

APPRAISAL REPORT

SACH CONFERENCE APRIL 2016

TOTAL NUMBER OF ATTENDEES INVITED FOR COMMENT 52

TOTAL NUMBER RESPONDING 26

% RESPONDING 50%

% BREAKDOWN

GP PARTNER	GP SALARIED	GP IN TRAINING	UNDERGRADUATE	VALUED OTHER
30%	15%	7%	0%	48%

ONE RESPONDER REASONABLY LISTED THEMSELVES UNDER 2 CATEGORIES

SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES **PAGES 2 - 4**

ITEM SHOWING AVERAGE SCORE AWARDED FOR EACH ITEM AND A SAMPLE COMMENT MADE

PLUS

OUTCOME OF PROPOSAL CONCERNING THE FORMATION OF AN ONGOING SACH TYPE ORGANISATION

PART I **PAGES 5 - 13**

REPORT ON THE CONFERENCE CONTENT AND ARRANGEMENTS SHOWING AVERAGE SCORE AWARDED AND ALL COMMENTS SUBMITTED

PART 2 **PAGES 14 - 18**

REVIEW OF POSSIBLE CONTINUATION OF AN INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION IN SOME FORM TO BE DETERMINED SHOWING STATISTICAL OUTCOME, THE THREE SUGGESTED PRIORITIES AND ALL OTHER COMMENTS

SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES

Range was 1 – 10 1 being poor 10 being excellent

Average score is calculated by totalling only those who attended or experienced that item

OVERALL IMPRESSION OF THE EVENT

AVERAGE SCORE **9.2**

- *Very impressive. Achieved its objective. Energised delegates. Informative and stimulating*

ITEM 1

THE HOTEL

AVERAGE SCORE **9.5**

- *Well organised / lovely room / good choice for vegetarian / fabulous staff*

ITEM 2

REGISTRATION AND CHECK IN

AVERAGE SCORE **9.1**

- *Easy and quick, well organised*

ITEM 3

SESSION 1: IMPLEMENTATION OF GREENAWAY;

Presented by Prof. IAN FINLAY

AVERAGE SCORE **8.5**

- *This was a subject I knew very little about and really enjoyed the talk and liked what I heard too*

ITEM 4

SESSION 2: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES WITH THE NEW GP CONTRACT;

Presented by Dr ALAN McDEVITT

AVERAGE SCORE **7.7**

- *Clear presentation, willing to answer questions honestly*

ITEM 5

SESSION 3a: LAUNCH OF SACH ALUMNI REPORT;

Presented by Dr HELEN TUCKER

AVERAGE SCORE 8.2

- *Interesting and well presented, with some good evidence of change and drivers for the future*

ITEM 6

SESSION 3b: A WAY OF LIFE - the history and harmony of the Docling Superdocs;

Presented by Dr HAMISH McBride and Choir

AVERAGE SCORE 9

- *Hilarious. But lots of useful messages. Good to see the SACH alumni working together - reinforced the message of fun and gave a very memorial visual display of who the SACH alumni are*

ITEM 7

SESSION 4a: HOW FAR CAN YOU GO?

Presented by Dr BOB LIDDELL

AVERAGE SCORE 8.5

- *Inspiring - shame we do not have enough HB managers to listen*

ITEM 8

SESSION 4b: HOW BEST TO SUPPORT CLINICAL PRACTICE THROUGH TELEMEDICINE AND IT:

Presented by Prof. GORDON PETERKIN

AVERAGE SCORE 8.1

- *Some useful insights to the future of IT/telemedicine. Though it is frustrating that medicine is so far behind in IT interfaces between AHP's, primary and secondary care*

ITEM 9

DISCUSSION GROUP WORK / its TASK (Aspect Comment & Panel Question prep)/ AND PANEL SESSIONS

AVERAGE SCORE 8.3

- *Good format, kept a good structure, enabled everyone to have a say. Panels well thought out.*

ITEM 10

CHAIRMANSHIP AND GENERAL FACILITATION OF THE CONFERENCE

AVERAGE SCORE **9.1**

- *Smoothly delivered*

ITEM 11

CEILIDH EVENING

AVERAGE SCORE **9**

- *Always good fun, and opportunity for networking*

ITEM 12

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES AND CONTACTS MADE

AVERAGE SCORE **9.6**

- *Excellent opportunity to meet like minded GP's etc. Useful to have been pre-assigned groups as encouraged discussion amongst different groupings and experiences.*

