

Chaplaincy Leadership Forum

Update: 30 January 2015

The Chaplaincy Leadership Forum has not met since the last update in November. However the executive has met twice by conference calls.

The issues that were discussed were:

The Panel of NHS Chaplaincy Advisers

Malcolm Masterman has now retired, and been thanked for his service, and Chris Swift has taken over the role temporarily. It is recognised there is a strategic chaplaincy element to the role and the person appointed will not just be administrative. The steering group meets in February to decide the way forward.

The Updated Chaplaincy Guidelines

Ranjit Senghera assured the CLFE that NHS England is working to ensure that the NHS Chaplaincy Guidelines are on track for publication in Spring 2015.

A Right to add to the NHS Constitution

When Andy Burnham came to the CLF he asked us to form a right that might be added to the NHS constitution. The suggestion that the Executive have come up with is:

"You have the right to receive high quality spiritual, religious and pastoral care from a professionally trained NHS chaplain, with rapid access available to such care at the end of life."

Next Meetings of the CLF

Now that the meeting that had been mentioned in the update in November cannot be a launch for the guidelines, it has been cancelled. There is still a meeting planned for the CLF on 6 May in London. There may be an additional meeting on 10 March or 15 April if the guidelines can be launched.

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