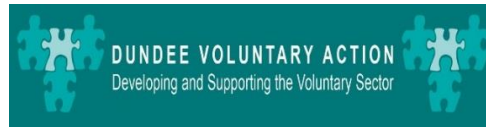




In partnership with



Living in the Gap Seminar Dundee: Health Inequalities in Scotland

Speaker Biographies

Rob Packham, Chief Officer, Perth & Kinross Integration Joint Board

As Chief Officer for Perth and Kinross Integration Joint Board, Robert holds responsibility for integration of Health and Social Care, bringing together the health and social care services alongside charitable organisations, independent practitioners such as GPs, patients and their carers. This is probably the biggest change facing public services since they were introduced. With such a high proportion of taxpayers money spent on health and care, it has never been more important to change the way we deliver services for people who have very different range of needs compared to the needs the NHS was set up to meet almost 70 years ago.

Training as a Physiotherapist in the North East of England, Robert worked in different parts of the UK and has travelled the world teaching Orthopaedic Medicine. This experience of many different health systems led him to be a passionate supporter of the NHS, which despite its challenges, produces results to compare with the best health systems in the world. Robert moved to Scotland just over 20 years ago as the Head of Physiotherapy at the new Queen Margaret Hospital in Dunfermline. More recent senior roles in Edinburgh, Midlothian and Tayside, culminated in Robert working as the Director of Allied Health Professions. He gained a Masters Degree in Advanced Leadership Practice as part of an initiative to increase the leadership skills of senior leaders across NHS Lothian. This opportunity has shaped his career ever since. Building on the analytical and practical skills of a clinician, his job is to bring together many opinions to improve services for people and their families. The challenges faced on a daily basis arise largely from the increasing complexity and volume of service requirements for an ageing population. This is combined with a scarcity of highly skilled health and care staff and the impact of reduced public spending. Robert will be involved in bringing services together, moving services closer to home and increasing emphasis on preventing the avoidable consequences of ageing and ill health.

Robert says there is never a dull day in his job as he tries to improve the quality safety and effectiveness of services across health and care.

Outside work Robert is a family man who is involved in the local community where he lives. He particularly enjoys being involved in music and which tends to build up again at this time of the year.

Claire Stevens, Chief Officer, Voluntary Health Scotland

Claire Stevens was appointed Chief Officer at Voluntary Health Scotland in August 2012 and has since led a programme of change that has seen VHS build a reputation for being a collaborative and influential network of Scotland's voluntary health organisations. During this time VHS led the development of the Engagement Matrix tool to strengthen NHS and third sector engagement and launched Living in the Gap, the only Scottish study to examine the third sector's contribution to tackling health inequalities.

Previously, Claire was part of the Scottish Government's Getting it Right for Every Child team, leading their engagement with the third sector for three years. She was instrumental in the initiation of the National Third Sector GIRFEC project. Claire has carried out a wide range of executive and non-executive roles in Scotland's third sector over a 30 year period, including 10 years as Community Service Volunteers Director for Scotland and 3 years as CEO at Scottish Council for Single Homeless. She is a previous Convenor of the ACOSVO Board, a current Board member of Action on Smoking and Health Scotland and a member of the BBC Children in Need Scotland Appeals Committee.

Lesley Munro, Development Officer, Voluntary Health Scotland

Lesley has been the Development Officer of Voluntary Health Scotland for three years. During this time she developed the successful Learning to Lead in Health programme aimed at developing leadership and partnership working for senior managers in the voluntary health sector.

Lesley was also responsible for delivery of Digital Inclusion for Health: developing the digital skills and knowledge of small health charities.

Lesley has worked with many health organisations including: Macmillan Cancer Support, Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland, Age Scotland, Citizens Advice Scotland and not forgetting a period with NHS Education as a Knowledge Advisor developing health training for carers and community health literacy projects.

In 2006 Lesley won the BUPA Foundation's prestigious Health at Work for her work on cancer in the workplace digital resource.

Linda Bates, Development Officer, ASH Scotland

Linda has worked at ASH Scotland in a variety of roles since 2004, experiencing first-hand the significant progress made in addressing tobacco-related health inequalities during the past decade. She has been involved with a number of funded projects in this time, ranging from small research-based studies to large-scale public health interventions; her current role is looking specifically at the connections between smoking and mental ill-health.

She is a founder of Loud & Proud, Scotland's only LGBT choir, and has volunteered for phone helplines over a ten-year period.

Jan Bell, Service Manager, RVS, Dundee Home from Hospital Project

Jan spent almost 34 years with the police service – 30 as a police officer and the rest as police staff. During her police career Jan carried out various different specialist roles.

She is currently the Service Manager for Royal Voluntary Service managing the Dundee Home from Hospital Project. Homes from hospital schemes are run successfully across the UK as a way of supporting older people in the transition from hospital to home, supporting a reduction in delayed discharge and reducing emergency admissions. The project will be distinct from existing 'home from hospital' schemes in other areas as it will use a co-production approach in developing and creating the service.

David Ross, Equalities Co-ordinator, Fife Society for the Blind

David started his working career as a graduate trainee for Sainsbury's Supermarkets. He then had a short spell at standard Life before starting work at the Fife Society for the Blind in 2005. Initially he was employed as a braille transcriber however, over the years he has developed an interest in Health and Social Care Integration and health inequalities. He was a member of the consultation group brought together to write the Scottish governments User guide to Self Directed Support and took up his current position as Fife Society for the Blinds Equalities co-ordinator in April 2015.

Outside work David enjoys a variety of hobbies and interests. These include Tandem Cycling, rowing, singing folk songs and making regular trips to watch his Beloved Carlisle United.

Dr Pauline Craig, Head of Equality, NHS Health Scotland

Pauline is a public health specialist and took up her current post in NHS Health Scotland January 2011 where she leads a number of programmes relating to inequality including on gender based violence, early years, equity and health and community development and health. Her professional background includes health visiting, community development, health services research and health policy development and implementation.

She achieved her Doctorate in 2008 in the field of health policy and has had various roles in practice, development and research including in Drumchapel Community Health Project, Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board, Scottish Government, the Public Health Institute of Scotland and Glasgow Centre for Population Health.