



**STCA Coordinating Group Meeting
Wednesday 22 August 2012
ASH Scotland, Frederick Street, Edinburgh**

Elected Representatives

Helena Connelly
Celia Gardiner
Karen Gray
Colin Lumsdaine

ASH Scotland Staff

Jennifer Black (Notes)
Sheila Duffy (first 30 mins)
Donald Lockhart
David Robertson (Chair)
John Watson

Apologies

Catherine Burke
Viv Binnie
Abraham Brown
James Cant
Margot Ferguson
Hamid Gazem

Item 1

Welcome and Introductions

David welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained he would be standing in as Chair as Margot Ferguson was unable to attend. He then handed over to Sheila Duffy, CEO ASH Scotland, in order that she could update the group on various items.

With regard to the National Strategy for Tobacco Control, Sheila explained that Andy Bruce, Scottish Government, expects to have a draft version available for limited consultation by late September to mid-October. The Strategy is not going out for formal public consultation but certain groups such as SCOT, the Cross Party Group on Tobacco Control and the STCA through the TCIG in September, will be involved and will be able to feedback their views. Publication will most likely be at the end of this year or early next year.

Following on from this, Celia has been involved with preparations for a key action in the strategy, as Health Scotland have been asked by Scottish Government to undertake a review of Smoking Cessation Services including a Training Needs Analysis. A working group will convene in October and be chaired by Linda Bauld. This work will cross over into the next financial year so as not to be constrained by year end budgets. The scope of the review has yet to be agreed but will focus on specialist services for smoking cessation.

Sheila reported she had also spoken with Andy Bruce regarding the consultation that is currently taking place on standardising tobacco packaging. The Department of Health is expected to publish the results of the consultation exercise in late September and to announce a decision by the end of the year. The expectation is that the Scottish Government, having run its analysis of the responses in Scotland, will make its position known before that, probably as part of the new Strategy.

NICE is carrying out work on Harm Reduction. A consultation meeting will be held in October which John Watson plans to attend.

Item 2 **Actions Arising**

David reported on the following:

Further discussions with the Research Group have taken place regarding ideas for a research into policy seminar/conference which will take in March 2013. It was not felt appropriate that this event be staged as a major conference, consequently it will not be a fund raising opportunity as first envisaged.

Progress is being made through Donald Lockhart, Youth Development Officer at ASH Scotland to ensure recommendations are in place to improve access to services for 18 to 24year olds. A report should be ready early in the New Year. Work is also being carried out with various inequalities groups involved with this age group.

STCA members were asked to approve the new Charter through Survey Monkey before the Annual Meeting in June. It received a 100% endorsement from those commenting.

Item 3 **Standing Items**

a. **Review STCA quarterly report**

Meetings with STCA representation

Helena did not attend the Scottish Cessation Conference Planning Meeting but reported that Jane Oliver, Health Scotland, has received ten abstracts to date and hopes to send out further correspondence to attract more.

With regard to the issues being carried forward, David raised the implications of proxy purchase for children in residential homes and their carers. Donald thought there may be scope to work with charities such as The Princes Trust and Aberlour Childcare to develop a more specific survey.

Action: DR to continue monitoring this issue.

The Research Group meeting which took place in May attracted people from universities working towards their PhD's. Future work which was decided upon was to hold a cannabis, tobacco and mental health seminar where we would examine the evidence base on the effect of cannabis on mental health. David has managed to secure a consultant from NHS Lothian who will present on the evidence base on cannabis. He is also hoping to secure Lisa McNally for this event which will take place early December.

Youth and Tobacco Forum.The STCA hopes to hold another illicit tobacco summit in 2013 which the Youth and Tobacco Forum could be involved with. They have previously expressed an interest in this subject matter. The next meeting of the YTF on 27th September will focus on a general discussion on embedding tobacco education in Curriculum for Excellence.

The Promoting Cessation and Health Group are hosting a pregnancy summit in October. It has support from the Scottish Government, NHS Health Scotland, Queen's Nursing Institute Scotland and various charities involved in helping women who have experienced problems during their pregnancies. Invitations will be sent out 1st week September.

b. **STCA Funding**

David suggested holding a Ceilidh in March 2013 in order to raise funds for the STCA. This would be a purely social event. The group approved this idea in principal and it will be discussed nearer the time.

There was discussion of the extent to which the Cogroup was responsible for identifying funding for STCA activity. John clarified that ASH Scotland is solely responsible for funding the STCA but that the Cogroup could act as a valuable reference body for ideas and to gauge the membership's views on paying for certain events.

ASH Scotland management has a target of £10K to come from STCA activity this year, to cover STCA operating costs. This has already been met in part by the transfer of an under-spend in ASH Scotland's inequalities project budget towards the costs of the smoking in pregnancy summit. The remainder can be found either by reducing spending on regular meetings through help in-kind or by charging for events. The suggestion of a ceilidh was intended to cover the current shortfall.

Action: David will discuss the potential for charging for the Smoking Cessation in Acute Settings with Helena and Jane.

c. SCOT

There was no activity to report. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 3rd October.

Item 4 Annual Meeting

Group members acknowledged the evaluation of the 2012 Annual Meeting which was well received and very positive.

They were asked for their thoughts on the focus and structure of the 2013 meeting. It was felt that topic group meetings held in the afternoon were still valued by the membership and that Chairs from each of the topic groups should present a brief overview of what they have achieved over the past year. A suggested theme could be 'global tobacco control' and how to learn from experiences worldwide.

Action: DR to investigate first time attendee responses to the evaluation. How useful did they find the meeting and would they attend in the future?

Action: John to check the likelihood of Judith Mackay for next year.

An evaluation form for the Research Group meeting held on 11th May had been previously circulated to group members. Although the response was small the results were favourable.

Item 5 STCA Charter and Workplan

As mentioned earlier, David reported that everyone who commented on the Charter thought it was positive.

Action: Charter and Workplan were formally endorsed and adopted by the Cogroup.

The STCA webpages have been revamped so it is now more concise and easy to follow. The Local Alliances site has been closed down with some of the pages being incorporated into the STCA pages.

Item 6 Ideas for improving STCA membership

David referred to the Quarterly Report and to the suggestions made to broaden the appeal of the STCA and increase membership. It was suggested a mail shot either by post or email might encourage people to become involved and make clear what the STCA actually does. We could also target people geographically and/or by sector where there is an obvious shortfall.

Action: DR to investigate further with the Scottish Youth Parliament and actively encourage STCA members to bring colleagues to meetings. Also, to review where there are gaps in membership representation.

Item 7

AOCB

Colin raised the question of Local Alliances across the country and did we have a sufficient picture of current activity. David explained that previous attempts to contact Alliances have established who the spokesperson was but there wasn't much feedback on what they were involved in. For the majority of alliances reports suggest that there have not been many meetings and that coordinated activity remains limited, although there are a few exceptions. Perhaps we should be encouraging partnership work and have specific tasks for alliances to discuss?

Are alliances in the form envisaged by the local alliances project able to succeed or should we be recognising the importance of looser partnerships to identify and take forward tobacco control activity?

Action: Issue to be raised at a TCIG meeting in February/March 2013. How do we reinvigorate tobacco control at a local level? Base discussions around the new National Strategy for a Local Strategy.

Action: DR to remove photograph of Colin from the 2012 Annual Report.

Item 8

Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 4th December 2012, Eastbank Health Promotion Centre, Glasgow. 1pm – 4pm.