NUMBERS WHO WANT TO CONTINUE A 'SACH TYPE' ORGANISATION

% OF RESPONEES

YES **69%**

NO **31%**

'YES' OR 'VERY LIKELY' TO ATTEND A NEXT STEP MEETING

% OF RESPONEES

73%

See pages 12-14 for the three priority ideas suggested for any new organisation

PART 1

OVERALL IMPRESSION OF THE EVENT

AVERAGE SCORE 9.2

Range was 1 – 10 1 being poor 10 being excellent

- Very well organised, beautiful setting, interesting chat and thought provoking stuff
- Very well organised excellent venue/topics/speakers and a lot of audience participation and group work.
- Very interesting to hear about the work of SACH and the future of the profession. As a trainee was also good to hear about the variety of work going on in community hospitals.
- I found the talks & opportunity for discussion interesting. However I feel discussion time could have been better facilitated through the use of specific discussion points. The question time at the end of each session was less useful as not sure questions were well answered on the whole and rather panel members used it as a platform to voice their opinions - though sometimes interesting. This could have been replaced with group feedback, and then open floor questions.
- Very enjoyable, informative and refreshingly sensible!
- Good to have students, GPs and fellows present. The remote and rural GP group (RPAS) did the same 2 years ago and it transformed their annual conference
- Very impressive. Achieved its objective. Energised delegates. Informative and stimulating
- Really good to get a feeling from GPs on the ground about their concerns, how community hospitals can be part of the solution for the future to tackle demand in a different way and how enthusiastic young GPs are for contributing but in a different way from in the past in a traditional partnership
- Good range of speakers and panels discussing v pertinent topics
- Excellent event, very well run, most interactive and informative. Also fun and free!!!
- I really enjoyed the event - it was the best organised event I've been to
- Brilliant people, excellent speakers, inspiring conference
- really good high quality speakers/ expert panels, well structured day with lots to take away and consider in the real world
- Fabulous conference
- Fun and exciting
- Great mix of people and discussions. Interactive and thought provoking, good networking.

- The meeting was very well run. I enjoyed the group sessions and felt these ran well. I think it certainly is very important that we keep SACH going in the long term as we can all learn from the different approaches from the other community hospitals
- The colleagues I encouraged to attend all appreciated it.
- The younger generation docs clearly appreciated:
 - -Being included.
 - -Being well facilitated to voice their thoughts.
 - -Being able to mix with the Scottish Govt representatives & share thinking.
 - -The Humour & Gameness of the old guard
 - -Having a range of relevant speakers/facilitators.
 - -Having a range of capable contributors
- Exceeded my expectations. Very encouraging and inspiring. High profile and high quality speakers.
- Excellent, well run conference with fantastic organisation, facilities & speakers. Above all, a lot of fun!
- I found the event very interesting, excellent for networking and having the ability to speak to colleagues both new and old on their views - especially for future developments and working together
- Well organised and informative event. A useful opportunity to share ideas with more experienced colleagues as well as those who may shape the future.
- Excellent conference. Very enjoyable. I left feeling reenergised, enthusiastic and inspired. Excellent high profile speakers

ITEM 1 PLEASE RATE THE HOTEL

AVERAGE SCORE **9.5**

- Excellent venue
- Excellent food
- Wi-Fi poor
- No porridge at 0810
- Very good indeed
- Lovely although acoustics not always as clear as I needed them to be
- Food excellent
- Personnel very good
- Comfy chairs, well ventilated room plenty of bottles of water
- Excellent
- Well organised / lovely room /good choice for vegetarian / fabulous staff
- Clean & comfortable / Bacon rolls on arrival - what more can you ask for?!
- Spacious with a great view / Always polite and engaging
- Beautiful accommodation

ITEM 2 PLEASE RATE THE PROCESS OF REGISTRATION AND CHECK IN

AVERAGE SCORE 9.1

- Keys left on registration desk, no one to meet and greet.
- Screen hard to read from back
- Excellent Check in, some confusion during the booking and confirmation of conference. Though I was a last minute attendee so perhaps more my fault.
- Rooms excellent, facilities good
- Very quick and easy
- Very straightforward, nice to get a cuppa and bacon roll too
- Very straight forward
- Easy and quick, well organised
- Quick and efficient
- No problems very smooth

