

## Westminster Briefing – 19<sup>th</sup> June 2012

### Care for Older People: Keeping pace with changing demographics and Rising Demand

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With a national emphasis on Care at this moment in time, the objectives of the above Event were to:

- develop our understanding of the legislative changes taking place and the recommendations into the practical changes that will affect the health and social care sector and;
- learn from individuals and/or organisations that have succeeded in delivering efficiencies while implementing, better, integrated cheaper care.

Chair for the day was Cllr. Barry Taylor, expert Scrutiny Adviser, Centre for Public Scrutiny.

The first speaker, Frances Patterson QC, Public Law Commission, spoke on how

- the Health and Social Care Bill will affect health and social care staff;
- How and when the Dilnot Enquiry recommendations be implemented;
- untangling the recommendations of the Law Commission;
- shared responsibility: How to ensure dignity, work together and protect resources;
- Changing the strategy on information and advice

This talk was limited by the fact that the Health & Social Care Bill has not been published.

Stephen Burke, (former editor of Counsel and Care) now working with United for all Ages. Described his own views and comments about the current situation on who pays for care.

The afternoon session produced two excellent speakers:

Leon Smith, Chief Nurse, Nightingale Care Home and Vicki Leah, Senior Nurse, London University College Hospital.

Leon Smith runs a very large Home for 300+ residents, it is a (Jewish) Charitable Trust and must be the envy of many home owners I imagine. It is because of its size that there is a GP practice on the premises. Leon believes this is of huge value to residents because the GP knows their patients and knows their medical history. He doesn't know how GPs can come into a Home and best prescribe for their patient when he/she is not known to the GP.

There are so many activities each day enabling residents to enjoy and be active. Again because of the size.

*My conclusions: Could nursing homes in an area join together to develop a charitable Trust and share opportunities for activities and health care? (One saving would be on Business rates, as a charity there would be 80% discount on their BR.)*

Vicki Leon spoke about the care for patients with dementia in the University College Hospital in London. The principle of the project is for nurses to work with the patient's carer on the ward, so that recovery may be maximised.

Future Years website. [www.futureyears.org/welcome](http://www.futureyears.org/welcome)  
You can follow Westminster Briefing at @westbriefhealth ,  
hashtag for this event will be #wbolderpeople

Shelagh Marshall – Chair, Future Years, Y & H Forum on Ageing.