

of in-house provision towards greater use of services provided through the independent and voluntary sectors, whilst in-house provision has been tailored to meeting the demands of enablement and support of those with complex social and healthcare needs. The relationship between health, social care services and service providers is crucial to meeting individual need regardless of whether this is from acute, chronic, complex or progressive illness. To ensure greater flexibility in enabling choice in the continuum of enablement and self-directed support options, as part of the reshaping of care for older people, an environment which supports ease of financial environment is essential. Within this context, South Ayrshire Council and partners are working closely with the independent and voluntary sectors. Traditionally providers have been responsible for determining and purchasing their own training, in line with service requirements. However to achieve a consistent and effective service provision, partners have invested in a programme of joint training across all stakeholder groups, to ensure a whole systems approach to service redesign. Enablement and ongoing support needs, an individual may have, requires focusing on individual outcomes and maximisation of skills to support independence, regardless of who provides the support systems. **Keywords:** Care Homes; Independence; Flexibility; Natural and Built Environment.

Establishment of the Perth & Kinross Care Home Activity Network

Wilson, Carolyn¹; McShea, Gillian²

¹Perth Royal Infirmary, UK; ²Live Active Leisure, UK.

Established in 2010, the Perth & Kinross Care Home Activity Network (CHAN) supports local care homes to drive up their standards of care around the provision of meaningful activity. Meeting quarterly, the CHAN provides a forum for staff of the 25 care homes registered to network and share activity ideas/examples of best practice/resources and training. Those attending take the information back to their care home and share it with colleagues. By supporting each other the CHAN can ensure they are providing the best possible outcomes for residents. Between meetings, CHAN members communicate and an electronic forum is developed. All CHAN members have contributed to the planning structure including identifying its purpose and how to achieve it, compiling “commitment” forms with responsibilities and expectations, exploring communication channels both internally and externally and identifying training needs. This has ensured the CHAN is built on a solid foundation and maintains longer term sustainability. The CHAN’s ultimate aim is to benefit the physical and mental wellbeing of care home residents and improve their quality of life. Being engaged in meaningful activity promotes self worth and gives meaning, purpose and enjoyment to each day. The CHAN reinforces the personalised, individualised outcome approach for each and every resident and reinforces that meaningful activity is the responsibility of all care home staff and should happen all the time, everyday activities is meaningful activity. Through increasing activity potential, residents are naturally encouraged to increase their physical activity. A range of fun physical activities are promoted including chair-based exercise, indoor Kurling, the interactive Wii, walks and gardening. Care homes engaged in the CHAN now independently organise their own inter-care home competitive events and a large “Go4Gold” games challenge event is planned in Perth this year with 50 homes invited to participate. **Keywords:** Care Homes; Go4Gold; Walking; Activity Network.