



## Rossendale Locality



### **Rossendale PPG Network meeting** **1.30pm – 3pm on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2014** **at Rossendale Primary Health Care Centre**

<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Ronnie Barker	Waterfoot Group of Doctors	(Chair)
	Jodi Boys	Waterfoot Group of Doctors	
	Barbara Ashworth	Irwell Medical Practice	
	Diane Owen	Irwell Medical Practice	
	Keith Pilkington	The Surgery, Haslingden	
	James Thomas	The Medical Centre, Whitworth	
	David Bennett	Rossendale Valley MP	
	Naliniben Govindji	Rossendale Valley MP	
	Amrita Govindji	Rossendale Valley MP	
	Janet Clegg	St James Medical Centre	

#### **BACKGROUND INFO**

An application was submitted to the CCG in July 2013. The bid for £5000 was successful and this funding is available.

Ronnie Barker (RB) attended a Practice Managers meeting in November 2013 to inform practices about the funding and discuss how the money could be spent, as RB felt it was important to get input from all practices. After this initial meeting RB then went on to meet with practices individually to share Waterfoot's PPG experience about starting a PPG in practices where such a group did not exist. RB reported that to date 6 of 9 practices in Rossendale have a PPG (excluding St James and Fairmore), with Ilex View just starting to recruit. Initially RB wanted to have all 9 practices involved in establishing a PPG Network, but felt that things shouldn't be delayed by some practices not wanting to set up a PPG.

Members around the table reported that were not aware of the funding available as the information had not been passed on to PPG's by their respective Practice Manager.

#### **WATERFOOT PATIENT REFERENCE GROUP - SOCIAL MEDIA**

It was suggested by a member of the Waterfoot Reference Group to use Social Media to engage with a wider /younger patient audience. This may attract members who may not ordinarily get involved in PPGs, but are interested in receiving information about local services, health promotion and practice specific information.

In October RB set up a Waterfoot Patients Participation Group 'information page' on Facebook. The info page is open; therefore anyone can view the page. If they choose to 'like' the page, they will receive regular updates when new items are added to the page. In addition to this page, a closed members group has also been set up. This offers the same information, but enables its members to have a private virtual discussion amongst its members. Questions or points raised in this group could be put forward to the meetings via RB if required.

The group is closely monitored on a daily basis by RB, who certifies that members are current Waterfoot patients and ensures that the site is not abused. People can be blocked from the site if required.

The information page has been viewed by 281 people, and has received 41 'likes' (members). The closed group has 10 members.

RB suggested the possibility of creating a 'closed group' for a Rossendale PPG Network on Facebook, to which all 9 PPG group in Rossendale will have access to for virtual discussions.

The group discussed other sources of Social Media such as Twitter. Diane Owen (DO) has had experience of using Twitter and this has been found to be very useful for instant communication, and gave an example of how she has used Twitter to convey messages in conferences etc.

RB suggested setting up a combined Facebook page for all Rossendale PPGs – the Rossendale PPG Network.

If individual PPGs choose to set their own Facebook group up a nominated person from each group will need to take on the role of their site administrator. A ToR document to be drawn up and will state names of administrators.

Although the group liked the idea of Social Networking, they recognised that not everyone has access to technology and the internet doesn't suite everyone.

RB reiterated that Facebook is just an idea Waterfoot practice are running with, and acknowledged that other PPGs may wish to do their own thing. The key is sharing information about what practices are to do; what works and what doesn't etc. The key is having a Rossendale Network.

## **IDEAS FOR FUNDING**

The group discussed the possibility of purchasing iPads for each PPG group to use in practice. The iPad can be used to collate patient data and Health Promotion etc. The group were apprehensive around security and responsibility of the tablet as PPGs do not have a permanent presence in practice.

There was a discussion about setting up practice waiting areas as Free WI-FI Zones, however after discussion the group realised that this would exceed the budget and may involve modification to the buildings therefore discarded this idea, but suggested revisiting this further down the line and involving practices re joint funding.

## **N.A.P.P**

A discussion took place around NAPP and it was agreed that it would be beneficial to have up a single N.A.P.P Membership ID for Rossendale with one password for all. RB to look into the possibility of registering a Rossendale PPG Network Group. (NAPP is £60 for the first year and £40pa thereafter).

Together practices will be stronger – share information – knowledge /info /communication is key

## **GOING FORWARD**

The group agreed that it would be beneficial to have a Rossendale PPG Network closed group on Facebook, both for Steering Group members and Individual PPG members who wanted to join in conversations and share information through the Network.

The Rossendale PPG Network will collectively put together a proposal to secure funding next year. RB agreed that going forward when he attends the Rossendale Locality Forum; he will represent and speak for the Network at CCG level.

PPG Awareness week is 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014 therefore the group will look to do something that week.