

REMOTE AND RURAL GENERAL PRACTICE SHORT LIFE WORKING GROUP

BULLETIN NO₂ – NOVEMBER 2018

Since the last meeting the team have been very busy taking part in a number of practice visits and other engagement events (see more details below). We have been preparing for the next meeting on Tuesday 11th December 2018 with other meetings planned for March 2019 and June 2019.

Further information on the working group is available on our webpage:

<https://www.gov.scot/groups/remote-and-rural-general-practice-working-group/>

The team has been joined by Dr Charlie Siderfin, GP Advisor to Primary Care Division, Scottish Government. Charlie is seconded from NHS Orkney where, until taking up this role was Lead GP. He continues working as a single-handed GP on the outer island of Westray and has particular experience in service redesign, recruitment and multi-disciplinary education.

Charlie is leading the development of a series of Rural Case Studies. These will share learning and good practice demonstrating how the six contract priority areas are being take forward across rural Scotland. If you are interested in developing a case study about work happening in your area around Vaccinations, Community Treatment and Care Services, Pharmacotherapy, Urgent Care, Physiotherapy, Mental Health, Community Link Workers or other members of the MDT please contact PCRural@gov.scot

Dispensing Short-Life Working Group (SLWG).

The Dispensing SLWG has met for the first time on 13th November 2018. The Group's members include the British Medical Association, Rural GP Association (RGPAS), Dispensing Doctors Association, NHS Boards, Integration Authorities and Pharmacy colleagues. It is chaired by Fiona Duff, Senior Advisor, Primary Care Division, Scottish Government. Fiona is seconded from NHS Highland where she was Primary Care Manager for the North (Caithness & Sutherland).

At the meeting, the group agreed its terms of reference and membership. The group discussed current issues facing Dispensing practices and a work plan will be developed for discussion and agreement at the next meeting. Further information on the dispensing group, including details of the membership and terms of reference, will be available shortly on the dispensing groups webpage.

Rural Engagement



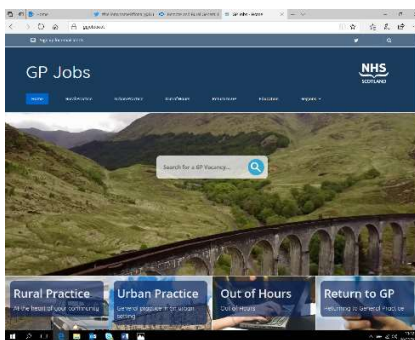
On 17th October, Sir Lewis Ritchie and Fiona Duff visited Dr Malcolm Elder and his practice team in Carradale, Argyll & Bute before heading to Campbeltown to meet the practice team there.

At the end of October they were joined by Dr Charlie Siderfin and Niamh O'Connor on a jam packed visit to Shetland. They spent time with Ralph Roberts, Chief Executive and Lisa Watts, Primary Care Manager before meeting other members of the Board and HSCP management team. They then visited single handed GP Dr Susan Bowie and her associate Dr Andy Muir in Hillswick.



Thank you to everybody we have visited for your warm welcome and hospitality.

Other Engagement Events:



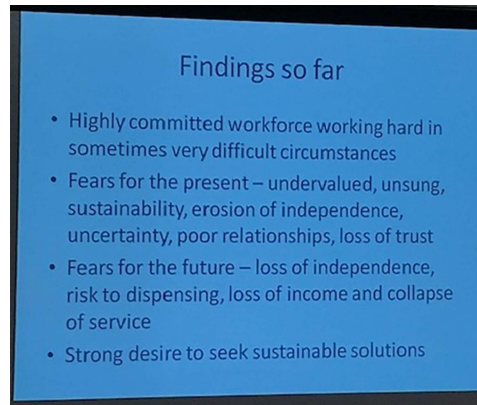
The team has been involved in a number of other engagement events. At the beginning of October the Scottish Government launched the <https://gpjobs.scot/> website at the RCGP Conference in Glasgow. This website is a one-stop shop for any GP who wants to work in Scotland. There is a specific section for anybody interested in working in rural General Practice, along with all current GP vacancies. There

is also information about every region of Scotland. The involvement of the Scottish Rural Medicine Collaborative has been integral to the development of the site. **Right: Ian Blair, Project Manager (SRMC) demonstrates the website to Dr Carey Lunan, Chair, RCGP Scotland and Sir Lewis Ritchie.**



RGPAS Conference:

Sir Lewis Ritchie presented at the recent Rural GP Association (RGPAS) Conference in Inverness, along with Dr Andrew Buist, Chair of Scottish GP Committee (SGPC), BMA. Sir Lewis fed back on his findings from his recent engagement visits and Dr Buist gave an update on the GP contract. There was a lively discussion with delegates on the impact and implementation of the new contract on rural practices.



Scottish Rural Parliament – Stranraer 14th to 16th November



Members of the short life working group Fiona Duff, Colin Angus, (Patient Representative), Chair of RCGP P3 group and Liam Kearney, Scottish Government recently attended the Scottish Rural Parliament in Stranraer. They facilitated a fringe event on 'General Practice in Rural Communities: the 2018 GP Contract'. There was a lot of interest in how the GP Contract will be implemented in rural areas.



The Scottish Rural Medicine Collaborative were also at the event and facilitated a workshop on GP Recruitment and Retention.

Do you want to get involved with the Rural SLWG? Do you have a view or a comment you want the group to be aware of? Is there a great initiative in your area that would be a excellent case study? Would you like Sir Lewis or other members of the team to visit your practice? Please contact us on PCRural@gov.scot

Follow the work of the group on Twitter [@SG_PrimaryCare](https://twitter.com/SG_PrimaryCare)