

**MINUTES OF THE THAMES/COROMANDEL/HAURAKI
COMMUNITY HEALTH FORUM MEETING HELD
THURSDAY 11 MARCH 2009, THAMES WAR MEMORIAL CENTRE**

PRESENT:	<i>Hugh Kininmonth (Chair), Louise West, Kathy Archibald, Frances Burton, Thelma Chantrey, Stan Sims, Bev Costello, Nola Walker, Val Sparks, Laurie Franks, Debra MacDonald Brown, Colleen Creville, Elaine Bycroft, Joy Arthur, Arthur Fletcher, Robyn Pengelly, Jackie Gausden, Anne Hay-Smith and Gwendol Welburn.</i>
IN ATTENDANCE:	<i>Janet Hanvey – Waikato DHB Representative Amy Thomsen – Waikato DHB Communications Consultant Jane Hudson & Rachel Poaneki – Waikato DHB Planning & Funding</i>

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS	<p><i>Janet Hanvey (Waikato DHB) welcomed people to the meeting and advised that Frances Bicknell is in hospital following a stroke. Hugh Kininmonth has been invited to chair this forum subject to agreement of the meeting. The meeting agreed and thanked Hugh for accepting the position. Hugh asked that the group's best wishes be passed on to Frances, we look forward to her return. A vote of thanks was offered to Frances to all her work in chairing this group over the past few years.</i></p> <p><i>Hugh advised that in discussion with Grant O'Brien the format of today's meeting had changed in order to focus on hearing about local issues from the group.</i></p>
APOLOGIES	<i>Barbara Roschild, Sheryll Fitzpatrick, Chris Stark, Mariana Graham, Phyllis Hayward, Frances Bicknell, Margaret Mackay and Jacqui Mitchell.</i>
MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	<i>Minutes of previous meeting 26 November 2008 were tabled and taken as read.</i>
MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES	<i>Nil</i>
ITEM 1:	<p>LOCAL ISSUES</p> <p><i>Those present were invited to introduce themselves and highlight any key issues which needed to be considered both now in the longer term.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Anne Smith – Queen Elizabeth Hospital capacity for people with arthritis, including transport status of previous information request for current number of referrals from Waikato to QE compared with 2004. Action: Janet to follow up.</i> ➤ <i>Louise West – Transport issues.</i> ➤ <i>Kathy Archibald – Need for more of a focus on children and youth in this group.</i> ➤ <i>Frances Burton – Attracting volunteers.</i> ➤ <i>Thelma Chantrey – Transport, aging strategy development.</i> ➤ <i>Arthur Fletcher – Veteran's welfare, transport, visiting people in their homes, hospital, rest homes.</i>

- Stan Sims – DHB management relationship with staff. Ruth Large's resignation highlighted as an example. Public meeting held two years ago to discuss ways to address retaining staff. Planned follow up did not occur.
- Bev Costello – Transport, volunteers.
- Nola Walker – Transport.
- Val Sparks – Increase specialist clinics at Thames given new facilities.
- Laurie Franks – Transport, medical staff retention.
- Debra MacDonald Brown – Impact of oil prices and climate change on transport, volunteers, home based care.
- Colleen Creville – Community access to equipment and consumables (constantly having to get from the hospital); possibility of using vacant capacity in Ward 5 for respite beds? Local organisations happy to help with funding or practical support.
Action: Janet to discuss with Jacquie Mitchell.
- Elaine Bycroft – Advised that Te Korowai is setting up a social group for 55+, will be advertised. A big thank you to the DHB for the Thames Hospital facilities. Is it possible to extend services there?
- Tania Young – Updated on work being done at Te Korowai around smoking cessation, Project Energize expansion and great work being done in schools. Noting a greater awareness amongst children of the benefits of physical activity and making healthy food choices in this district.
- Robin Pengelly/Jackie Gausden – Transport, access to respite care. Stakeholder meeting in April to look at options. Will be advertised.

Hugh summarised the key points from the discussions:

- Many things going well, community gaining huge benefit from the new facilities.
- HR issues in relation to staff recruitment/retention for the DHB, GP practices, allied health, and mental health.
- Provide more services locally; the need to comply with high quality standards seen as a restricting factor. A national issue.
- Transport.
- Sustainable local services (current/new).
- Declining volunteer numbers.
- Home support.
- Children and youth.
- Reducing inequalities.

