

## **Staffa Health Patient Participation Group Chair's Annual Report to AGM 25.09.14**

It is a pleasure to write a further positive Annual Report for the AGM this year, as I believe the group has continued to make significant progress.

In my Chair's report last year, I spoke of our aim to be fully supportive of Staffa Health, yet concurrently being a critical friend that is representative of the views of patients, and noted that this would require us to become a more autonomous group. During the past year we have made sound advancements towards achieving this goal.

Shirley Cutts, our Secretary, now draws up our agendas and writes our minutes and we hold pre meeting discussions to ensure the items placed on the agenda are selected independently by the group itself.

Moreover, Shirley also represents us both at the Hardwick CCG Patient Reference Group and the Hardwick CCG Clinical Commissioning Decision Group. She brings extremely valuable feedback from these meetings enabling us to keep up to speed with developments from the CCG and to have an understanding of how this will affect Staffa Health. With this knowledge we may be able to positively influence the decision making at Hardwick CCG for the benefit of our patients.

Members of the group have been actively engaged in raising a number of issues over the year which have been of concern to patients of Staff Health, including the observance of confidentiality, the siting of blood pressure monitors to enable privacy and of hand sanitation positions to give improved access, as well as the provision of informative TV screens for all the Staffa surgeries.

In the forthcoming year I hope that membership of the group continues to increase and I believe we all recognise the continued need to attract participation from the younger patient age group. To this end I feel it would be advantageous to work towards further improving our links with the wider community, working in partnership with other existing groups, agencies, and authorities.

Our overriding aspiration is, as always, to work alongside the practice staff and be a vital link in helping to improve the health service offered to all Staffa Health patients, and so I would like to thank each and every member for their much valued participation and support throughout the year.

Councillor Deborah Watson  
19.09.2014