

## **Covid Update Meeting 24/06/20**

### **(Via video conference)**

Present: Andrena Duffin, Billy McClymont, Fiona Brown, Vic Linneman, Jim Corbett, Pam MacColl, Sarah Padley, John Maughan, Moira Westland, Norman Hickson, Duncan Swinbanks, Ian Campbell, Sue Hawkes, Susan Campbell.

In Attendance: Mary-Jean Devon, Jim Lynch, Jennifer McGhee, Dr Jespersen, Morven Gemmill, Rona Baker, Tobermory Campsite, Vickie Barrett, Karen Nonhebel, Flora Corbett, Jane Martin, Oliver MacLean, Seonaidh MacKenzie.

### **Update Tobermory Highschool – Jennifer McGhee**

- Prepared for blended learning model.
- Looking at Tobermory with 2 days per week per year group.
- Following through remote learning to support that.
- Had to look closely at school buses to work out how to move forward with regards social distancing.
- No confirmation regards transportation at present.
- There is timetable in place for return in August, though government legislation is changing frequently.
- 12 members of staff who have underlying health problems.
- 12 individual risk assessments to ensure staff are confident and safe to return to school.
- Priority is keeping staff and pupils safe.
- Unable to provide full update as there are so many unanswered questions at this stage.
- Mentoring team has been extremely successful.
- Sports week was a tremendous success. Not only for pupils but within the community.
- Health and wellbeing group which has been set up which is focusing on the various transitions that pupils are facing as a result of lockdown.
- Lots of planning to continue over holiday period.
- A.D offered vote of thanks to J.M for hard work.
- Offered assistance of community council to write letters or help with funding.
- J.M thanked A.D stated that A&B Council have very strict guidelines as to where funding can come from.
- M-J.D to contact A.D after meeting to update on funding stance and plans in place.

- J.L Concerns over issues regarding returning safely.
- Need to look at each school individually.
- J.L to discuss closely with M-J.D on matter.
- J.L offered vote of thanks to the hard work of Tobermory high school staff.
- F.C issues highlighted by kids not at school, is very poor internet speed. It has proven to be a major problem.
- This has been a huge issue across various areas on Mull
- Is there anyone that can be lobbied to have internet connection improved across island?
- M-J.D and J.L to take this matter forward.

### **HSPC Update – Morvern Gemmill**

- M.G keen to touch base with community as there has been so much happening with medical provision on Mull.
- Had to create hospital escalation plan to deal with Covid.
- Had to turn hospital into 28 bed unit.
- Pandemic planning carried out.
- Take-over and integration of practices carried out.
- Had to assess risk to staff, patients, residents etc
- Had to find solution for Salen staff who were working at high risk
- Moved Dr and practice nurse to Mull and Iona Community Hospital (MICH) prior to merging of practices.
- Running 'Near Me' video based consulting
- Integrating all medical records and so G.P's can share cases if needs be.
- Had a phenomenal shared response between community and services
- Staff pulled together brilliantly.
- Tomorrow a meeting around GP contract. As soon as construction is allowed to commence again, they hope to start work around fitting Salen practice into MICH.
- This will enhance support to all members of staff working in MICH.
- Already feeling benefit of this collaboration.
- Far more vibrant place to work.

