supplied it. Mark.folland@sasha.nhs.uk</p>
<p>Summary of action agreed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To discuss the possibility of working together at a local branch local with CHCC to deliver the CfS agenda. This will be on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting. • Mark Folland will be preparing a report on the collaborative launch in Bromsgrove and will

	<p>circulate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark Folland agreed to contact Rob Merchant at Staffordshire University following chaplain's sustained interest regarding a training day on evidence based practice for later this year. • Paula Potter explained the process of Action Learning Sets (ALS) as a means of professional and personal learning and development. Paula followed up her offer made at Bromsgrove to host an ALS for the collaborative or chaplaincy teams within the collaborative as geography dictates. If you are interested in joining an ALS please contact Paula. Paula.potter@sasha.nhs.uk • The Chaplaincy team Leaders from each Trust agreed to email one another with their data collection systems as an initial way of developing this part of the project. It was agreed to return to the results of this exchange at the next meeting. • Mark Folland is developing a collaborative database. Please send him you contact details. Mark.folland@sasha.nhs.uk
<p>Resources generated for inclusion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The offer of a training day on evidence based practice hosted by Staffordshire University in conjunction with 'Caring for the Spirit.' • The offer of an Action Learning Set facilitated by Paula Potter Head of Organisational Development and Lead contact for 'Caring for the Spirit' in the SHA.

