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June 2010

Dear Chaplain

Links between UKBHC and MFGHC

The MFGHC Council has asked for a clearer statement to chaplains about our proposal to work with UKBHC. The purpose of this letter which accompanies Bulletin 21 is to provide that clarity.

Representatives of UKBHC and MFGHC met in October 2009 to discuss matters of mutual concern. At that meeting, MFGHC offered to work in partnership with UKBHC over regulatory and any other issues if such a joint approach was thought to be of benefit by UKBHC. MFGHC also offered to finance some of UKBHC's work if that would have helped.

MFGHC is conscious that Revd Mark Fisher, Chair of the Churches' Committee for Hospital Chaplaincy is working to bring UKBHC and MFGHC together for a discussion about joint working. MFGHC welcomes such an initiative and has explained its own views to Mr Fisher at a meeting in March. We look forward to the next steps in these discussions.

Yours sincerely

Manhar Mehta

Chair

Distribution: Chaplains in receipt of the MFGHC Bulletin



BULLETIN 21 – June 2010

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Welcome

Welcome to Bulletin 21 from the Multi-Faith Group for Healthcare Chaplaincy. In this edition, is information from the May Council and meetings of the Standards and Education Committees.

Central allocation for hospital chaplaincy

The Chairman reported that he, although he was conscious that members were concerned about aspects of the central allocation including the formula approach and the late payment of agreed allocations, had been advised by officials 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.

Engagement of chaplains in public institutions

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.

Seminar on Communications and the New Media

It has been agreed that a seminar on communications and new media should take place

at the time of the September Council meeting.

Standards for healthcare chaplaincy provision

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

The consultation process had 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 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.
- 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.

- 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.

The Council expressed its thanks to all those who had contributed to this important work on quality of chaplaincy provision.

New Authorisation Bodies

The Council had received a report on the meetings with NHS Authority Chairs to publicise and seek endorsement for the new authorisation bodies planned for the world faith chaplaincies. These proposals had been well received and the new bodies were already beginning to handle enquiries although they officially would start work on 1st September 2010.

A full and final list is attached to this Bulletin.

Discussion with NHS Authorities over progress with chaplaincy development

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

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.

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'.

It was agreed to start the search for a Chief Officer as soon as practicable with nominations to be made from the current council. The period of office should be to 2013 on this occasion to assist continuity.

Report of the Authorisation and Regulation Project – May 2010

The Project Board 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.

The Education Committee had discussed the work of the South East Coast Chaplaincy Collaborative on **capabilities and competencies** which effectively linked the work done for the NES in Scotland with the MFGHC's educational framework derived from the work lead by the NHS University and the NHS KSF. The Committee was consulting widely within the Council to see whether this report could be adopted for its own purposes.

The Standards Committee had received a report on the consultation with chaplains over **common standards for regulation** of healthcare chaplains. The report had been agreed with some additional amendments to the proposed standards.

Date of next MFGHC meeting

The Council had agreed to meet on Wednesday 15th September 2010 in London with the Committees in the afternoon.

Communicating the work of the MFGHC

The MFGHC has established a website (www.mfghc.com) where its work will be highlighted. It intends to publish an e-bulletin about its progress every four months. For routine communication, the Administrator can be contacted at the address given above.

TB June 2010

AUTHORISATION BODIES FOR HEALTHCARE CHAPLAINS in ENGLAND

Bahá'í Healthcare Chaplains

Authorising Body National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United Kingdom

Address 27 Rutland Gate
London
SW7 1PD

Contact Name Barney Leith

Contact email barney.leith@bahai.org.uk

Contact telephone 020 7584 2566 (office); 07968 728 844 (mobile)

Website www.bahai.org.uk

Buddhist Healthcare Chaplains

Authorising Body Buddhist Healthcare Chaplaincy Group

Address 105 Middleton Hall Road
Kings Norton
Birmingham
B30 1AG

Contact Name Keith Munnings

Contact email keith@eskola.co.uk

Contact telephone 0791 532 006

Christian (Anglican) Healthcare Chaplains

Authorising Body The Diocesan Bishop for the geographical area concerned

Contact details 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

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|--------------------------|--|
| <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

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|-------------------------|---|
| <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

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| <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

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 manhar_mehta@hotmail.com; mehtajayman@yahoo.co.uk

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

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 sikhchaplancy@gmail.com

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

Website www.sikhchaplancy.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

June 2010