Further discussion:

- What is happening to the old building? Is there an opportunity for the community to use? **Action: Janet to discuss with Jacquie Mitchell.**
- Thames outpatient service – improved level of assistance on arrival, long wait and wheelchairs very old. Is there an opportunity for community to fund raise to support with chairs and other equipment?
- Lay person education around natural process of aging. Noted that there was a need for education relating to disabilities across the age spectrum. Maybe run a series in the Hauraki Herald similar to Leo Revell's articles in the Waikato Times? **Action: Thelma Chantrey agreed to look at incorporating into an Agewise meeting.**
- The need for a similar session focussing on all ages was discussed.
Action: Robyn Pengelly was invited to look at setting up a

	<p>similar forum for all ages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ How can organisations support each other given pressure on volunteers, cost, etc? Hugh suggested interested groups meet to discuss.
<p>ITEM 2</p>	<p>WAIKATO DHB UPDATE</p> <p><u>Transport Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Jane Hudson updated on progress since the last meeting. See details attached to these minutes. In December 2008 CPHAC Board Subcommittee approved the methodology for identifying priority communities and the approach for phase 2. Priority communities have now been identified. It is acknowledged that people will dispute these based on their own experience however this does not mean the DHB won't do anything for other areas. The action required to support the identified areas should not take long to complete. ➤ Other things happening include the development of a new brochure for the National Transport Assistance (NTA) Policy and work around improving Did Not Attend (DNA) rates. ➤ Rachel Poaneki spoke to the DNA work. Data shows people who live close to a hospital are more likely to DNA. Suggestions around reviewing the booking process. Is there a double up of appointments occurring? Example given. The meeting thought data based on age and census block would be useful to assist identifying solutions. Action: Jane/Rachel. ➤ Jane asked for an update on local initiatives discussed at the previous meeting: ➤ Kathy Archibald – Transport options booklet has been widely circulated. Any feedback to Janet Calley, Community Health, Thames Hospital to be incorporated in the next print. Timing of the reprint subject to funding. ➤ Hugh – What has happened to the NTA under spend? Rachel responded been used to fund new co-ordinator, process and promotion. Top up funding to transport providers whose usage has trebled as a result of rising petrol prices. A proposal is going to CPHAC to continue that increased level of funding into next year. Funding has also been used to support the purchase of the new Taumarunui Bus. ➤ Amy Thomsen – The new NTA brochure is in draft and will be circulated with the minutes for people to comment on. Feedback on the new brochure was requested. People were asked to send any comments directly to Amy Thomsen – Media and Communications Department, Waikato Hospital or email thomsena@waikatodhb.govt.nz. Feedback is required by the end of March 2009. The brochure will be supported by a broader communication strategy. ➤ Robyn Pengelly – Updated on Transport Steering committee activity. Focuses on the whole Coromandel and is not just for health services. Working with the council, DHB and Environment Waikato to establish a transport co-ordination services to include a manager, co-ordinator and 0800 number. A funding application has been submitted to the LCCP 10 year plan and will be presented in April. Hope to set up a pilot in the next few months. ➤ Rachel – Is currently visiting all local transport providers.

	<i>DHB Activities – Janet tabled a presentation and staff newsletter which highlighted current activities including the CEO’s priorities. Copies attached.</i>
ITEM 3:	<p>GENERAL BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Discussion around the promotion of health messages to schools and communities using DVD’s. Gwendol Welburn advised Project Energize could facilitate this following its rollout. Te Korowai are currently recruiting staff for the roll out and a community coach. The latter is to pilot programmes around cooking, gardening and smoking cessation in conjunction with Waikato Primary Health. The intent is to develop the community to run the programmes themselves, with the coach reverting to a co-ordination role.</i> ➤ <i>Janet advised that she will be supporting the Te Kuiti community to establish a community garden and is looking for contact names of others who have done this.</i> ➤ <i>DNA’s - Suggestion that volunteer drivers from St John’s and the hostess group who have a lot of spare time when waiting at Waikato Hospital could be used to phone and remind people of their appointments. Janet Calley is the contact. Action: Janet to look into.</i> ➤ <i>Family Violence Newsletter – copies provided by Kathy Archibald.</i>
DATE OF NEXT MEETING	<p>Wednesday 8 July 2009 10.00am – 12.00pm Thames War Memorial Civic Centre THAMES</p>