Older Peoples Panel

Future Role and Terms of Reference

Background

The Northern Health and Social Care Trust’s Older Peoples Panel has established in 2006 to ensure effective consultation with older people.

The terms of reference for the Panel were as follows.

- To provide a forum to promote partnership between older people, both groups and individuals, and the Trust
- To make sure the panel is focused and sets out specific goals to be achieved
- To share information, issues and concerns
- To influence the planning and delivery of Trust services
- To provide a voice for service users

Objectives of Panel

The Older Peoples Panel will:

- Monitor the Implementation of the Strategy for Older People
- Ensure the Strategy is a Priority at SMT/Trust Board level in terms of priorities for resource allocation.
- Provide guidance and support to the Project team in terms of decision making processes.
- Ensure the Mental Health Strategy ‘Adding Life to Years’ is integral to the project.
- To ensure effective engagement with stakeholders

Mandate

The Panel will be an advisory group and as such will only operate successfully if a balanced and coherent viewpoint is maintained via compromise and consensus building. Therefore members of the Panel will:
- Commit to working toward producing the optimum solutions that will assist and inform the planning process
- Work comprehensively with the Panel, accommodating views that are different from their own, seeking consensus and accepting compromise to reach agreement on the issues before them
- Be open minded and consider the whole picture, not seeking to promote individual interests
- Be willing and able to make the necessary decisions and recommendations, on behalf of the Panel to the Trust.
- As a representative, consult with others when providing feedback to the Trust

**Membership**

The Panel will have membership that ensures that all key interests are represented. It is particularly important that the Panel is able to represent the views of older people. The Panel will review its membership as required and may co-opt others as necessary.

**Chairperson**

Alison Irwin will chair the Panel. The Chair will be reviewed annually. The Chair of the Panel will ensure that all members are given the opportunity to express their views openly. The Chair will also be responsible for ensuring that any verbal or written submissions made by the Panel reflect the views of all members.

**Meetings**

The Panel will meet quarterly to ensure the effective implementation and monitoring of the Strategy for Older People.

**Agendas and Notes**

Information for each meeting will be sent to Panel members to be received no later than 7 days before the date of the meeting.

**Reporting arrangements**

A record of discussions and recommendations from each Panel meeting will be submitted to the relevant Directors and Trust staff for consideration and action.