

**Chairs Report for Community Care Assynt AGM
7pm 3/11/16 at the Assynt Centre**

Community Care Assynt has continued to provide a successful health and well-being hub for the older community of Assynt over the last year. The provision of a nourishing lunch as part of this service together with the various activities provided support and encourage social interaction and continued independent living which makes the Assynt Centre such a valuable resource to those attending. Of the activities provided the life book sessions are seen to be very successful in drawing out memories, encouraging discussion and recording past events. We have received funding to continue these sessions for the coming year.

We have had a staff change at the top this year with Amanda reducing her hours and Wendy being appointed as deputy manager. Having two senior staff in place gives greater robustness to our management structure in the event of illness etc. It also brings Wendy's years of local nursing experience into the organization which is of great value.

As previously we have actively sought to provide additional services to our core service to further support people with needs in the community. Our position as a community organization makes us ideal for spotting what's needed, and flexible enough to provide them.

The registered care service has been extended to include an element of dementia care. This has been agreed with the NHS and is funded on an item of service basis as is the care service. Some staff have attended training on "Meaningful activity for individuals with dementia care" at Stirling university and further training in supporting distressed behaviour for individuals with Dementia is planned for other staff.

The Befreinding service is taking shape. Wendy has completed her training and volunteers have been identified and will be offered training. We have received indications from the community that there are several people in the community who may benefit from this service. It is planned that the service will commence in spring next year. This work has been supported by a very generous donation of £10K from North West Sutherland Care Alliance.

We have been successful in applying for funding from Social Isolation and Loneliness Fund to set up a Day Respite service. CCA staff will take over the care of someone for a day to allow the usual full time carer to have a day off. This can be offered to up to 8 people for 10 days per individual a year. We have already provided this service to one family and have other enquiries.

We remain in regular contact with the NHS who remain very supportive of what we do. Discussions about increased involvement in some other aspects of care in Assynt continue.

Most of you will have noticed we have purchased a new minibus as the original HC bus was coming to the end of its days.

We continue to receive gifts of money from individuals and local organizations which are very appreciated and on behalf of CCA I would take this opportunity to say thank you.

Big thank yous also go to all the staff, our volunteers and our managers for all the hard work that goes into making CCA the success it is. I would also like to thank the board of directors for their continuing interest in and support for this organization.

Finance report

As has always been the case the NHS remain our main funding partner. The level of funding remains the same as we have had from day one. As we increase the range of services we offer and the funding streams increase the financial position becomes more complex. With help from our accountant Tim Wright we have now put in place more detailed financial reporting so that we can monitor income and expenditure more closely. Needless to say with no increase in our NHS funding for 6 years the bottom line gets tighter and tighter but we continue to have adequate reserves. There are some copies of our accounts here if anyone would like to see them and our OSCR report is available online on the OSCR website.

David Slator
Chair CCA 3/11/16