ITEM 3 SESSION 1: IMPLEMENTATION OF GREENAWAY; Presented by Prof. IAN FINLAY

AVERAGE SCORE 8.5

- Assumed a lot of knowledge. Interesting insight into training. Well set up, and interesting discussion afterwards
- Excellent talk and discussion. Issues around question time as previously mentioned. Questions tended to be selected by the so called 'old guard'.
- Interesting , but little immediate interest to my self
- Most enlightening with insight into surgical training changes
- This was a subject I knew very little about and really enjoyed the talk and liked what I heard too
- This slightly lower score only reflects my reduced interest in training as compares to the process of working And the future of general practice
- Very supportive of need for more generalist training
- Implications for general practice remain unclear
- Good clear explanation of process and reasons why
- I felt that discussion on this was rather distracted by two members of the group - however the update was very helpful
- Engaging speaker
- Useful introductory talk - perhaps could have been tailored more to GPs (i.e. the exemplar given was in relation to core surgical training; could this have been GP training?)

- Good presentation and animated discussion. Left with the feeling that there is a lot of will to change GP training but that the organisational constraints may hold this back.
- Good clear talk

ITEM 4 SESSION 2: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES WITH THE NEW GP CONTRACT; Presented by Dr ALAN McDEVITT

AVERAGE SCORE 7.7

- Good stuff. Keep on fighting the good fight. I have been to a few road shows, but not seen Dr Mcdevitt - v knowledgeable and to the point.
- I can understand importance for GMS issues but we are in the age of portfolio GP's and we should be funded as GP's for the other work we do e.g. in community hospitals /OPD clinics etc. Allow more for flexible careers and learning which will help manpower.
- Lacking in detail / nitty gritty although I understand the reasons for this.
- Useful overview of changes ahead
- I have heard Dr Mcdevitt before and the talk did not really tell me anything i didn't know already but helpful to hear him speak and it raised questions for our table which was useful to
- No new information
- Excellent and realistic way forward around Scottish GP contract. We must get it right for our patients
- Clear presentation, willing to answer questions honestly
- We were hearing about high level principles but details remain UNCLEAR
- Lacking substance and clarity
- Well presented overview
- Useful update on where it is at and the flour of the content and tone
- Thought provoking - did not feel that the team from SGPC really listened to or addressed the concerns raised by the audience.
- Disappointing. Lacked clarity. Unable to answer questions.

ITEM 5 SESSION 3a: LAUNCH OF SACH ALUMNI REPORT; Presented by Dr HELEN TUCKER

AVERAGE SCORE 8.2

- Interesting and well presented, with some good evidence of change and drivers for the future
- Fantastic and helpful stats we need more of this to support the cause of community hospitals
- Excellent presentation and interesting content but felt it was less relevant to me.

- As always captivating speaker
- Great journey through highlights of SACH - 30year's worth of free-thinking and passionate achievements
- Interesting to hear the background - perhaps I should have read this before
- Very interesting and relevant
- Wonderful history of SACH and all it stands for
- I felt this would have been better to actually highlight what was achieved and what challenges were faced as that would have helped greatly going forward
- Comprehensive and well presented
- Confident and succinct summary of the success of SACH; good use of diagrams/models on slides to explain points
- Really interesting and a good insight into success of SACH ALUMNI
- Great summary of the amazing achievements of SACH

ITEM 6 SESSION 3b: A WAY OF LIFE - the history and harmony of the Docling Superdocs;

Presented by Dr HAMISH McBRIDE and Choir

AVERAGE SCORE 9

- Fun, a bit silly, nice t shirts
- An inspiration
- Choir requires some rehearsal
- Interesting and funny presentation, light hearted interlude but not sure of use to my everyday practice.
- Hilarious. But lots of useful messages. Good to see the SACH alumni working together - reinforced the message of fun and gave a very memorial visual display of who the SACH alumni are
- Superdocs stole the whole symposium show! Most entertaining, thank you! When is the album coming out?
- Hilarious and memorable
- Hamish at his very best. Well understood by young Doctors and Students
- Entertaining and thought provoking
- Although I suspect I may be slightly biased! A memorable and unique depiction of life as a GP (but with important underlying messages)
- Fun with a good message though
- Brilliant and fun but also quite profound