- Increased shared learning and shared support.
- Set up Covid assessment centre and 'Red Room'.
- Tested the use of drones to get tests and medication to and from Mull.
- Offered vote of thanks to all volunteers who have been involved with medication delivery.
- Unlikely to get practice reinstated in Salen.
- Tomorrow will be looking at technology based care where possible. Reduce unnecessary footfall of any specialists to island.
- Onsite support can potentially be given remotely.
- B.M to clarify, after Covid will there be significant change to service provision?
- M.G aim is to reduce consultant travel time, risk and patient travel off island.
- Aim is to enhance diagnostic suite and diagnostic support at MICH
- B.M are there any of these services which may be easy to get off the ground?
- Dentistry, podiatry, cardiology reviews appointments, mental health assessments and consultation, gastro intestinal review work.
- G.P will perform video consultation with consultant and consultant may then consult with the patient and potentially the Dr can carry out care if possible.
- B.M are G.P's fully supportive of this?
- Yes. Dr Jespersen and Dr MacLean are clinical leads for Oban Lorne and Isles and are very supportive of this.
- O.M offered hand sanitisers produced by distillery to MICH
- F.B how the Ross of Mull is going to be affected by changes?
- Ross doesn't have full time Dr yet. Still working with a locum.
- G.M stated that Drs are actively seeking to build regular GP base across island. Covid assessment centre for Mull and the use of NHS 111 should be used as normal.
- M.G to follow up further with F.B via e-mail
- B.M is there any update with regards testing box on ferry?
- M.G turnaround time is fairly slow for testing at the moment. Still waiting for response with regards to this from testing centre.
- I.C what plans are there for clinics such as midwifery, woman & men's health clinics?
- Midwifery clinics are being run by island midwife, mental health and sexual health clinics will begin after lockdown period.

- Children's immunisation services are running from the hospital.
- Though it is important for the hospital to run to full potential, it is essential that social distancing guidelines are adhered to.
- 'Near Me' has been highly successful with expecting mothers as it allows more flexibility for appointments.
- Maximising the hospital is a priority as it is one of the nicest facilities by HSPC and the combined surgeries will enhance this.
- K.N After renovations, what kind of space will there be for various clinics to be held after Covid?
- M.G Plans are available for anyone to consider and make suggestions on. There have been provisions made for clinics and services required.
- P.M How are video consultations going to be carried out with specialists?
- Patients would be in consulting room with nurse or health care assistant and consultant would be in Oban.
- A.D How long does a Covid Test take to get results back?
- Approx. 24 hours. There is a mobile testing unit available. Prior to this there were 10 tests carried out on island, and results were returned the next day. It is dependent on ferry times. Now able to test locally.
- A.D can tourists seek medical assistance on island?
- If anybody is symptomatic and are entitled to seek care from hospital. Must call `111 and go from there
- Tests can also be booked online. Tests should be done via the hospital.
- M-J.D how can RRA be guaranteed? Can HSPC do anything to help us get guaranteed places on Calmac?
- M.G stated that Calmac have so far responded very positively to any requests so far.
- M.G to follow up with further information after meeting.
- Would black spot internet patients have to attend hospital for appointments?
- M.G landline may be an option to carry out tele-consultation.
- Patient safety comes first and if Dr is not satisfied with results of tele-consultation, a face to face consultation would be provided.
- J.C mobile signal and internet signal are extremely poor at Lochbuie
- K.N concern over video midwifery and podiatry consultations etc. as they may not give true representation of patient's health.

- M.G It will not replace but augment current service as essential additional appointments can be given.
- Dr J There is no reason why these kinds of appointments should not continue and are not currently being carried out.
- D.S there are some concerns that Covid conditions will be used as an opportunity to phase out some current services.
- Dr J It has been a real struggle to carry out consultations across the phone. G.P's desire and priority is to work directly with patients not work with them remotely.
- Face-to face consultations are essential for G.P's to do their jobs effectively and will therefore continue.
- M-J.D thanked Dr Jespersen for efforts so far. Efforts which have reinstated a lot of confidence within community in island medical care.
- Dr J stated that everyone involved is extremely grateful for the support shown by community.
- P.M are patients allowed to phone surgery with non-urgent cases.
- Dr J there has been concern recently that patients are not phoning in when they should be, but in the past week this situation appears to be improving.
- It is essential that patients call with ailments regardless of nature.
- I.C PPG has received extremely positive feedback with regards new service.
- B.M How are the team at Bowman Court?
- M.G doing extremely well. New guidelines surrounding Covid have been released today and we have suggested that they be applied to Bowman Court.