



Local Cornerstone Newsletter

May 2017



Welcome to our first Local Cornerstone newsletter, which we hope you will find useful and informative. We are close to announcing our first Self-Organised Teams and have recently launched our new charitable foundation – both key elements of our new Strategic Plan. As always, if you have any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch and thank you for your continued support and interest in Local Cornerstone.

Background of Local Cornerstone

Cornerstone has developed an ambitious and exciting new Strategic Plan for 2017-2020, which we have called 'Local Cornerstone'. This new strategy has been designed to embrace the challenges and opportunities presented by a rapidly changing Social Care sector, and aims to position Cornerstone for continued success and a sustainable future.

One of the main objectives of Local Cornerstone is to demonstrate that we value social care as a profession and, while this will require a fundamental shift in attitudes across wider society, we are looking forward to beginning working alongside our first volunteer Self-Organised Teams to make this a reality.

The key ingredients of a local community focus, a culture of empowerment and maximising the benefits of technology, combined with an upskilled workforce, provides us with a great opportunity to not only transform the way we do things at Cornerstone, but to hopefully have a positive influence on the way social care is commissioned and funded across the country.

Central to all of this are the people we support. Over the next three years, we will strive to do more than we are contractually obliged to and pursue innovative ways of using our charitable income to do some amazing things that help all of the people we support to live the lives they choose.

Where are we now?

Our first cohort of Self-Organised Teams is being finalised and it is hoped they will take effect this summer. In addition, five Branch Leader posts, who will be responsible for heading up each of our new Branches across the country, were filled by internal candidates, with a further five currently at the recruitment stage. In addition, we have recruited six Coaches, with a seventh position also at the recruitment phase, who can be called upon to help teams deal with situations that require additional senior support.

We have also completed a review of our business support function and have communicated the outcomes to staff. The idea behind this is to devolve more responsibility for functions such as recruitment and finance to out to Branches and local communities.

A vital element of the implementation of Local Cornerstone is monitoring and evaluating its success against a range of KPIs and we are pleased that our Evaluation Group had a positive first meeting recently. The group is comprised of representatives from a number of bodies, including: The University of Strathclyde, Healthcare Improvement Scotland, the Care Inspectorate, the Scottish Government, the SSSC, Social Work Scotland and UNISON in addition to two colleagues from Cornerstone.

The group will meet regularly to monitor, evaluate and share the new ways of working through a number of approaches, including monitoring progress against KPIs; Action Learning Sets with Team Members as we move to having more empowered Self-Organised Teams; reviewing approaches to commissioning and procurement; as well as ensuring innovation and creativity is embedded in our culture.



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The Cornerstone Foundation

The Cornerstone Foundation was officially unveiled to the public at our recent Annual Dinner. Its aim is to raise income to allow us to do more amazing things that help the people we support to live a valued life.

Our target is to increase our fundraising income to £2 million per year by 2020. We have listened to our colleagues from across Scotland, and these funds will allow us to focus on the key areas where support is really needed now and in the future. You will be hearing a lot more about our key theme areas, which are:

People and Their Families - Supporting the whole family of someone with a disability and being there when we are needed to offer practical help and emotional support.

Connections - Connecting people with others, their community, mainstream activities as well as education and employment.

Quality of Life - Enabling the people we support to enjoy a valued life. Providing the time, equipment and resources required to undertake the everyday things that can become challenging for some of the people we support.

Home Is Where the Heart Is - Creating a home that is safe, comfortable and adapted to suit the needs of the individual now and in the future.

To help us achieve our goals, we want to increase the number of committed supporters. We will encourage people in our local communities to fundraise for us by organising more local activities, events and exciting active challenges for people to take part in. We will also expand our partnerships with companies and philanthropists across Scotland and introduce legacy giving, digital appeals and compelling campaigns.

For further information on The Cornerstone Foundation, please contact Lisa Duthie by email at lisa.duthie@cornerstone.org.uk.



Keep up to date with us

Thank you for your continued support and interest in Local Cornerstone and the work we are doing and if you have any questions about our strategy please don't hesitate to get in touch. Please also follow our new social media channels for The Cornerstone Foundation – www.twitter.com/TCFScot and www.facebook.com/TCFScot.