

**246th Meeting, on Thursday 1st October 2015, at Mount Vernon Hospital.**

**Attendance:** 31 members and guests

**1. WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS :**

- a. Welcome:** The Chairman welcomed all present, particularly our guests including guest-speaker Dr. Catherine O'Keefe, Dean of Healthcare Education, Health Education NW London, NHS England.
- b. Announcements :**
- The second expected guest-speaker, Marcia Saunders, Independent Chair for Health Education, NW London, NHS England, had been obliged to send last minutes apologies for family reasons.
  - Ginny Abubakar had applied for individual membership, which was welcomed by members.
  - Anyone not wishing to appear on video was asked to move out of camera range.
- c. Apologies:** Adrienne Glicher (*Eastbury RA*) , Mike Gordon (*Harefield Tenants & RA*), Valery Rees (*League of Jewish Women. N'wood*), Tony Ellis (*Live at Home N'wood*), Herbert Levinger and Andrew Riley (*Northwood Hills RA*), James Kincaid (*The Pinner Assoc.*), Janet Baddeley, Jenny Stephany (*Individual Members*)

**2. GUEST SPEAKER :** Dr. Catherine O'Keefe, speaking on "Nurse Training in England":

- a.** Health Education England (HEE) was formed in 2013. It exists for only one reason - to improve the quality of care delivered to patients. Education and Training Boards ensure that the workforce, in all disciplines of nursing, has the right skills, values and behaviours, in the right numbers, at the right time and in the right place.
- b.** There are 13 Local Education & Training Boards (LETB), in England, working in partnership with HEE Statutory Committees, and stakeholder advisory bodies.
- c.** HEE priorities for 2016 are to improve general practice and primary care, specialist training, emergency medicine, care of children and young people, mental health, cancer and public health.
- d.** Health Education North West London (HENWL) is the local LETB for the North West London area. It is a strong employer-led partnership of organisations responsible for enabling excellence in health care and social care services for over 2 million residents and 54,000 NHS staff, working in conjunction with Clinical Commissioning Groups.
- e.** HENWL priorities for 2015/16 are centred on primary care nursing, better training for long term conditions e.g. dementia and nursing home care, training for health care workers - a vital part of the workforce, and aiming to work more closely with patients and their families.
- f.** Pan London nursing – the Capital Nurse Project – offers a high standard of excellence in skills and educational training for the future of the mobile workforce, ensuring there is unified testing in numeracy and literacy at all NHS trusts, to support development for staff and students at all stages in their careers. There is a move to negotiate consistency of pay for agency nurses in London in order to alleviate competition among nursing agencies. This is a joint initiative between HEE and NHS England.
- g.** HENWL plans aim to benefit nursing by increasing the patient/carer voice and service user involvement. It will value the role of the Care Assistant with training for a "Care Certificate" and widen opportunities for career progression. There will be continuous learning and development and assurance for the registered nursing workforce to allow work in different settings with different skills, while maintaining high quality of practice. Continuous research and innovation will be carried out and reviews of funding and commissioning levers will be ongoing to drive up the quality of good practice.

**Questions and concerns from the audience :**

- **Community Care:** HEE is encouraging those with the specific skills needed for health care but there is limited funding. Nurses are being encouraged to work in GP practices and community care, to meet population health needs.

- Physician Assistants: these assistants have a two year training to assist GPs – they are different from nurses and perform specific medical tasks under the direction of a qualified doctor.
- Manpower and communication skills: senior colleagues help those trained and recruited from abroad, to make them feel valued in the workplace and to assist their development of clinical language skills. Prospective applicants to nurse training programmes are encouraged to work as Health Care Assistants before enrolling in university nursing courses.
- Specialist care for Diabetes, Dementia and Parkinson's Disease: Special courses are available for GPs but these are not mandatory. Funding is available to encourage nurses to undertake specialist training in these areas.
- Promotion to attract school leavers to apply for nurse training: HEE is actively promoting values based recruitment, to encourage school leavers to apply for nurse training. The new HEE careers website provides information about all aspects of work in NHS administration.

Margaret Ross thanked the speaker for an interesting presentation on future nurse training, which answered many of our members' concerns.

## Part II

**3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** The Minutes of Thursday 3rd September were agreed and signed as correct.

**4. MATTERS ARISING:** There were no matters arising.

### 5. URGENT BUSINESS :

**a. Northwood and Pinner Hospital Site:** A petition was launched to support this site continuing to serve the local community. This is addressed to the Secretary of State for Health, Jeremy Hunt, and is planned for completion by 14th December 2015. Members were urged to collect signatures.

**b. Items on display:** The Chairman noted items displayed in the outer hall including publicity posters for our future meetings and reports from our representatives at NHS Board meetings held in public.

### 6. OPEN FORUM:

**a. Meeting on Thursday 7th January 2016:** This will be a discussion meeting, with no guest-speaker. Please suggest topics to the chairman, with names of members who may be able to lead discussion.

**b. Our 25th anniversary, to be celebrated at our December meeting :** Please give the chairman contact details for former members who should be invited to attend, and volunteer loan of any memorabilia for exhibition. David McVittie will be guest speaker and Stephen Ramsden will be present.

**c. Website linkage :** Please check that our website links to members' websites are correct, report any problems, and provide reciprocal links to our website where possible.

### 7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS :

The Secretary was pleased to note any personal experiences after the meeting, for our records.

**NEXT MEETING :** The next meeting will be at 7.45 pm on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November at the Post Graduate Centre, Mount Vernon Hospital, doors open 7.30pm, when our guest speaker will be Dr Mohamed Shariff, Consultant Hepatologist West Herts Hospital NHS Trust, speaking on advances in the treatment of liver disease.

The meeting was closed at 9.35pm.

Joan Davis, Chairman

*Notes:*

*Proposals for corrections to draft Minutes should be submitted to the chairman in writing – please 'phone 01895 636095 for address details.*

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Chairman

Mrs Joan Davis

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Hon. Secretary

Mrs. Margaret Ross,

Tel: 020 8868 8429

Hon. Treasurer

Mr .Jon Spain

Tel: 020 8537 2835

Website: [www.communityvoicehealth.org.uk](http://www.communityvoicehealth.org.uk)