

Chaplaincy Leadership Forum

Update: 11 August 2015

Background

The Chaplaincy Leadership Forum was formed to support the strategic development of healthcare chaplaincy in England. Members can be nominated by any organisation or group with an active interest in supporting the provision of healthcare chaplaincy in England. The aims and workstreams of the Forum are furthered between the meetings of the Forum by an executive made up of the key leaders at the bottom of this update.

Meetings

Since the last update the Chaplaincy Leadership Forum has not met due to the fact that there was not a launch meeting for the new guidelines which was planned to coincide with the June meeting (as was explained in the last update). However, the CLF executive met by conference calls on 6 May, 17 June and 7 August to keep things moving along.

The main items of news are:

The Chaplaincy Leadership Forum's "Transforming Chaplaincy" Strategy

Consultation on the proposed strategy has now closed and the results will soon be collated. Many thanks to all those who contributed their comments and ideas. NHS England has also been looking at the draft strategy and has agreed to fund the strategy this year and next year. NHS England want there to be audit, review and evidence of outcomes clearly built into development plans.

The place of healthcare chaplaincy in the NHS

Chaplaincy has now made the move to within the Nursing part of NHS England. We are beginning to get to know the staff who will be working with us and are very encouraged by their commitment.

Panel of Advisors

Following the interviews, Tony Kyriakides-Yeldham has been offered the part-time post of coordinator of the Panel of Advisors. It is expected that he will take up the post from 1 October. Tony writes, "Having spent much of my working life in NHS healthcare chaplaincy, in different contexts and geographical areas, I am delighted to have the opportunity to work with the wider chaplaincy community nationally. Currently, I am working part-time as chaplain to a Marie Curie Hospice in London and completing a PhD about identity, based on conversations with twelve healthcare chaplains from around the country."

Until 1 October Chris Swift will continue to coordinate responses to requests for Advisors. There will be an Advisor's training day on 11 November 2015.

UKBHC

The UKBHC is working on the legal aspects required to precede application for 'registration' to the Professional Standards Authority. It is hoped that there will be financial support for cost of the application through the Transforming Chaplaincy Strategy work stream on Regulation and Authorisation.

Next Meetings of the CLF and the executive

The CLF will meet on 22 October in London.

The executive also plans to meet on 10 September by conference call.

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