ITEM 7 SESSION 4a: HOW FAR CAN YOU GO: Presented by Dr BOB LIDDELL

AVERAGE SCORE 8.5

- Really approachable, straight talking and happy to answer anything. Nice to get the civil service viewpoint.
- Highlight for me, bob simply gets things done
- Good to hear about practical examples and how they have been rolled out
- Inspiring - shame we do not have enough HB managers to listen
- Interesting to see variety of options open to expanding community hospital services if the will and money is there...
- As a dr not working in a community hospital it was interesting to hear what is done in this setting
- Bob blazing a trail as always. We need more Leaders like him
- Useful to see the approach to community hospitals in the north
- Inspiring
- Useful, pragmatic information about instigating change within a big organisation/health board
- Interesting historical report but did not really suggest any new innovations.
- Lots of good ideas

ITEM 8 SESSION 4b: HOW BEST TO SUPPORT CLINICAL PRACTICE THROUGH TELEMEDICINE AND IT: Presented by Prof. GORDON PETERKIN

AVERAGE SCORE 8.1

- Some useful insights to the future of IT/telemedicine. Though it is frustrating that medicine is so far behind in IT interfaces between AHP's, primary and secondary care - none of which was addressed.
- Interesting history and indication of potential
- Maybe not quite so relevant for me but interesting
- Gordon at his best free thinking .using technology to move forward and make General Practice even more efficient
- Visionary
- Very engaging talk with excellent use of anecdotes/picture to promote engagement
- Interesting ideas. Lots of potential.

ITEM 9 DISCUSSION GROUP WORK / its TASK (Aspect Comment & Panel Question prep)/ AND PANEL SESSIONS

AVERAGE SCORE 8.3

- Good format, kept a good structure, enabled everyone to have a say. Panels well thought out.
- I don't think this happened???
- Really appreciated having the opportunity to work in 4 different groups as a facilitator.
- Good way to engage all present and to think about solutions to our current Challenges rather than navel gaze about the Challenges
- Useful to gauge a range of views though I think discussion experiences variable depending on who was in each group and who had the loudest voice at times!
- Amazing quality of panel members
- Well structured to encourage contributions from all delegates
- Useful format to facilitate discussion - all chairs were focussed and importantly didn't interfere too much with the discussion. I liked the idea of the aspect comment and question prep
- Group work very good to discuss topics which often went off script however still useful, panel discussion useful again for updating own current information
- We were without a facilitator for the first afternoon and second morning so we had to organise our own discussion and feedback.
- Worked really well. Everyone was able to contribute.

ITEM 10 CHAIRMANSHIP AND GENERAL FACILITATION OF THE CONFERENCE

AVERAGE SCORE 9.1

- Tricky to stop some talking, and encourage others. Particularly good late in the conference when the younger members were encouraged to speak as some of the elder statesmen
- Very 'old guard' orientated with in jokes etc. Understandable given the occasion but could have integrated panels etc more to include more diverse range of experiences.
- Lewis Ritchie was excellent and made sure that a lot of ground was covered. Alastair had a relaxed friendly style and made sure plenty of people had their say, whilst keeping to time. Not easy!
- Good and helped to keep the event moving
- I think the right balance was achieved
- Smoothly delivered

- I learnt a lot watching the two chairs in terms of summarising, controlling a large group and keeping speakers to time. An excellent job by both.
- Excellent. Kept very well to time
- Really well organised. Kept to time.

ITEM 11 CEILIDH EVENING

AVERAGE SCORE 9

- Great ceilidh.
- Wasn't aware prior to the day that there would be a ceilidh. But band were good and food excellent.
- Good fun as ever - all in the SACH spirit
- Good band and great exercise
- Always good fun , and opportunity for networking
- The music was great but the dance floor was too crowded
- Great band. Dance participants showed excellent skill and promise
- Great band and the youngsters danced the night away
- Great idea to get everyone to socialise together. Very enjoyable evening
- Good band and fantastic food prior to the ceilidh. Dancing suffered from lack of people on the dance floor which I think was related to the bar being next door!
- Essential part of the conference. A must for future events!

