



Members E- Newsletter – September 2014

How can you save your ihcp fees and more? (see section on First Choice Purchasing)

Dear Member

I have now completed 3 months as the new chief executive in ihcp and must say I am really enjoying the job. I suppose the usual settling in period is now over for me and I can't refer to myself as new any longer! It's been a busy 3 months with me meeting a wide range of people and getting to grips with the pressures facing the independent health and care sector. The economic climate continues to be even more challenging, increasing the importance of ihcp representing your views.

Along with directors I have developed the strategic themes and priorities for ihcp over the next year and beyond and one priority in particular relates to engagement with our members which has led to us reviewing how we communicate with you. We want to be more focused in sharing information and rather than send you a series of emails on a daily basis we thought it might be more effective to issue a monthly e-bulletin – this being the first. This will evolve as it develops further and I am keen to hear any feedback you may have – **just email me or ring me on the contact points below.**

So, keeping with our 4 strategic themes which are outlined at the end of the bulletin (Appendix 1), I thought I would give you a general update on progress.

Ihcp Independent Care Awards – Nominations closed on 18th September with 185 received. The nominations will be assessed over the next few weeks and I encourage you now to secure a seat or table at the awards night on 29th October. For further information contact Nikki at nikki@ihcp.co.uk

Engagement and benefits for members further information from our Website by clicking on this link – <http://www.ihcp.co.uk/member-offers/>

First Choice Purchasing – an email was issued recently about the financial benefits of participating in procurement. We would encourage you to avail of this service.

Members Quote “*On one particular product of which we use very high volumes we have made a saving of 17% and receive this product from the same supplier. We are making substantial savings with no change to our products*” - more information on First Choice Purchasing on our website <http://www.ihcp.co.uk/member-offers/>

Constructive engagement with those in key decision making positions – I have met with a wide range of people and organisations including :-

- Colum Conway NISCC CEO – meetings will be held regularly looking at strategic workforce planning
- Glenn Houston RQIA CEO – next meeting end October
- H&SC Board - arrangements are now in place for a regular pattern of meetings to discuss all matters concerning members.
- Martin Green CEO Care England
- Social Care Institute for Excellence
- NI Adult Safeguarding Partnership
- Carers Trust
- My Home Life steering group

A meeting has also been secured in the Health Minister’s diary on 29th September and arrangements are currently being made to meet with the CEO’s in each of the Health Trusts.

Media coverage – I was interviewed by Wendy Austin on Radio Ulster’s Talkback show responding to the Commissioner for Older People’s call for tighter regulatory controls. My focus in this interview was to emphasise that regulations and inspections need to be both proportionate and fit for purpose. And that the vast majority of care homes provide an excellent standard of care

New directors to ihcp – I am delighted to have both Eddy Kerr and Rosemary Dilworth appointed to the board of ihcp – their profiles can be found on the ihcp website by clicking on the link - <http://www.ihcp.co.uk/welcome-new-directors/>

Ihcp meetings – next few months - see Appendix 2 below

General communications – Rather than issue a series of emails to you on a daily basis we are now providing links to relevant information as below and we will also put links on the ihcp website so I encourage you to make use of this. <http://www.ihcp.co.uk/general/> Reports which can be downloaded

Good News Story



Congratulation to Gillaroo Lodge who won best kept Residential Healthcare facility in the northern trust and then 'best of the best' from all the trusts! Click on the link to read more - <http://www.ihcp.co.uk/gillaroo-lodge-win-best-best-2/>

Thank you for taking the time to read the bulletin and if you have any suggestions to add please let me know at Pauline.shepherd@ihcp.co.uk Tel: 077 0375 4574

Appendix 1

Improve engagement with, and benefits for, our members

- Increase membership across the sector to continue to build a united voice which is heard and acted upon
- Further develop engagement methods to communicate with all members and to encourage membership participation
- Further develop the programme of membership benefits including service discounts
- Run bi-annual independent Care Awards recognising the value and quality of work provided by individuals in the sector

Increase public awareness about the quality services provided by members

- Increase engagement with the media
- Promote positive care stories
- Promote the National Care Home Open day
- Promote the 'My Home Life' Programme

Build constructive engagement to ensure those in key decision making positions listen and take appropriate action

- Ensure the issues impacting on independent health and social care are understood by political representatives
- Liaise with the HSC Board and Trusts and represent members views as policy is formulated
- Represent the sector at strategic forums and respond to policy consultations

Influence positive change that enables members to provide and maintain good quality care services

- Engage with policy makers on strategic workforce planning
- Support Quality Improvement Programmes
- Work to achieve fair funding that maintains good quality and compliant care standards.
- Work to influence fit for purpose, consistent and proportionate regulatory assessment.

Appendix 2 - IHCP Meetings 2014/2015

Month	Directors	Members Forum	Nursing and Res	Domiciliary Care
October		15 th October 10.00 – 12.30 Legal Island		
November	12 th November Extra Care 10.00 – 12.00		18 th November 10.00 – 12.00 Extra Care	4 th November 10.00 – 12.00 Legal Island
December				
2015				
January	14 th January Extra Care 10.00 – 12.00			6 th January 10.00 – 12.00 TBC
February			17 th February 10.00 – 12.00 Extra Care	
March	11 th March Extra Care 10.00 – 12.00			3 rd March 10.00 – 12.00 TBC
April				
May		AGM 13 th May 10.00 – 12.30 TBC		5 th May 10.00 – 12.00 TBC
June	10 th June Extra Care 10.00 – 12.00		23 rd June 10.00 – 12.00 Extra Care	30 th June 10.00 – 12.00 TBC
July				
August				
September	9 th September Extra Care 10.00 – 12.00		22 nd September 10.00 – 12.00 Extra Care	1 st September 10.00 – 12.00 TBC
October		14 th October 10.00 – 12.30 TBC		