

MULTI-FAITH GROUP FOR HEALTHCARE CHAPLAINCY

10th May 2010

Present: Mr Manhar Mehta (In the Chair)
Revd Nigel Goodfellow Revd Debbie Hodge
Mr Sital Singh Maan Mr Ron Maddox
Revd Fr Paul Mason Mr Kishor Ruparelia
Pandit Madhu Shastri Mr Sue Soloway
Rt. Revd Tom Williams

In attendance: Revd Max Shepherd Ms Sabina Williams

18/10 Welcome to new members and visitors

The Chairman welcomed Sabina Williams who was present to take the minutes of the meeting.

19/10 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Kobad Avari, Revd Jennifer Bell, Ervad Rustam Bhedwar, Imam Yunus Dudhwala, Revd Stig Graham, Mr Peter Hulme, Hon Barney Leith, Mr Baldev Singh Mawi, Mr Jayman Mehta, Mr Chowdhury Mueen-Uddin, Mr Keith Munnings, Revd David Mitchell, HM Shafique Rahman, Rabbi Meir Salasnik, Revd Mark Stobert, Mrs Deborah Wheeler and Rt. Revd Tom Williams.

20/10 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th January 2010 were agreed.

21/10 Central allocation for hospital chaplaincy (ref min 4/10)

The Chairman reported that he had been advised not to seek a meeting with Ministers about the funding of the MFGHC until after the forthcoming election. He was intending to request a meeting in the autumn.

Revd Debbie Hodge informed the meeting that she and Revd Mark Fisher had an appointment to see Barry Mussenden on 24th May 2010 to discuss the funding of the Free Churches Group. The Group had been allocated funding although it hasn't been received yet.

Bishop Tom referred to the James Report and felt the allocation was unsatisfactory. He said a review of this Group in terms of how it was funded should be considered.

22/10 UK Board for Healthcare Chaplaincy (ref min 5/10)

The Chairman told the meeting that Revd Mark Fisher, the Chairman of the Churches Committee for Hospital Chaplaincy, had invited him and the Vice Chairman to meet with him to discuss his initiative seeking to bring MFGHC and UKBHC into partnership working. It had been a most useful meeting and Mark Fisher had indicated that he would be in touch when he had spoken to other parties.

Bishop Tom said MFGHC needed to be more defined in its views and to ensure that we spoke with a stronger voice on issues of our responsibility. Revd Nigel Goodfellow Nigel felt there should be more dialogue and an agreement to work together for the good of chaplaincy. There was general concern about the possible impact of financial cuts in public services if there was not a unified voice.

It was agreed that it was necessary not to lose momentum in the initiative which the Churches Committee had launched. It was therefore agreed to consult with Mark Fisher to see whether he needed further information. If any further reassurance was needed, Nigel Goodfellow volunteered to assist with drafting a statement of intent outlining the Council's wish to hold talks with UKBHC.

23/10 Engagement of chaplains in public institutions (ref min 6/10)

It was noted that a report on this work by a consultancy called "Faith Matters" had been agreed with input from several parties including MFGHC.

24/10 Seminar on Communications and the New Media (ref min 14/10)

In the absence of Barney Leith, it was not possible to discuss the proposed content of the seminar on new communication approaches and social media. It was however agreed that this seminar should take place at the time of the September Council meeting (15th).

25/10 Standards for healthcare chaplaincy provision

The Council received a report from the Administrator on the outcome of the consultation with NHS Authorities in England over standards of NHS provision for healthcare chaplaincy.

Tim Battle's report indicated that the consultation process has been most useful and many additional and helpful comments had been received. As a result, the guidance about standards of chaplaincy provision will be stronger when finalised. The standards under final drafting were more robust than those issued previously. Apart from the added input from consultation, the NHS had moved forward with its own considerations about quality which now would overlay MFGHC's.

The paper noted that many people had contributed of their time, knowledge and expertise to make this exercise worthwhile. Whilst there was still work to do, the Chairman agreed that it should be acknowledged that such help was freely given and gratefully received.