ITEM 12 NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES AND CONTACTS MADE

AVERAGE SCORE 9.6

- Good, nice to move groups perhaps?
- Excellent opportunity to meet like minded GP's etc. Useful to have been pre-assigned groups as encouraged discussion amongst different groupings and experiences.
- Very useful
- Good to catch up with the many people I know and to meet new colleagues
- We look to the future with many excellent young doctors who want to be good General Practitioners and future leaders. We must support and encourage them
- A fantastic opportunity for this which was enhanced by the format of the conference. Perhaps there would have been more scope for networking/contacts had the groups been altered on day 2, thereby necessitating further introductions and general mingling?
- Valuable opportunity to meet other GPs and share ideas

PLEASE ADD ANY OTHER GENERAL COMMENTS

- Thank you for organising such an inspiring and fantastic event. 96 Community Hospitals in Scotland how can we link up and share learning/avoid isolations and be recognised for the good
- This was definitely one of the best conferences I have attended. I was highly impressed by the level of organisation, good facilitating of sessions and excellent enthusiastic speakers. I am very sorry that I was only able to attend the second day of the conference, as day one would have been similarly excellent, I'm sure. I also have an interest in education and would have enjoyed the Greenaway session. Finally, thank you very much to all who were involved.
- The length of talks etc was well judged - good content but not too long.
- Good conference, sorry that domestic commitments caused me to leave early on the Thursday
- A genuinely impressive conference. Educational. And important strategically. Paul Gray's talk memorable and very appropriate.
- It would be great to support son of SACH so I am willing to help in any way I can if this would be welcome
- GOOD TO SEE YOUNG BLOOD COMING THROUGH
- Wide range of speakers and attendees of interest, thanks
- Great opportunities to speak to like minded people
- Really well worth while event. Excellent networking opportunities, I especially enjoyed the small group working. Perhaps mixing up the groups would have had some value during the event as well?
- Great conference. We must prioritise commissioning of community capacity as our strategic objective
- The process used was effective & enjoyed.

PART 2

NUMBERS WHO WANT TO ORGANISE AN INDEPENDENT BODY

% OF RESPONEES

YES **69%** NO **31%**

'YES' OR 'VERY' LIKELY TO ATTEND A NEXT STEP MEETING

% OF RESPONEES

73%

ASSUMING A SUITABLE BODY WAS TO BE CONSIDERED WHAT 3 MAIN THINGS WOULD YOU EXPECT IT TO BE DOING OR PROVIDE?

1

- Look at contracts for community hospitals/hubs
- Support/communication and shared learning
- Promote careers in community hospitals - increasing awareness, training and job opportunities
- Symposium
- Continue to provide a network of ideas and support for GP's (+/- MDT) who offer intermediate care in the community.
- Idea sharing
- I think we need a data base of community hospitals in Scotland, where, what, how etc
- Support
- Networking - virtual and actual
- Networking opportunities
- Definition of
- Medical support and drive to preserve/promote Scottish community hospitals
- Forum for sharing good practice and new ideas
- A voice for community hospitals to ensure their survival in modern medicine
- Bright young GPs in charge of each locality
- An annual symposium
- Supporting those working within community hospital including OOHs
- Discussions with government to ensure safety of the community hospital system
- Means to share information and experience

- Continuing to promote the work done by community hospitals, and protect their existence long term
- Providing support and joint leadership for GP'S
- Act as a lobbying group, promoting the role of community hospitals in achieving the CMO agenda of realistic medicine as well as Health and Social Care integration
- Annual conference similar to the one we have just had

2

- Gather evidence of benefit
- Lobby support for funding /pay status..more likely if we are a larger voice/tackle BMA'S stance
- Information sharing - what is going on in different community hospitals and how this could be adopted by others
- Peer group support
- Offer/support targeted learning opportunities aiming to improve and advance intermediate care in the community setting.
- Education
- Given SG preference not to negotiate a national CH contract, there needs to be a better understanding of local funding arrangements
- Policy
- Conference - to share ideas, practice etc
- Sharing learning and good practice
- Role of
- Educational updates relevant to intermediate care providers
- Political and IJB lobbying in support of community hospitals
- The opportunity for learning from other's experience and ideas.
- Shared network of support
- Representation
- Looking at further developments in community hospital working
- Continuing teaching events
- Facilitate the gathering of evidence to support and promote the work of community hospitals
- Share ideas between different community hospitals to spread good practice
- Thinking time for gps for innovation and to reconcile some of the changes for primary care
- Provide opportunities for sharing ideas, peer support, training and innovation.
- Coordination of research re community hospitals /community rural practice