The Council agreed to take the following action:

- Issue the amended standards for a period of reflection and detailed examination by Council members during May so that the revised standards may be published in June.
- Establish a small group to define generic chaplaincy in partnership with the chaplaincy bodies.(ref SD&C 7)
- Consider using the good offices of the Department of Health to seek a merger of the NHS Panel of Assessors (of chaplaincy practice) with that maintained by UKBHC (ref SD&C 9).
- Seek advice from the Department of Health about the suggested further restriction of access by chaplains to patient information, and associated issues.
- Ask the Department of Health to consider finalising and publishing the draft guidance on commissioning healthcare chaplaincy so that discussion on outcomes could be prompted in that context.

26/10 Discussion with NHS Authorities over progress with chaplaincy development

The Council received a report from the Administrator on the discussions at these meetings.

The meetings had enabled the Council to publicise and seek endorsement for the new authorisation bodies planned for the world faith chaplaincies. These had been well received and were already beginning to handle enquiries although they officially would start work on 1st September 2010. A full and final list is attached to these minutes.

It was noted that, although the purpose of these meetings was communication, there were several useful points worthy of note:

- The meetings were welcomed as a useful way of discussing chaplaincy-spiritual care issues.
- The emergence and formation of new authorisation bodies for the world faiths was welcomed.
- Valuable contacts were made within the NMC, Appointments Commission, and within NHS Authorities
- More could be done to educate people about what to expect from the chaplaincy-spiritual care service
- There were continuing worries about “radicalising” behaviours across all faith communities
- The lack of research on efficacy and outcomes was likely to be a barrier to progress in achieving status and recognition for the contribution made by chaplains and spiritual care-givers
- There was comment about the “over-anglicised” model of chaplaincy and the difficulty of relating this to the patient experience
- Concern was expressed that practitioners could not be regarded as practicing safely without more careful and independent regulation.

Those who had contributed to these presentations including the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Revd Debbie Hodge, Revd Fr Paul Mason and Hon Barney Leith were thanked for the effort involved.

27/10 Election of Chief Officer, MFGHC

Members noted with regret that the Reverend Edward Lewis has resigned from the position of Chief Officer, which he had held since the inception of the Group in 2002.

Consideration was given to a draft job description and it was agreed to make the following changes to the person specification:

- Under 'Knowledge & Skills' add that a good understanding of healthcare Chaplaincy is essential.
- Under 'Experience' add that experience in healthcare chaplaincy is desirable'.

Members agreed that the term of service for the Chief Officer should be until December 2013 and thereafter every two years.

It was agreed to start the search for a Chief Officer as soon as practicable with nominations to be made from the current Council.

28/10 Report of the Project Board for the Authorisation and Regulation Project – May 2010

The Report of the Project Board for May 2010 was received. It was noted that the Reference Group would meet for the first time in July. This was later than planned and reflected the need to ensure that NHS nominees were included.

29/10 Report of the Honorary Officers – May 2010

This report was deferred to the next meeting.

30/10 Appointment of Auditors

This report was deferred to the next meeting.

31/10 Date of next meeting

Wednesday 15th September 2010 in London with the Committees in the afternoon.



AUTHORISATION BODIES FOR HEALTHCARE CHAPLAINS in ENGLAND

Bahá'í Healthcare Chaplains

<i>Authorising Body</i>	National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United Kingdom
<i>Address</i>	27 Rutland Gate London SW7 1PD
<i>Contact Name</i>	Barney Leith
<i>Contact email</i>	barney.leith@bahai.org.uk
<i>Contact telephone</i>	020 7584 2566 (office); 07968 728 844 (mobile)
<i>Website</i>	www.bahai.org.uk

Buddhist Healthcare Chaplains

<i>Authorising Body</i>	Buddhist Healthcare Chaplaincy Group
<i>Address</i>	105 Middleton Hall Road Kings Norton Birmingham B30 1AG
<i>Contact Name</i>	Keith Munnings
<i>Contact email</i>	keith@eskola.co.uk
<i>Contact telephone</i>	0793 153 2006

Christian (Anglican) Healthcare Chaplains

<i>Authorising Body</i>	The Diocesan Bishop for the geographical area concerned
<i>Contact details</i>	The contact details for the Church of England are available on the Church of England website at http://www.cofe.anglican.org/about/diocesesparishes/ Further assistance on Church of England matters is available from the Hospital Chaplaincies Council http://www.nhs-chaplaincy-spiritualcare.org.uk or email mary.ingledew@c-of-e.org.uk



Christian (Free Churches) Healthcare Chaplains¹

<i>Authorising Body</i>	The individual Churches have their own authorisation processes and these are co-ordinated by the Free Churches Group
<i>Address</i>	27 Tavistock Square London WC1H 9HH
<i>Contact Name</i>	The Revd Debbie Hodge
<i>Contact email</i>	debbie.hodge@cte.org.uk
<i>Contact telephone</i>	020 7529 8136

Christian (Roman Catholic) Healthcare Chaplains

<i>Authorising Body</i>	The Diocesan Bishop for the geographical area concerned
<i>Contact details</i>	The contact details for the Roman Catholic Church are available on the website at http://www.catholic-ew.org.uk/catholic_church/the_church_in_england_and_wales/dioceses

Hindu Healthcare Chaplains

<i>Authorising Body</i>	National Council of Hindu Temples UK (NCHT)
<i>Address</i>	c/o 1 Hans Close Stoke Coventry CV2 4WA
<i>Contact Name</i>	Mr Sudarshan Bhatia, President, NCHT Kishor Ruparelia, VHP, Secretary Pt. Madhu Shastri, Project Co-ordinator, Hindu Healthcare Chaplaincy
<i>Contact email</i>	mshastri@btinternet.com
<i>Contact telephone</i>	07763 178628
<i>Website</i>	www.nchtuk.org

¹ The Free Churches comprise the [Assemblies of God](#), [Baptist Union of Great Britain](#), [Baptist Union of Wales](#), [Church of the Nazarene](#), [Churches in Communities International](#), [Congregational Federation](#), [Council of African and Caribbean Churches UK](#), [Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion](#), [Fellowship of Churches of Christ](#), [Free Church of England](#), [Free Methodist Church](#), [Independent Methodist Churches](#), [Methodist Church](#), [Moravian Church](#), [New Testament Assembly](#), [New Testament Church of God](#), [Old Baptist Union](#), [Presbyterian Church of Wales](#), [Salvation Army](#), [Union of Welsh Independents](#), [United Reformed Church](#), and [Wesleyan Reform Union](#)

The Multi-Faith Group
for Healthcare Chaplaincy
PO Box 2261
Salisbury
SP3 6WE



Jain Healthcare Chaplains

Authorising Body The National Council of Vanik Associations (UK)

Address 37 Howberry Road
Cannons Park
Edgware
Middlesex
HA8 6SS

Contact Name Mr Manhar Mehta, Chairman
Mr Jayman Mehta, Chaplaincy co-ordinator

Contact email

Contact telephone 020 8952 1165

Jewish Healthcare Chaplains

Authorising Body The Jewish Visitation Committee

Address Bet Meir
44b Albert Road
London NW4 2SG

Contact Name Ms Sue Soloway

Contact email sue.soloway@jvisit.org.uk

Contact telephone 020 8457 9709

Muslim Healthcare Chaplains

Authorising Body Muslim Council of Britain

Address PO Box 57330
London
E1 2WJ

Contact Name Mr Chowdhury Mueen-Uddin, Director, Muslim Spiritual Care Provision in the NHS

Contact email nhsspiritualcare@mcb.org.uk

Contact telephone 020 7492 4983

The Multi-Faith Group
for Healthcare Chaplaincy
PO Box 2261
Salisbury
SP3 6WE



Sikh Healthcare Chaplains

Authorising Body Sikh Healthcare Chaplaincy Group

Address 138 High Road
New Southgate
London
N11 1PJ

Contact Name Mr Sital Singh Maan

Contact email sikhchaplaincy@gmail.com

Contact telephone 020 8361 3238 (office); 07960 648 623 (mobile)

Website www.sikhchaplaincy.org.uk

Zoroastrian Healthcare support enquiries (The Zoroastrian community is not resourced to develop its own chaplaincy service and relies on the availability of Zoroastrian Priests for whom contact details are available as shown).

Contact Body Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe (Incorporated)

Address 440 Alexandra Avenue
Harrow
Middlesex HA2 9TL

Contact email secretary@ztfte.com

Contact telephone 020 8866 0765

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