3

- Share best practice
- We can be an isolated group coming together would improve job satisfaction and the service we provide
- Mutual support and training
- Representation
- Represent GP's providing intermediate care in the community at various levels to safe guard and advance their role.
- Peer support / entertainment
- Advocate for GPs and staff working in community hospitals and promote CHs generally
- Possible to commission a study to provide evidence of the cost benefit of Scotland having community hospitals
- Marketing
- Developing thinking for new models of care for the future
- Development and support
- Social aspect
- Forum for disseminating research and development related to community hospitals
- Creating a supportive network of people working in similar environments.
- Free thinking
- Lobbying for support of community hospitals
- I think it should be called SACH again - it's a well known name that does what it says on the tin. No sense wasting time trying to re-brand it.
- I hope the future GP leaders have as much fun and job satisfaction as we had. I also hope they get as much managerial and financial support as we had.
- Creating a network of GPs involved in community hospitals
- Annual conference to meet together and inspire one another
- Work to provide relevant, community specific services locally
- Networking/sharing practice/ a safe place
- Set up a governance structure for community hospitals with the aim of promoting excellent care, patient safety and person centred care.
- Lobbying/ advising role to government to promote interests of rural GPs and community hospitals

ANY FURTHER OBSERVATIONS ON THE IDEA?

- I would be prepared to help if asked. I suspect others could offer more and we would need to be careful not to have too many alumni. Alastair brings political connections, Bob is the expert at making things happen, Lewis or Gordon offer an academic /research expertise, Bruce has a few years still to work so may act as a bridge.
- I would see a future 'SACH-like' organisation moving away from a 'community hospital' name to an intermediate care narrative, taking in community hospitals, hubs and H@H type models. It sounds like in reality it already does this, but a future name should reflect this. A future committee may be best served by trying to mix up the experiences, to ensure there is always a good mix of wisdom and freshness - hopefully allowing a more fluid transition over the coming years.
- My answer above indicates that I am definitely not best placed to organise a body to support community hospitals, however, I think it's a very useful thing to be considering and hope it happens. I haven't volunteered above to attend a meeting as although I do ultrasound and out-of-hours sessions at community hospitals I am not directly involved in their running etc.
- I don't personally want to organise a revamped SACH but very happy that one exists
- SACH2 may well be structured differently to SACH1. Happy to help with any discussions. Be good to build on what SACH1 achieved.
- Very necessary as the CHIN doesn't really do this and we need a group populated from those working currently in community hospitals and hubs, not those who just think about them
- Community hospitals are a diverse range of facilities that grew to meet a variety of Challenges, many of which are no longer required. We do not appear to be important entities as far as HB are concerned, and get the impression that they do not understand our capabilities or potential - an over arching independent body to support development and function would be useful
- Personal concern that I do not work in community hospitals that much in current role and thus may not be involved with them too much in the future as a GP. There may be others who are far better placed to be involved in such a group.
- There was a desire expressed to continue to meet in a structured way.
- The community hospital focus has been a natural focus over the past 20 to 30 years, with changing times and hospital at home; it should maybe have a broader remit-extended community & community hospital care.
- Perhaps more regular meetings of smaller regional groups might be of value in addition to a national annual conference.

- Having never worked in Scotland, and never having worked in a community hospital, the SACH conference was an eye opener to me in terms of what is possible in rural Scotland with passionate clinical leaders. At times, I felt a little out my depth for a couple of reasons: firstly, having not yet qualified as a GP, I didn't have the practical experience of doing the job to know the challenges faced; and secondly, without direct experience of working in community hospitals (or indeed in an English trust where community hospitals even exist), I had again little insight into their role or functioning. AT PRESENT, this feels like too much of a barrier for me to fully commit to being involved in a SACH-like organisation, especially given the uncertainty of where I shall be working come February 2017 (I may well be working in Newcastle Upon Tyne which is served only by large teaching hospitals and reasonably large district generals). That said I can see that there could be benefits from having an 'English contact' for further sharing of ideas/good practice 'over the border' and so would consider this in the future depending on my circumstances. At present, sadly, I think my answer is that I would not immediately be willing to be involved in the setting up of a future organisation, but should I feel that I were to develop appropriate experience, skills and know-how which would be useful to share, then I would be happy to get in touch (or indeed be contacted).